



Peter Kicko
Director General
Section of Forestry and Wood Processing

Bratislava, 1 June 2018
No.: 2193/2018-700

Dear FOREST EUROPE signatories and observers,

It is my great pleasure to invite your authorised representatives and experts to take part in the Roundtable Meeting on a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe to be held on 19-20 September 2018 in Bratislava, the Slovak Republic. Roundtable Meeting is a meeting format for strategic discussion, exchange of information and views on emerging issues, and gives room for brainstorming and engagement of all participants.

Conducting the Roundtable Meeting follows the Madrid Ministerial Decision, signed at the Extraordinary Ministerial Conference held in October 2015 in Madrid, pursuant to which FOREST EUROPE signatories, at an appropriate time and at the latest by 2020, will explore possible ways to find the common ground on a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe. The purpose of the Roundtable Meeting on a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe is to exchange views and collect ideas on all options for the procedural follow-up of the Madrid Extraordinary Ministerial Decision. The output of the Roundtable Meeting will be presented to subsequent Expert Level Meeting, to be held later this year, for its consideration.

It would be of vital importance to have representatives of the FOREST EUROPE signatories as well as observers attending the Roundtable Meeting and expressing their views on this strategic issue that is an integral part of the ongoing pan-European policy dialogue on forests and forestry.

Relevant information on the meeting, including the draft agenda and background documentation, have been posted on the website <http://foresteurope.org/event/13675/>. The annotated agenda is to be circulated by the Liaison Unit Bratislava to the FOREST EUROPE signatories and observers in due time before the meeting.

Registration for the meeting has been already opened and is available at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdrBoRMknYizem_3KkwSEK4K553IL_kLNayA9dWo_f_jBmjag/viewform.

Yours sincerely

FOREST EUROPE signatories

FOREST EUROPE observer organisations and observer countries