

Meeting of the Bureau of the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-*Silva Mediterranea*

Monday July 15th 2019, FAO Headquarters, Rome

Summary of main decisions

1. The 7th MFW will take place either on the last week of March or on the last week of May 2021
2. The topic of the 7th MFW will be related to youth – their role or green jobs creations, and the social dimension – participatory approaches and involving populations in facing forest challenges
3. The main outcome of the 7th MFW will be either a Tunisia Challenge to reach specific targets related to youth and forests (plan A) or a common statement from *Silva Mediterranea* members on this topic (plan B)
4. Sessions will be partly organized by the members of the Organizing Committee (OC) of the 7th MFW and partly open to a call for session proposals
5. Cancellation of the participation fees while not taking care anymore of the lunches is a preferred option, conditional on its acceptance by Tunisia
6. The OC of the 7th MFW will be constituted following the rules of procedures for the subsidiary bodies of *Silva Mediterranea* (i.e. with appointed representatives from member states and observers)
7. A communication strategy for the 7th MFW will be established right from the beginning
8. Mobilize *Silva Mediterranea* members so that a two-thirds majority of members attend the next meeting of the Committee using (1) informal contacts and personal relationships with members, (2) possibly a DG letter asking members to leave the Committee if there is lack of interest, and (3) a letter from the Chair encouraging countries to attend the meeting
9. Explore whether the EPPO (European Plant Protection Organisation) network could deal with forest health questions
10. The situation of the *Silva Mediterranea* working group on cork oak and non-wood forest products should be clarified because no progress report of this working group was presented at the last session of the Committee and no working plan is currently defined for this working group.

List of follow-up actions decided by the Bureau

Deadline	Result	Responsibility
August 2019	Decision is made on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the dates of the 7th MFW (choice between 22-26 March and 24-28 May 2021) – the date of the 1st meeting of the OC in Tunis (tentatively week of 16 December 2019) – the option to cancel participation fees while not taking care anymore of the lunches 	DGF Tunisia
September 2019	The exact date of the 1 st OC meeting in Tunis is specified with a Doodle survey – Save-the-date is sent for this meeting	Secretariat of the 7 th MFW
September 2019	The member of the secretariat of the 7 th MFW from DGF Tunisia is appointed	DGF Tunisia
September 2019	Communication material on the 7 th MFW is prepared to contact potential donors and sponsors	Secretariat of the 7 th MFW
September 2019	A letter is sent to <i>Silva Mediterranea</i> members asking to appoint a representative to the OC of the 7 th MFW	Secretariat of <i>Silva Mediterranea</i>

September 2019	FAO Office in Tunisia is supportive of the 7 th MFW	Secretariat of <i>Silva Mediterranea</i>
September 2019	List material and human resources (number and capacity of rooms, interpretation needs, etc.) that are needed for the 7 th MFW	Secretariat of the 7 th MFW
September 2019	Prepare a PowerPoint presentation of the MedForYouth project to facilitate its promotion among potential donors	Secretariat of <i>Silva Mediterranea</i>
Sept.-Nov. 2019	Collect quotations locally to address these needs, so that a precise budget can be elaborated and discussed during OC1 meeting	DGF Tunisia
October 2019	ToRs for the call for session proposals are ready and shared with OC members	Secretariat of the 7 th MFW
October 2019	Clearance by the cabinet of the DG of FAO of the 7 th MFW (clearance process to be initiated asap)	Secretariat of <i>Silva Mediterranea</i>
By Oct. 2019	Arrange a call with the coordinator of the working group on cork oak and non-wood forest products to clarify its situation	Secretariat of <i>Silva Mediterranea</i>
Oct.-Dec. 2019	Screening of existing projects and sponsors that could have an interest to support the 7 th MFW	OC members
November 2019	Members of the OC of the 7 th MFW are identified	Secretariat of the 7 th MFW
November 2019	Hosting agreement is sent to Tunisia	FAO Protocole Office
Beginning of Dec. 2019	A draft budget of the 7 th MFW is prepared	Secretariat of the 7 th MFW
Mid Dec. 2019	First OC meeting in Tunisia (2 days)	OC members

Introduction

A meeting of the bureau of the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-Silva Mediterranea was held in Rome, Italy, on Monday 15 July 2018 at the FAO headquarters.

