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of FOREST EUROPE

only per e-mail

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## **Ninth FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference**

Dear Sir/Madam,

on behalf of the chairing country of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, I have the honour to formally invite you to the **Ninth FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference** which is to be held **in Bonn on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024**.

At a time when drastic climatic and environmental changes are affecting our forests, the FOREST EUROPE process remains a central pillar of transboundary cooperation for tackling the many challenges our forests are facing. The past four years under German chairmanship have demonstrated the relevance and dynamism of the concept of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), the benefit of coordinated international action to increase forest resilience and the importance of green jobs and education for the future of the forest sector. Moreover, the successful implementation of the Ministerial Decision to support Ukraine and the two fruitful High Level Policy Dialogues are further testimony to the unique value of the process.

Looking ahead, I invite you to join the upcoming Ministerial Conference, entitled “Shaping our future with resilient forests”. In doing so, I wish to underline our significant common responsibility to lead our forests and the FOREST EUROPE process into a secure future. By endorsing the prepared Ministerial Declaration and the Ministerial Decision, we will establish important political commitments to SFM, to the enhancement of forest resilience and to the establishment of new working modalities for FOREST EUROPE, which will make the process fit for the future. Your personal engagement in this important Ninth Ministerial Conference, following the Bratislava Conference in 2021, will play a crucial part in underlining the role of forests, the forest sector and the FOREST EUROPE process.

The preliminary agenda of the Ninth FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference is attached. Further organisational information, especially on the nomination of your delegation and the modalities to facilitate your personal participation, will be provided to you by the Liaison Unit Bonn.

To enable you to prepare for the main outcome of the Conference, namely the adoption of the Bonn Ministerial Declaration and the Bonn Ministerial Decision, the documents will be sent to you in good time before the Conference.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Am Isd'.