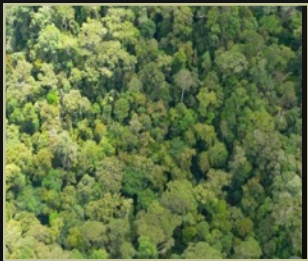


Independent Assessment of the International Arrangements on Forest (IAF): October 2013 – September 2014



IAF Assessment Team' Presentation to UNECE on *International Arrangement on Forests beyond 2015* 18 November 2015 – Kazan, Russia



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Historic perspectives

- ⇒ Rio Summit 1992 - IPF 1995 – IFF 1997 – IAF 2000 – 2015 - post 2015?
- ⇒ IAF Assessment (ITC) – AHEG2 (NY12-16 Jan 2015) – UNFF11 (4-5 May 2015) – UN GA
- ⇒ IAF Assessment covers 2000-2015 and projections made for the next round

Origin, mandate and working modalities

- ⇒ Origin: Resolution 10/2 UNFF10 (8-19 April 2013, Istanbul, Turkey)
- ⇒ Mandate: Independent assessment of the IAF to compliment other intercessional activities
- ⇒ Focus on lessons learned for a post-2015 international arrangement on forests
- ⇒ 5 experts, one from each UN region, 2 co-facilitators (WEOS G 77) to assure link with UNFF11 bureau
- ⇒ Interviews with IAF stakeholders, analysis of documents and processes, exchange meetings among consultants

Purpose of the Independent Assessment

- To provide an independent input to AHEG, which will provide recommendations to UNFF11 to arrive at decision on the future of IAF
- Analyses whether the IAF (in all of its 5 components):
 - Remained relevant and appropriate to its mandate,
 - Secured tangible achievements,
 - Was efficient and effective in its mandate since 2000,
 - Had any impacts on development and sustainability of actions.
- Make recommendations for a future arrangement.