Background

The 23rd Session of the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-*Silva Mediterranea* was held in Brummana on 1-5 April 2019 during the 6th Mediterranean Forest Week (MFW). Among others, this session endorsed the strategy of *Silva Mediterranea* for 2019-2030; recommended to continue clarifying the role of observers and coordinators; recommended to continue reactivating the network of national focal points of *Silva Mediterranea*; encouraged member countries to work with the Near East Forest Health and Invasive Species Network and Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia; and urged FAO to explore ways and means to develop and implement the project “Blue Forest-Empowering Young Entrepreneurs around the Mediterranean.

The 23rd Session further decided that the 24th Session of the Committee will take place in 2021 in Tunisia during the 7th Mediterranean Forest Week.

Objectives

The objectives of the meeting of the bureau of *Silva Mediterranea* were:

- To define a roadmap to implement the recommendations taken by the Committee *Silva Mediterranea* at its 23rd Session in April 2019
- To debrief the 6th Mediterranean Forest Week
- To outline the joint organization of the 7th Mediterranean Forest Week and 24th Session of the Committee *Silva Mediterranea*

Participants

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Adoption of the agenda

A welcome speech by the Chairman of *Silva Mediterranea*, Dr. Chadi Mohanna, reminded the objectives of the meeting and the importance of collaborating for the preparation of the next Mediterranean Forest Week. Participants adopted the following agenda:

08:50-08:55 Announcement by Italy

08:55-09:00 Introduction and context:

- Meeting objectives
- Recommendations of the 23rd session of *Silva Mediterranea*

- 09:00-09:30 Debriefing of the 6th MFW: lessons learned, possible improvements
- 09:30-09:40 Tentative date and place of the 7th MFW
- 09:40-10:10 Topic of the 7th MFW
- 10:10-10:40 Draft agenda of the 7th MFW
- Blocks of sessions, time for open/close items of the 24th session of *Silva Mediterranea*
 - Field trip
 - Side events
- 11:00-11:30 Modalities for the organization of the 7th MFW:
- Host country agreement
 - Languages of the 7th MFW
 - Open or close call for plenary sessions and side events
 - Relevance of the participation fee
- 11:30-12:00 Composition of the Organizing Committee of the 7th MFW
- Role of members of the OC
 - Composition and role of the secretariat of the 7th MFW
- 12:00-12:30 Possible resource mobilization to support the 7th MFW: contributing projects, donors/sponsors to address
- 12:30-13:00 Calendar of follow-up actions
- Milestones
 - Tentative dates of the OC meetings
- 14:30-15:30 Brainstorming: addressing the recommendations of the 23rd session of *Silva Mediterranea*
- Member States' participation
 - Inclusion of new member States (Balkan countries)
 - EU's participation
 - Regional projects
- 15:50-16:50 Preparation of a roadmap for the future
- Operational plan for the strategy of *Silva Mediterranea*
 - Alignment of the work plan of the subsidiary bodies of *Silva Mediterranea* on the strategy
- 16:50-17:00 Follow-up actions

Announcement by Italy

During the last COFO in 2018, Italy proposed to support the secretariat of *Silva Mediterranea* with two seconded people forming the secretariat (one senior and one junior researcher to work in the FAO Secretariat). In December 2018, the Ministry of Agricultural, Food, Forest Policies and Tourism confirmed the Italian commitment, in particular that the two researchers would come from the Council for Research in Agriculture and Agricultural Economy Analysis (CREA). An official letter confirming the commitment will be sent very soon. By the end of the year the process could start efficiently. The next step is the direct contact between CREA and FAO.

Debriefing of the 6th MFW

The results of the satisfaction survey¹ were presented. The lessons learned from the 6th MFW are the following:

