Draft Ministerial Documents for the 7th Madrid FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference

Draft Ministerial Document 4

NOTE:

At the ELM in January 2015, signatories stated that the issue of the future direction of FOREST EUROPE would not fit into a general declaration from the Ministerial Conference, as originally proposed in the background document for the meeting in January. On this background, the GCC proposes the following Draft Ministerial Document. As a follow up of this Draft Ministerial Document, GCC also proposes a draft Road Map, including the draft terms of reference for a Working Group on the future direction of FOREST EUROPE.

The future direction of FOREST EUROPE

As representatives of the Signatories of FOREST EUROPE, we

1. ACKNOWLEDGE the importance of the work carried out during these last 25 years since the first Ministerial Conference in 1990 and emphasizing the need to continue strengthening political cooperation on sustainable management of our forests.

2. RECOGNIZE the important achievements of FOREST EUROPE guided by landmark ministerial resolutions and decisions of the past.

3. REAFFIRM the role of FOREST EUROPE as a high-level policy platform for cooperation on forest policies in Europe that secures and promotes sustainable forest management and promotes cooperation and synergies among the forest related organizations and processes in EUROPE.

4. ARE AWARE of new challenges and demands in the forest sector in Europe such as the development of a bioeconomy, the increased demand for bioenergy, climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk management and integration of nature protection.

5. RECALL the outcomes of the work and reflections based on the “Review of the MCPFE” (2009) and WELCOME the “Assessment of the achievements and added value of the FOREST EUROPE Process” (2015)

6. UNDERLINE that FOREST EUROPE needs to be reexamined in order to maintain and enhance its impact on SFM in Europe and make Forest Europe fit for the future.
7. DECIDE to review the structure, process and work modalities of FOREST EUROPE within one year, and to present the result of this review to the first ELM thereafter.