Scope of the IAF

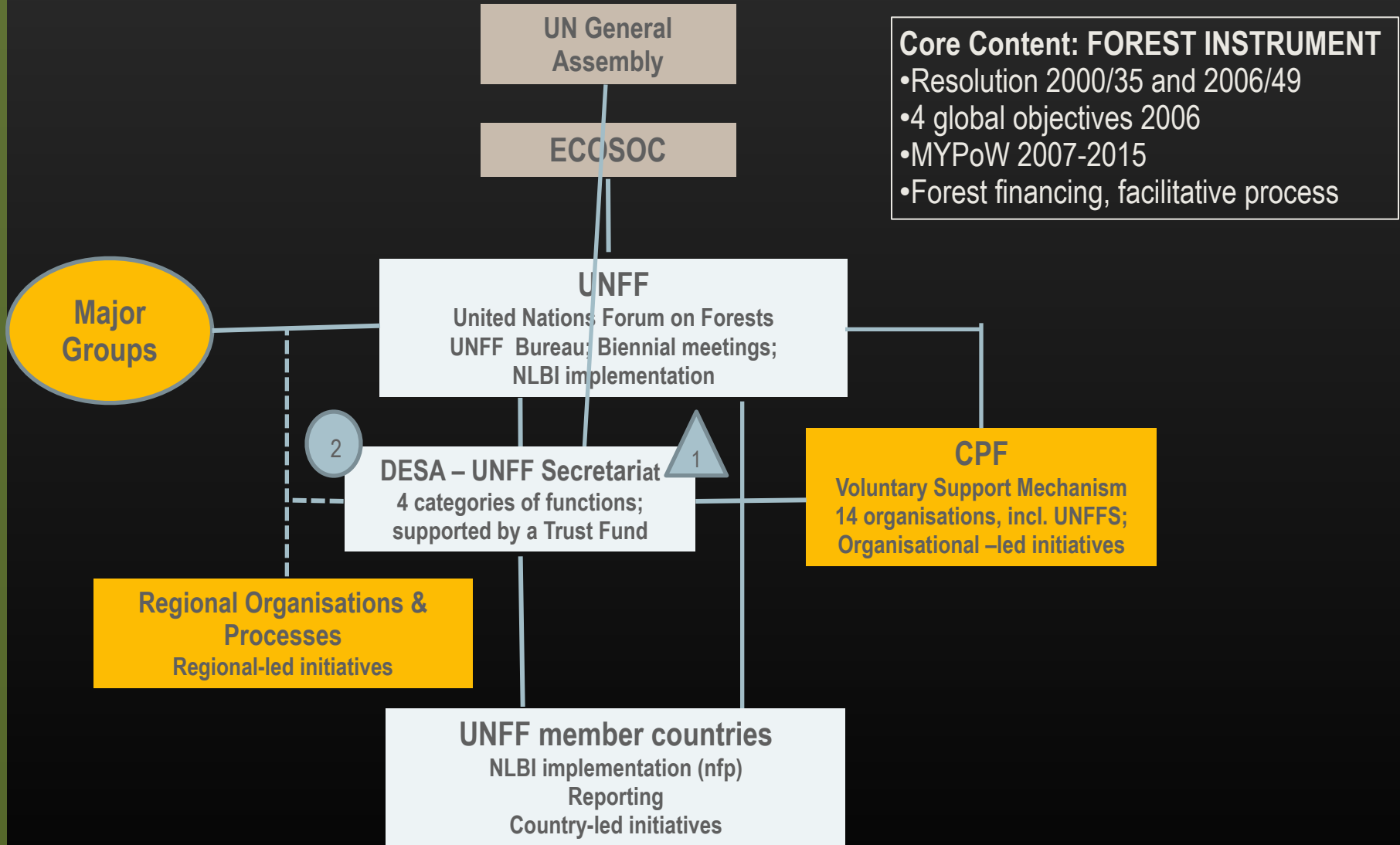


- ⇒ Promote management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests...



- ⇒ Strengthen long-term political commitment (“to this end”)

The current institutional arrangement of the IAF



Core Content: FOREST INSTRUMENT

- Resolution 2000/35 and 2006/49
- 4 global objectives 2006
- MYPoW 2007-2015
- Forest financing, facilitative process



Trust fund finance



Regular budget

White: UNFF framework

Yellow: Formally associated to the framework



IAF Milestones 2000 – 2015

- Agreement on the **NLBI and the Global Objectives** on Forests 2007
- Formulation and implementation of a **MYPoW 2007-2015**
- Integration of forests in the **sustainable development summits** (Rio+10, Rio+20, *“The Future We Want”*, SDG process)
- **Forest finance**, facilitative process – AHEG, GEF5 SFM/REDD+ Incentive, GEF6 on SFM, LFCC/SIDS
- **Communication**: International Year on Forests, International Day on Forests; SDGs and other UN processes; (however missing in the NY Decl. on Forests 2014)

Strengths and weaknesses

Strengths:

- Universal membership
- CLIs, OLIs, RLIs; AHEGs
- Existence of FI, GOFs
- CPF engagement *per se*
- NFPs (selectively)
- UNFFS in DESA/ECOSOC
- Positioning within SDGs
- Facilitative process

Weaknesses:

- Utility of forum sessions
- SFM in CBD, UNFCCC, CCD
- Major Groups involvement
- CPF functioning
- Implementing FI and GOFs
- Links to regional priorities
- Implementing SFM (NFPs...)
- Means of implementation



Areas for Improvement in the main policy fields

- (i) **Promote management, conservation and sustainable development...**
 - Implement globally agreed decisions/resolutions/guidelines at country level
- (ii) **Strengthen long-term political commitment...**
 - Engage (countries, institutions, major groups) and reporting quality
- (iii) **Promote implementation of internationally agreed actions...**
 - Promote stewardship of forests in wider development and environmental frameworks
 - Integrate SFM in the broader post-2015 development agenda/SDGs
- (iv) **Global framework for policy implementation, coordination and development...**
 - Better cooperate on forest-related issues (“umbrella” function)
 - Strengthen the institutional framework of a future IAF

Post-2015 IAF: Range of options (Annexed to the report)