- Balance in time between presentations and discussions: the time allocated to discussions was improved between the 5th and 6th MFW. The number of presentations was reduced from 6/7 per session in Agadir to 4/5 in Brummana and even sometimes the session finished ahead of schedule. Four to five presentations per sessions seems a good compromise, but more interactive moments could be organized with innovative session formats (e.g. round tables, or more side events).
- Audience would like to be more involved in the choice of speakers. A possibility could be to organize open calls for sessions, but then the role of the organizing committee would change from organizing sessions to selecting proposals for sessions. The risk is that the MFW could lose in coherence and quality (institutions applying for the organization of sessions just to promote their activities).
- Importance to have plan A and plan B for speakers in order to manage last minute cancellations while addressing requests for presentations that are flowing in the last weeks before the event.
- Young volunteers were much appreciated and are a positive innovation of the 6th MFW. They were well informed and well organized. They were selected based on an open call with a minimum level of education preferably related to forestry but also tourism. They had three trainings ahead of the Week: one training on forestry questions with the University of Saint Joseph; one training on organizational arrangements with the Ministry of Agriculture of Lebanon; and one training on practical arrangements with the venue hotel. Their expenses during the MFW were covered and they got an additional small per diem (USD 30/50 per day). Young volunteers are a good tip for the 7th MFW.
- Higher level representation is needed for the high level segment. Countries can invite their ambassador in the hosting country, as Turkey did in Lebanon. The high level segment of the Week could be opened to other sectors and ministries like the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the ministry in charge of energy.
- A communication strategy should be established right from the beginning and should rely on a wider network of communicators. The communication plan of the 6th MFW was addressed too late and there was some dysfunction in its implementation (e.g. promotion of the outcomes of the Week on web sites that were not the web site of the 6th MFW).

Date and place of the 7th MFW

The date could be either the last week of March 2021 (i.e. 22-26 March) or the last week of May 2021 (i.e. 24-28 May 2021). The place is to be determined, depending on accessibility, hosting capacity and interest with respect to the topic of the Week. The choice for the date and the place will be made by Tunisia as soon as possible.

Topic of the 7th MFW

Mainly related to youth – their role or green jobs creations, and the social dimension – participatory approaches and involving populations in facing forest challenges. Cities should not be forgotten because most population today is urban and cities are therefore ruling the future of forests. A link may be made with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration that will start in 2021, as this agenda is linked with the circular economy (cf. UNECE meeting in Geneva this fall) and green jobs, and is also in line with the Brummana Declaration. A proposal for the topic of the 7th MFW would be to combine restoration, the use

¹ See report of the satisfaction survey of the 6th Mediterranean Forest Week at <http://www.fao.org/forestry/silva-mediterranea/88943/en/> as part of the working documents of the meeting of the bureau.

of value chains on non-wood forest products and the role of population (but taking care to avoid any similarity with the topic of the 4th MFW in Barcelona).

The topic should not be too narrow, nor too wide. It should be attractive to those who fund the week. A reference could be made in this regard to the Mediterranean crisis (but avoiding the word “migration” that is politically too marked).

Selected keywords to define the topic of the 7th MFW are the following:

- Youth and green jobs: provide opportunities
- Social dimension
- Co-management
- Non-wood forest products
- Innovation
- Forest/landscape-based solutions
- Forest-based opportunities
- Environmental opportunities/responsibilities
- Gender in employment
- Communication
- Training and giving experience

The title of the Week itself should be accessible and appealing to a wide audience and should not use jargon. For instance, it is better to say “Beyond the wood” than “Non-wood products”. Rather say “Mediterranean Forest 7.0” or “High-tech forests” than use the word “Innovation”. Words like “Bridging” may be useful to convey the purpose of the Week. If environmental responsibilities is included in the topic of the 7th MFW, then the Week itself must be environmentally responsible (no use of plastics, carbon compensation for plane travels, etc.)

Draft agenda of the 7th MFW

Blocks of sessions

A good balance has to be found between the Session of the Committee that is for the members of the Committee and the sessions of the Week that are open to all. The balance in Brummana was positively perceived, therefore the same structure of the Week will be replicated for the 7th MFW (see slide 11 in Appendix A).

Four days is an appropriate duration for the Week.

Wider involvement in the Week may be gained by organizing more side events, or round tables to enhance discussions on key topics. The MFW is very technical more than scientific. This is positive but we need more balance. More scientific advancements and more political issues should be addressed, e.g. by organizing a scientific “corner” to give better visibility to the scientific community during the week.

Posters should have a dedicated session in an arena rather than be simply displayed. They should be better valorized.

The field trip should be related to the topic of the Week. The Ministry of Agriculture of Tunisia will identify possible field trips depending also on the venue location.

Field trip

Tunisia will propose a field trip in line with the topic of the 7th MFW and the geographical location of the venue.

Side events

A similar process as for the 6th MFW will be followed to organize side events, with first an open call among the members of the organizing committee, then a wider call if not enough proposals have been

collected among the members of the organizing committee. Proposals addressing similar topics will be merged. No more than three side events should be organized at the same time slot.

