



FOREST EUROPE 9th Ministerial Conference Germany

9th FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference 2024

Shaping our future with resilient forests

Preliminary agenda

Date: October 1st and 2nd 2024

Location: Steigenberger Grand Hotel Petersberg, Königswinter, near Bonn, Germany

Registration: opens in March 2024

Description:

FOREST EUROPE's signatories, represented by the ministers responsible for forests in their countries, and heads of the observer organizations will meet for a two-day event to take decisions to strengthen future cooperation on forests in Europe and exchange the latest findings and developments regarding sustainable forest management (SFM) in the pan-European region. The event will conclude with the signature of the Ministerial documents which will serve as guidance for the FOREST EUROPE (FE) process during the upcoming years by outlining key issues where pan-European ministers commit to support joint action.

Key outputs:

- Signing ceremony of the two Ministerial documents defining the political framework and directions for future cooperation on forest-related issues in Europe under the FE process and beyond.
- Active exchange and dialogue among ministers and observer representatives on the future of SFM and other core topics of the FE process (e.g. forest resilience and risk management, green forest jobs and education).
- Handover ceremony from the current to the incoming chair.
- Increased visibility for ministers and the FE process with engaging communication activities.

Preliminary agenda:

First day: October 1st 2024

Suggested Time CEST	Description
10:00 – 13:00	Arrival and registration at the Steigenberger Grand Hotel Petersberg Königswinter (Bonn)
13:00 – 13:10	Welcome speech by the Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture Cem Özdemir, Germany, acting chair of the FE process
13:10 – 13:20	Adoption of the agenda and housekeeping rules



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13:20 – 13:30	Presentation of the LUBo milestones from 2021-24
13:30 – 15:00 (90 mins)	<p>First session: Round table discussion by ministers about the Bonn ministerial declaration on “FOREST EUROPE - Keeping the concept of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) fit for the future “</p> <p><u>Aim:</u> Exchange of national and regional experiences in implementing SFM, sharing of related challenges and future perspectives for SFM implementation.</p> <p><u>Structure:</u> two consecutive panels with intro remarks by five ministers on stage and three observers from the audience, followed by a moderated discussion with spontaneous, short interventions from signatories and observers. Moderated by Jo O’Hara, FutureArk Ltd.</p>
15:00 – 15:40	Coffee break
15:40– 17:10 (tot 90 mins)	<p>Second session: Round table discussion by ministers on the Bonn Ministerial Decision: “Sustainable Forest Management as a tool to enhance forest resilience”</p> <p><u>Aim:</u> Exchange of national and regional experiences related to forest risk management and cross-border collaboration to increase resilience and adapt our forests for the future.</p> <p><u>Structure:</u> same as first session above.</p>
17:10 - 17:25	Closing statement for day one by the FOREST EUROPE Chair
17:25– 17:40	Master of Ceremonies announces the group picture on the terrace led by LUBo
18:30 – 19:00	Aperitif on the terrace or next to the Gala dinner if the weather is bad
19:00 – 23:00	Gala dinner at the Steigenberger Grand Hotel Petersberg



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Second day: October 2nd, 2024

Suggested Time CEST	Description
08:15 – 09:00	Registration service active at Steigenberger Grand Hotel Petersberg
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome and a short summary of the first day by the FOREST EUROPE Chair
09:15 – 09:50 (35 minutes)	<p>Third session: Talk on “Seeding youth-led opportunities for the future of Europe’s forests”</p> <p><u>Aim:</u> Youth and ministers will talk about the role of the youth and their vision on how to implement the recommended actions from FE, and how to maintain the momentum for youth involvement in the process.</p> <p><u>Structure:</u> two youth representatives and two ministers on stage to deliver their intro, followed by observers’ intervention from the audience. Moderated by Jo O’Hara, FutureArk Ltd.</p>
09:50 – 11:20 (90 minutes)	<p>Fourth session: Open discussion with LUBo focusing on “The next chapter: Future vision of FOREST EUROPE”</p> <p><u>Aim:</u> focus on the future role of FOREST EUROPE in the policy arena, based on the vision proposed by the ministers and observers (potential future role of FOREST EUROPE in forest policy arena, new working modalities to cope with this future role)</p> <p><u>Structure:</u> FE Secretariat will make a short presentation, followed by a moderated discussion with intervention from the audience. Moderated by Jo O’Hara, FutureArk Ltd.</p>
11:20 – 12:30	Coffee break and networking for participants
in parallel 11:30 – 12:30 (60 minutes)	Official signing of ministerial documents by ministers
12:30 – 12:40	Handover ceremony by the current FE Chair and incoming FE Chair
12:40 – 12:50	Closing remarks by Germany
12:50– 13:50	Lunch break, followed by the departure of delegates not participating in the excursion
14:00 – 17:00	Excursion to the Siebengebirge mountains “Rhine Romanticism and forests - between utopia and reality”
17:00 – 18:00	Transfer of participants to the Frankfurt, Düsseldorf, or Cologne/Bonn airports, to the Bonn train station, or to the Steigenberger Grand Hotel Petersberg