Post-2015 IAF

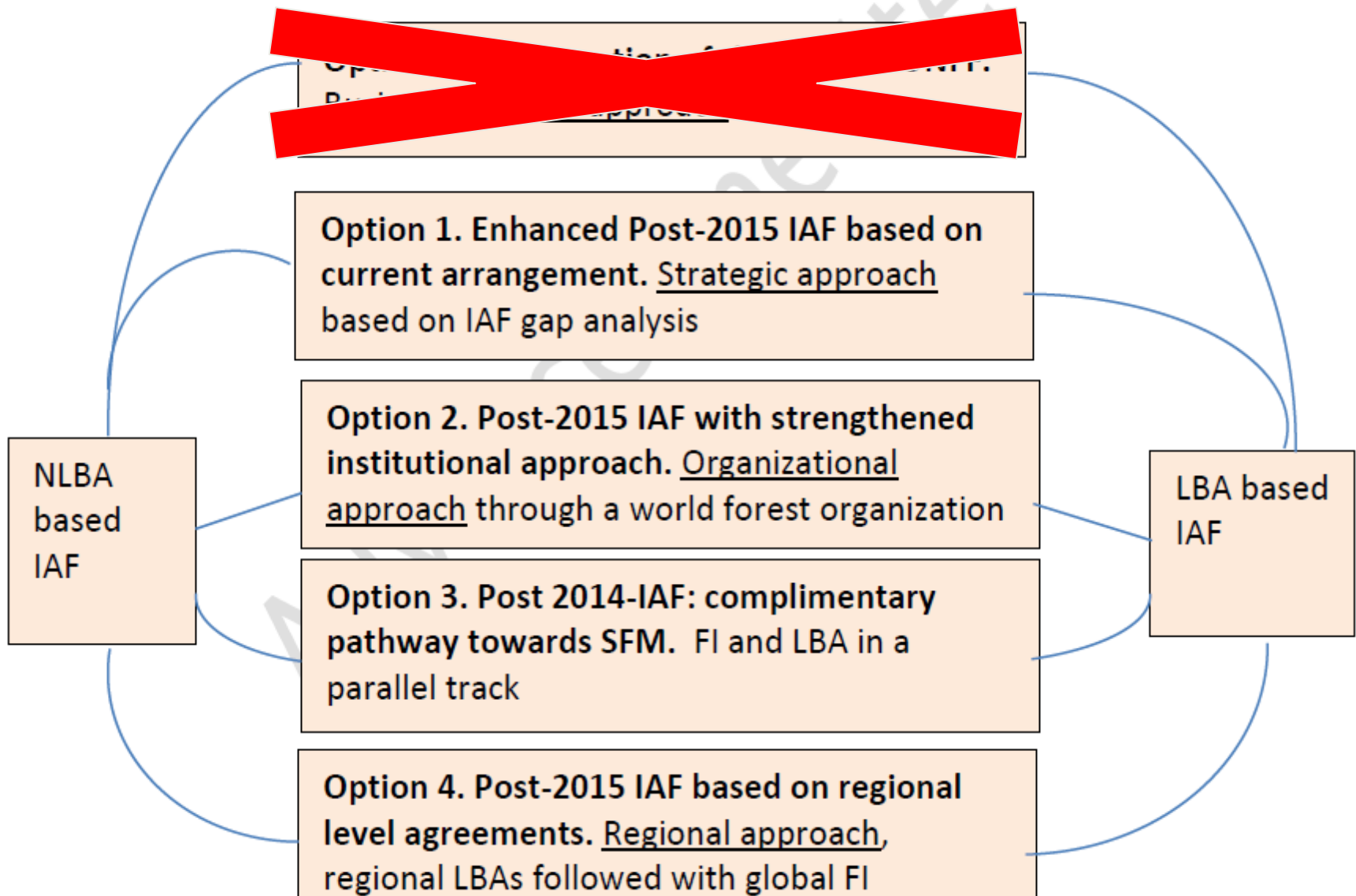
UN DESA based

- Continuation of the current IAF
- Strengthening the IAF
- Institutional approach: DESA with a global institutional arrangement
- Forest Instrument+ with regional and/or thematic Annexes
- UN Complementary Pathway towards SFM

Other UN-System based

- Forest Convention
- Protocol on Forests under e.g. CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD
- Forest Convention serviced by UNEP
- COFO/WFC with FAO as implementing agency
- A Science-Policy platform on Forests under UNEP (serviced by a body/group of bodies, tbd)