Expected outcome of the 7th MFW (high-level segment)

The accumulation of Declarations since the 3rd MFW in Tlemcen in 2013 raises the risk of loss of credibility of these declarations issued by the MFW, especially if they are followed by little action. Rather than a declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the Week, the main outcome of the 7th MFW could be:

- Plan A: A Tunisia Challenge specifying a concrete target to reach (e.g. have X projects developed by young entrepreneurs by year Y, or have X projects addressing young people's issues by year Y). This Tunisia Challenge will be realistic and binding only if the high-level segment of the Week is attended by high-level decision makers (i.e. ministers).
- Plan B: a common statement by the members of *Silva Mediterranea* reflecting a common position on the topic of the Week.

The choice between plans A and B will be determined depending on the level of the attendees to the high-level segment of the Week.

Modalities for the organization of the 7th MFW

Host country agreement

An agreement between Tunisia and FAO for hosting the 24th Session of *Silva Mediterranea* and the 7th MFW has to be prepared as soon as possible. The agreement is to be signed by the Minister of Agriculture of Tunisia and FAO. FAO cannot send invitations before the signature of the agreement. The agreement includes an article on immunities given to the invited participants, which may be an issue.

Languages of the 7th MFW

Three languages: Arabic, English and French.

Open call or close organization of plenary sessions and side event

Participants to the MFW have repeatedly requested to be better associated to the choice of the sessions and speakers. A way to be more inclusive is to organize an open call for the organization of sessions, like it is done in many international conferences². The role of the organizing committee of the 7th MFW would then shift from organizing the sessions to selecting then monitoring session proposals.

It was agreed to have a mixed approach for the 7th MFW: some sessions will be directly organized by members of the organizing committee of the 7th MFW while an open call will be organized for the other sessions. Terms of reference have to be prepared for this open call. Applicants will have to match with the topic of the 7th MFW (according to the key words listed before) and will have to fully finance the session they organize (including a contribution to interpretation).

The call for session proposals will have to be disseminated by all possible channels (websites, newsletter, networks of partners). It will also require the web site of the 7th MFW to be ready sooner than what was done in the previous Weeks.

Participation fees

The financial contributions that is asked to participants to cover the cost of coffee breaks and lunch breaks is not understood by participants that see it as a conference fee. Many participants ask to be exempted by this contribution (because conference fees are not an eligible cost for many institutions, because a fee cannot be requested for the session of a UN body, etc.), which generates endless

² See for instance the call for session proposals of the IUCN World Conservation Congress to be held on 11-19 June 2020 in Marseille at <https://www.iucncongress2020.org/event/forum/host-session-during-forum>

exchanges between participants and the secretariat of the MFW (hundreds of emails on this single topic to manage during the last weeks before the event). Moreover, the collection of these contributions from participants is difficult to organize (many payments in cash), the collection process in itself has a high cost, and differential rates among participants generate inequalities (the normal rate covers the actual cost of coffee and lunch breaks while the reduced rate does not).

The common rule in all international conferences is that participants cover their own meals. Hence, an option would be to cancel the participation fees for the 7th MFW and ask every participant to pay for their own lunch and dinner. Coffee breaks could be offered by the hosting country if this is possible. Should this option be retained, the choice of the venue should follow this decision, i.e. the venue should be located in a place where many alternative options are available for meals.

Cancellation of the participation fees without taking care of lunches is the preferred option, but Tunisia will confirm if this option is feasible.

Communication

A communication strategy for the 7th MFW should be established right from the beginning (agenda item for OC first meeting). This strategy will establish who will be in charge of the communication plan of the 7th MFW and ensure that there is enough budget and human resources to implement this communication plan. The communication plan could be either subcontracted to a network of forest communicators (e.g. Mediterranean Forest Communicators Network, or Mediterranean group of the UNECE Forest Communicators' Network) or internally implemented by a communication expert hired within the secretariat of the 7th MFW. Private communication firms (e.g. MondoForte) may be explored but are probably too expensive.

Composition of the Organizing Committee (OC) of the 7th MFW

Role of the members of the OC

The role of OC is to decide on all aspects related to the organisation of the Week. In the 6th MFW, members of the OC were either in charge of the organization of the some sessions of the Week, state representatives supporting the Week, or members providing financial support to the Week. The OC should not be too big not to be difficult to manage (15 members is a maximum). A rule to be strictly respected is that any service provider under a letter of agreement with FAO for activities related to the 7th MFW cannot be a member of the OC.

