

SWITZERLAND

Swiss comments on the last round of proposals on the content of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests under the United Nations Forum on Forests

- The non legally binding instrument (nlbi) should not be a **weaker** copy and paste of the ECOSOC resolution or a duplication of the 1992 forest principles. It should not be a nearly identical document, with the scope of replacing the resolution.
- The nlbi should be a part of the international arrangement on forests and therefore strengthen it. If it is necessary for the nlbi to take into account what was done before and be in full coherence with other instruments related to forests, it should build on and reflect the rich body of IPF and IFF proposals for action, but it should go further than what is already on the table, i.e. have an added value.
- The scope of a nlbi should be a more effective implementation of sfm and therefore should help secure high level commitment for sfm
- A nlbi should have concrete commitments and not a mere promotion of some actions
- The nlbi should not involve new meetings. Any reporting should be occur during regular UNFF meetings
- The nlbi should not have its own multiyear programme of work as a the MYPOW is already going to be adopted at UNFF7
- The UNFF secretariat should administrate the nlbi
- The nlbi can refer to the different state of the countries but we should not have a division of commitments between different categories of countries: the dispositions of this nlbi should be valid for all
- It should not be a mere list of possible commitments from which each country can pick and chose its own priorities, but establish clear common programmatic priorities able to provide guidance for national and international forest policy.
- Some issues are important and came out of the last round of countries and major groups' comments, such as reporting, regional cooperation, forest restoration, illegal logging and associated trade, environmental impact assessment in forest management plans, public-private partnerships, certification, promotion of non

timber products, direct and indirect values of forests versus other sectors, innovative financing mechanisms such as payments for ecosystem services, integration of forest in the accounting and green accounting in national and global economies and their contribution to GDP, transboundary dimension, definition of pertinent terms.