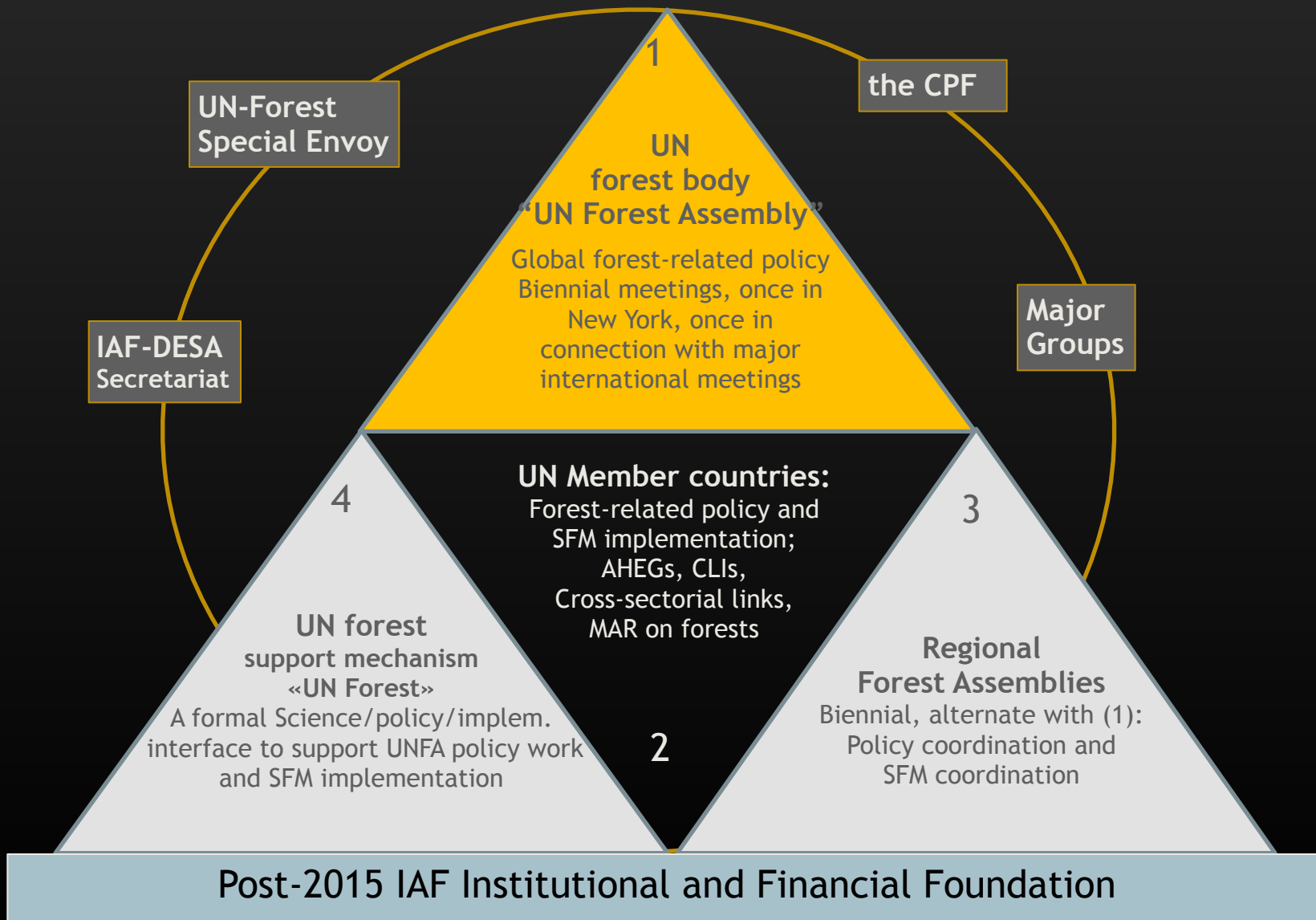
Overview on proposed options



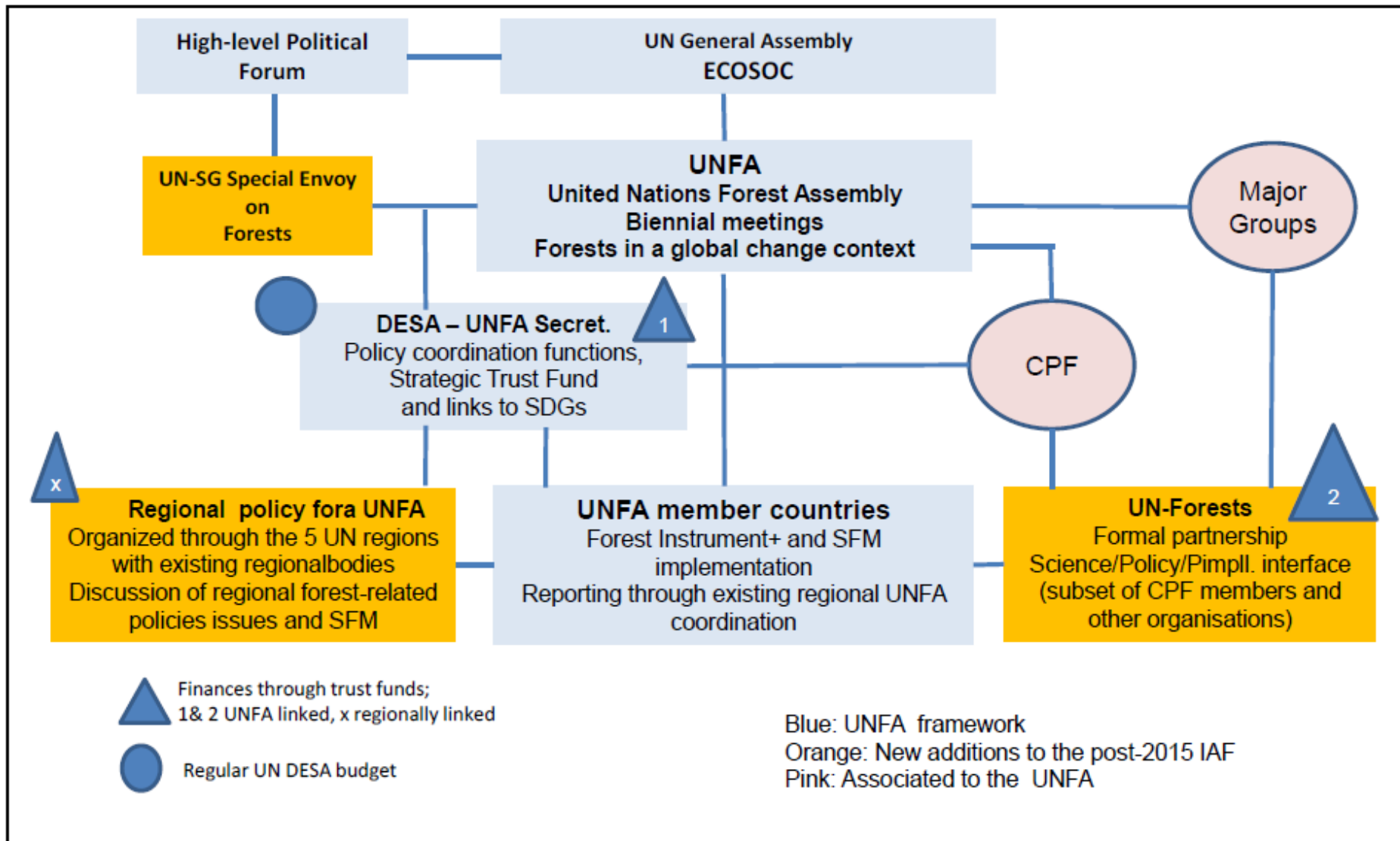
Rethinking: the future for IAF

IAF Descriptor	IAF 2000-2015	Post-2015 IAF
UNFF (including AHEGs etc.)	“Forum” for debating forest policy SFM issues globally.	“Assembly” as an umbrella of international initiatives and agreements relating to forests
UN member countries (including CLIs)	Countries that actively participate in the UNFF	Countries that actively participate in the UNFA [or its equivalent under other options]
CPF	Voluntary partnership to inform and technically guide the UNFF (and support SFM implementation)	Voluntary partnership that supports the UNFA and members with regard to initiatives that concern forests and SFM
Regional level (including regional-led initiatives)	Coordination and information exchange, RLI	Assemblies of varying formality (UN region level) to deliberate on regional issues relating to forest policy and SFM; produce regional policy inputs to UNFA and encourage implementation in countries of respective regions
UNFF Secretariat	Service UNFF Support the IAF overall	Service UNFA. Supports IAF overall; Particularly support intra-UN coordination and the objective of “stewardship of forests” and linking to other major UN processes
Major Groups (including MGIs)	Inform UNFF and global forest policy processes	Input to UNFA and regional processes, participate in UN-Forest
UN Forest	-	Formal and structured science/ policy/ development platform consisting of interested current CPF members and other institutions supporting the post 2015 IAF
Special Envoy on Forests	-	Assumes link to HLPF/UNFA and other high-level platforms and give public face to global forest agenda in context of SDGs

