



FOREST EUROPE High-Level Talks

Ministerial Decision

endorsed at the High-Level Policy Dialogue, 30 August 2022, Bonn, Germany

Supporting the recovery and sustainable management of Ukrainian forests and its forest sector

We, the Ministers of the FOREST EUROPE signatories¹, responsible for forests, forestry and forest related issues, in solidarity with Ukraine and the whole forest sector in Ukraine:

1. recall the FOREST EUROPE Helsinki Resolutions No. 1 on a Pan-European commitment to sustainable forest management in Europe, and No. 3 on Forestry Cooperation with Countries with Economies in Transition and emphasize the urgent need of Ukraine for broadly-based bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the forestry sector, while noting with appreciation the already existing cooperation and activities of signatories and international organisations.
2. express our willingness to support Ukraine in building back better its forest sector along with necessary reforms after the war-related breakdown in order to conserve, restore and sustainably manage its forests.

¹ The Republic of Belarus was not involved in this Ministerial Decision.

3. decide to apply the Rapid Response Mechanism in line with the current FOREST EUROPE Work Programme,
4. ask the Liaison Unit Bonn of FOREST EUROPE to organise the elaboration of a draft strategy document "Supporting the recovery and sustainable management of Ukrainian forests and its forest sector" and present this document for adoption at a FOREST EUROPE Expert Level Meeting in 2023.
5. ask the Expert Level Meeting at its meeting on 31 August 2022 to provide further technical guidance for the work towards elaborating the strategy document while ensuring the active participation of the relevant Ukrainian authorities on the basis of recommendations by Ukraine as well as FOREST EUROPE signatories and observer organizations.
6. invite all signatories, that are able to do so, to consider providing voluntary financial contributions in support of this work and subsequent implementation of the strategy.
7. invite international organisations such as UNECE, FAO or UNEP to participate in the preparations and support the implementation of the strategy within their respective mandates.