Considering that the OC is the executive committee of the task force on the MFW that is a subsidiary body of the Committee *Silva Mediterranea*, the rules of procedure (RoP) of the Committee should apply to it, and so members of *Silva Mediterranea* should be contacted to be part of the OC. Therefore a letter will be prepared and sent to the member of *Silva Mediterranea* asking if they want to be involved and, if such is the case, to appoint a representative to the OC of the 7th MFW. According to the RoP, international organization may also be included as observers.

To ease the on-site preparation of the Week, somebody from the FAO Office in Tunisia should also join the OC.

Composition and role of the secretariat of the 7th MFW

The secretariat of the 7th MFW is composed of two members: one from the hosting country and one from FAO. It has to be someone who is responsive and that has the mandate to make a decision on the spot or someone that can report to his/her boss and make the decision accordingly. English and French are a necessity. The secretariat is responsible for organizing and reporting on the meetings of the OC. Organizational tasks for the 7th MFW can be assigned to the secretariat by the OC.

Possible resource mobilisation to support the 7th MFW

The approximate budget of the MFW is USD 340,000. The hosting country usually supports part of the cost (related to session of the Committee itself, the field trip and the gala dinner). The costs to be covered by the hosting country are specified in the agreement between the hosting country and FAO.

If we make an open call for session proposals, through ToR the organisers will have to support the session's cost (at least the travels of speakers).

The budget of the Week should categorize expenses depending on whether they are fixed costs with little appeal for sponsors (like interpretation, venue rent, etc.) or variable costs that give visibility to sponsors (like session costs, etc.) Communication budget should be addressed right from the beginning.

A screening of existing projects that could have an interest to support the week should be made, including:

- World Bank projects in Tunisia (see http://projects.worldbank.org/search?lang=en&searchTerm=&countrycode_exact=TN), including:
 - “Innovative Startups and SMEs in Tunisia”, project No. P167380,
 - “Youth Economic Inclusion” in Tunisia, project No. P158138,
 - “Integrated landscapes management in lagging regions”, project No. P151030.
- Project “Decision support for mainstreaming and scaling up of sustainable land management” (DS-SLM), GEF-5 project No. 4922 with documentation available at <https://www.thegef.org/project/decision-support-mainstreaming-and-scaling-sustainable-land-management>
- Project “Integrated approach to management of forests in Turkey, with demonstration in high conservation value forests in the Mediterranean region” with UNDP Turkey as implementing agency, GEF-5 project No. 4469.
- French ONF facility in Turkey.
- BRIDGES project funded by Turkey (FAO project No. GCP /INT/340/TUR).
- Project in Tunisia with support from Korea and Turkey (details to be provided by Prof. Fabio Salbitano).
- INCREDIBLE project (“Innovation networks of cork, resins and edibles in the Mediterranean basin”), EU Horizon 2020 RUR-2017-1 project No. 774632.

A screening of potential donors should also be made, including:

- TIKA, in particular its cooperation programme in Tunisia. The TIKA Office in Tunisia should be contacted,
- JICA, in particular its cooperation programme in Tunisia,
- FIDA,
- KOICA / KFS,
- World Bank,
- EU Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and EU External Action Service (EEAS) (e.g. EU-Tunisia Youth Partnership).

A screening of potential private sponsors should finally be made, including:

- Producer organizations (e.g. for pine products) and furniture companies that wish to invest in North Africa, in particular from Turkey.
- Oil and gas companies like ENI (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi) but beware of ethical restrictions from FAO.
- E-commerce companies like Amazon (that opened an office in Tunisia), Booking (that is attempting to arrive in North Africa), Alibaba.

A folder with communication material on the 7th MFW will be prepared to contact potential donors and sponsors.

Calendar of follow-up actions

The chronology will be adjusted once the date of the 7th MFW is decided.

There usually are five meetings of the Organising Committee to prepare the event:

- 1st meeting in Tunisia (2 days): tentatively during the week of 16th of December 2019, with the following objectives:
 - Decide objectives and title of the 7th MFW
 - The venue
 - Draft the agenda (sessions and their coordinators)
 - First version of budget
 - Establish communication strategy
- 2nd meeting in Rome back to back to COFO (22-26 June 2020)
 - Step further in the preparation of the sessions
 - Consolidate the budget
 - Validate the visual identity of the week (logo, leaflet, website)
 - Organisational arrangements (carbon compensation measures, etc.)
- 3rd meeting in Rome (end of September 2020)
 - Review the sessions
 - Identify the speakers
 - Consolidate the budget
 - Communication plan finalized
 - Invitation letters, booklets, leaflet should be done, the website should be finalised and reviewed, the registration, etc.
- 4th meeting by Skype (end of November 2020)
 - Finalize sessions
 - Finalize budget
- 5th meeting in Tunisia (first week of February 2021): final on-site checking of all organisational arrangements.