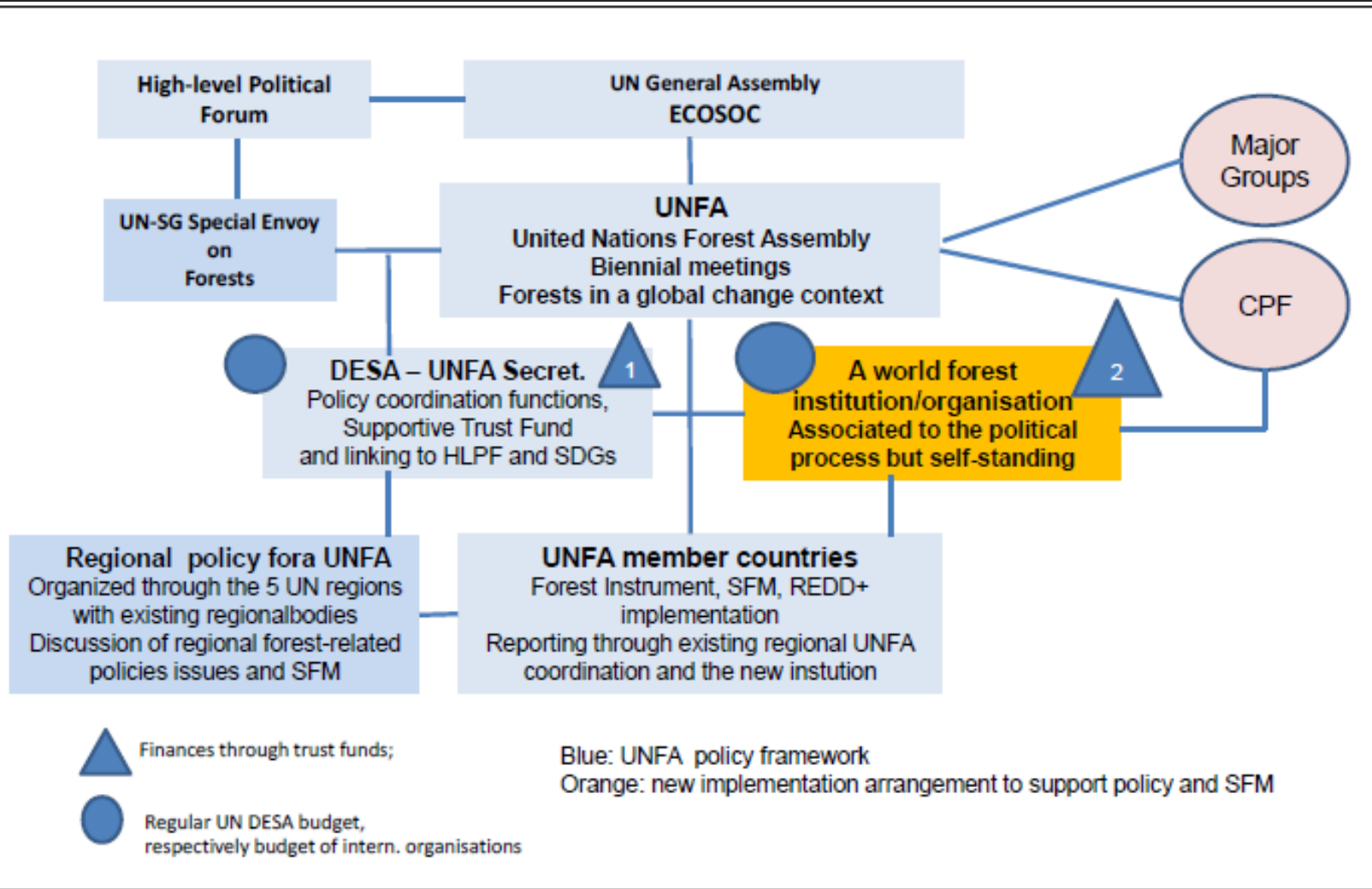
Post-2015 IAF Building Blocks



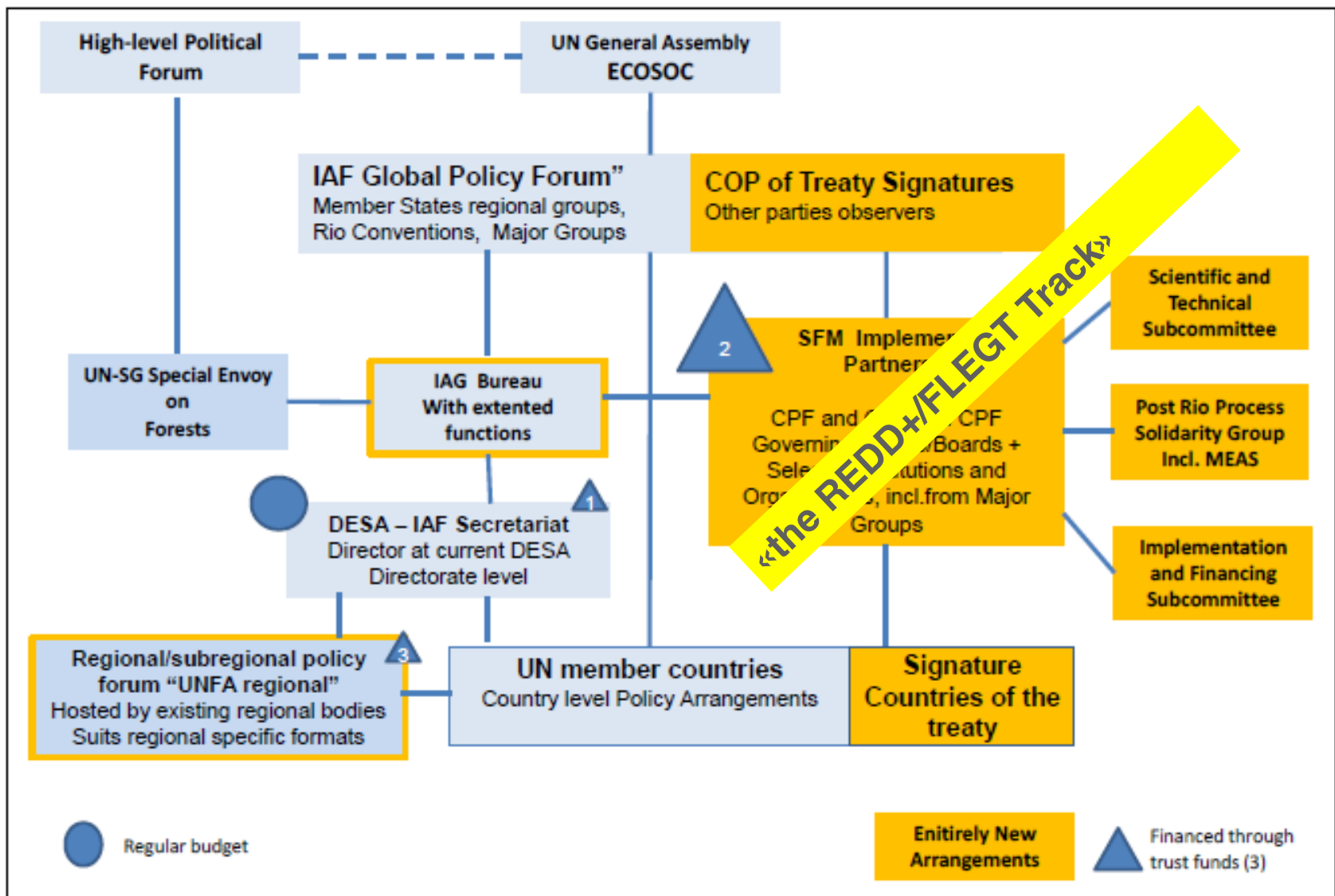
Enhanced post 2015 IAF



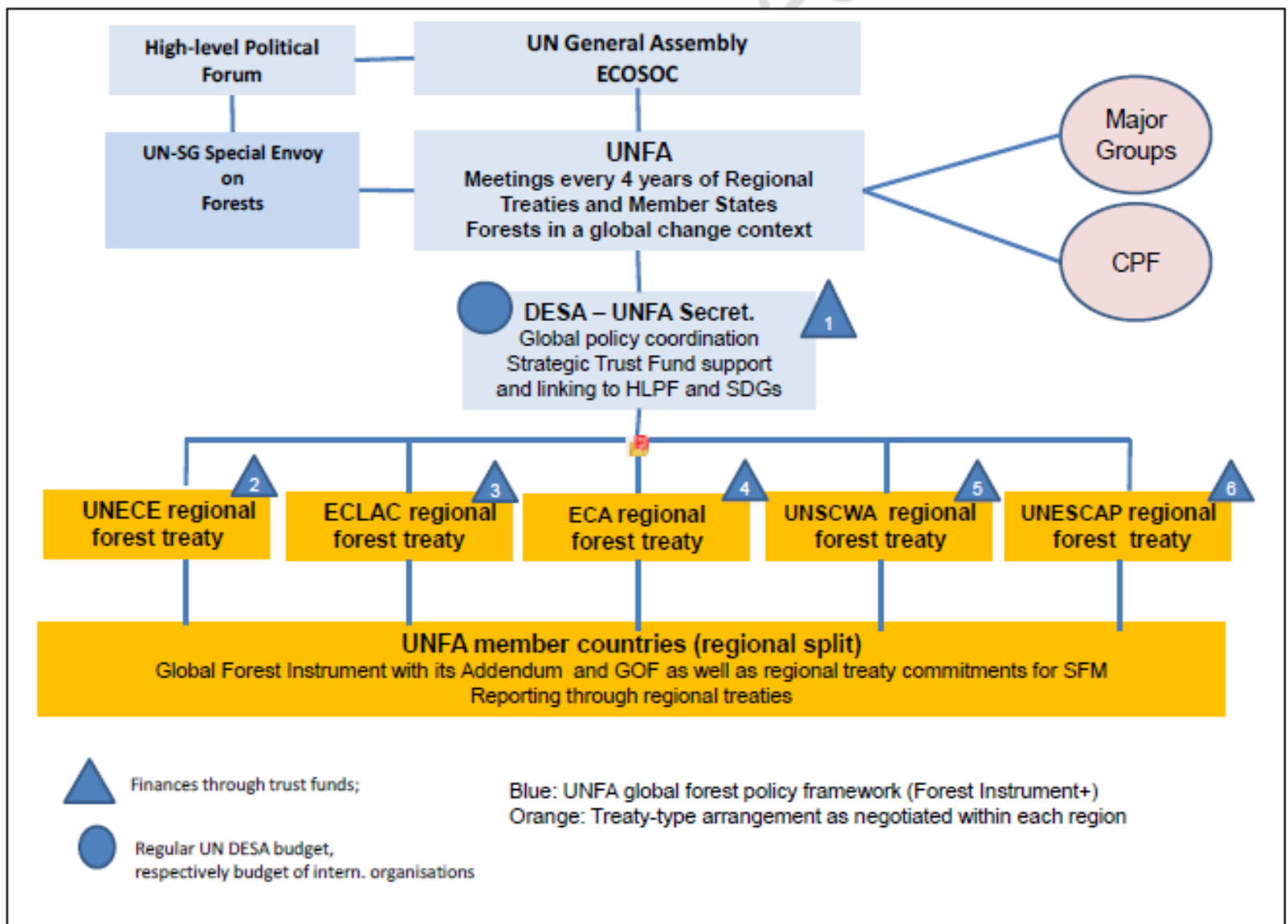
Strengthened institutional approach



Complementary political pathway



Regional level agreements



In summary
Proposed Overall mandate
for a post-2015 IAF

- Comprehensive **Stewardship** for forests in international development/environmental/economic agendas (“policy”)
→ global forest policy harmonization (“umbrella”)
- Policy support for **SFM implementation** in regions and countries
→ “sustainably managing all forests globally by the year 2030”

A world map where the UNECE regions (North America, Europe, and Central Asia) are highlighted in green, while the rest of the world is in light grey. The title 'UNECE Regional Perspectives' is overlaid on the map in large, bold, yellow-orange letters.

UNECE Regional Perspectives

- **The main conclusion of the IAF Assessment: Strengthen the regional fora**
- **UNECE European region negotiated LBA**
- **Regional policy forum:**
 - **What is experience?**
 - **What is important?**
 - **What Europe and entire UNECE is expecting from the global forum?**
 - **What elements can Europe bring to the global level?**

A wide river flows through a landscape with dense green forests on both banks. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. In the foreground, the water is turbulent with white foam, indicating rapids. Several small boats are visible on the river. Power lines stretch across the top of the frame.

Thank you for your attention