

European Forest Alliance – coordinating European forest policy



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EUROPEAN FOREST ALLIANCE

Informal mechanism between the secretariats:

- FAO
- UNECE
- European network INTEGRATE
- European Environmental Agency (EEA)
- FOREST EUROPE

= to inform each other on latest developments

= to enhance synergies

= to work on common topics and propose joint activities

Initiated in 2022 and presented to COFFI 11/22

A new of era for working together

- Informal information exchange based on trust and openness
- Joint work only within the mandates of respective secretariat, feedback to their signatories
- European forest alliance is open to welcome additional partners on ad hoc basis or permanent
- LUBo of FE hold first chair and handed over to ECE
- Switzerland as initiator continues to be observer

First online meeting in March 23

- Information exchange
- Focus on forest monitoring within EC (FISE of EEA, JRC) and joint data reporting by UNECE/FAO and FOREST EUROPE
- Agreement to discuss more in depth forest monitoring with its criteria and indicators once the new EC regulation on forest monitoring has been published



Second online meeting in November 2023

- Informal information exchange by the 5 secretariats and Switzerland
- Focus on forest biodiversity
- Agreement to work on a joint background paper and mandates LUBo of FOREST EUROPE to present results at FORESTA
- Thanks to the financial contribution by Switzerland
- Handing over chair to UNECE



Outlook



- **European Forest Alliance proved already in its first year to be a valuable informal forum to exchange information within the secretariats involved**
- **Focus on specific topics seems relevant, joint work with product important to inform signatories and observer – but only within mandates of each secretariats**
- **Possible future topics:**
 - = exchange of experience within communication strategies (what worked well, where do we have to improve our communication skills?)**
 - = forest monitoring**
- **Possible new partners for the EFA**