A Doodle survey will be sent in September 2019 to set a precise date for the first meeting of the Organising Committee.

How to address the recommendations from the 23rd Session of *Silva Mediterranea* held in Brummana?

Amend the Rules of Procedure (RoP) of *Silva Mediterranea*

Revision of the mandate of the Committee and the procedures of the Executive Committee: in Brummana it was not possible to acquire these modifications as it needs a two-thirds majority of members. Physical presence is required. The Committee has recurring problems of attendance of its 27 members.

A possible solution might be to organise a special session in Rome, but this may actually raise problems (attention brought on the low level of participation) rather than bring solutions. Other possibilities to ensure that the two-thirds majority will be reached at the next meeting of *Silva Mediterranea* are:

1. Target countries with interest in forestry questions and get them on board. Talk to them during the regional forestry commissions of FAO and/or use personal relationships. Target REU countries are Bulgaria, Serbia, Slovenia, Cyprus and Romania while target RNE country is Egypt.

- Bulgaria is answering emails but is not coming to the meetings → call to be organized by the secretariat of *Silva Mediterranea*;
 - Cyprus: contacts at Ministry level with EUFORGEN; Michele Bozzano will follow up;
 - Romania has no information about *Silva Mediterranea* → Ismail Belen will follow up with his contacts;
 - Slovenia: Catherine Rivoal will follow up with her contacts;
 - Egypt: contact to be established through the RNE regional Forestry Officer based in Cairo.
2. If by end of September the two-thirds majority of members is not reached, send a letter from the DG of FAO asking members to leave the Committee if there is a lack of interest.
 3. Send an official letter from the Chair of *Silva Mediterranea* to encourage countries to attend the 24th Session (six months prior to the session)

In addition, the EU focal points of *Silva Mediterranea* should be clarified. It should also be clarified if an exemption to the two-thirds majority rule can be obtained with UN rules. For the next meeting of *Silva Mediterranea* that will take place back-to-back to COFO in June 2020, the invitation letter will encourage countries to send a delegate from their Permanent Representation at FAO if no representative from the Ministry of Agriculture can physically attend the meeting. In this latter case, the possibility should be given to the focal point of *Silva Mediterranea* to attend the meeting by videoconference or Skype.

Clarify the role of observers and coordinators within subsidiary bodies

The process is on track and several of the recommendations have already been implemented in Brummana. Requesting *Silva Mediterranea* members to appoint a representative Election of coordinators for working groups will be organized at the 24th Session of *Silva Mediterranea* following the same process as for the chair and vice-chairs.

Forest health

Explore whether the EPPO (European Plant Protection Organisation) network could deal with forestry questions, as there are many countries from *Silva Mediterranea* in this organization and it is very active.

MedForYouth (formerly Blue Forest)

A project concept note has been developed. A PowerPoint presentation should be prepared to present the project and shared with the bureau of *Silva Mediterranea* to ease the promotion of the project among potential donors.

Preparation of the roadmap for the future

The bureau stated that the alignment of the work plans of the working groups of *Silva Mediterranea* on the strategy of *Silva Mediterranea* was good enough and that there was no need to revise these work plans to better align them on the strategy. The only exception is the working group on cork oak and non-wood forest products for which no working plan is currently available. It is all the more a pity that no work plan is available for this working group as NWFP are key to the region and to the activities of the Committee. The Secretariat of *Silva Mediterranea* will arrange a call with the working group coordinator to clarify the situation.

Meeting of the bureau of *Silva Mediterranea* Monday 15 July 2019 - Room D-440, FAO HQ, Rome, Italy

Objectives and expected outcomes

1. Debrief on the 6th Mediterranean Forest Week
 - ☞ Lessons learned from the 6th MFW
2. Outline the joint organization of the 7th Mediterranean Forest Week and 24th Session of *Silva Mediterranea*
 - ☞ Tentative dates and place
 - ☞ Topic of the 7th MFW
 - ☞ Structure (blocks of sessions) of the 7th MFW
 - ☞ Composition of the organizing committee
 - ☞ Possible resource mobilization to support the 7th MFW
 - ☞ Modalities for the organization of the Week
 - ☞ Calendar with the main steps