

European Parliament's AGRI committee is paving the way towards a self-standing and realistic new EU Forest Strategy

European Parliament's AGRI committee adopted today its report "*The European Forest Strategy - the way forward*". CEPF, representing European Forest Owners, expresses its support to this report and the direction it sets for the new EU Forest Strategy, including the need to promote sustainable forest management.

"The today adopted AGRI committee position on future role and content of the new EU Forest Strategy is based on the reality of the field and forest practices" said **Fanny-Pomme Langue**, Secretary General of CEPF. *"As representatives of forest owners who are custodians of forests' future, we welcome such approach and recognition"*

The report, coordinated by **MEP Petri Sarvamaa**, highlights the essential role of multifunctional, healthy and sustainably managed forests in achieving EU's goals for environment, climate and biodiversity and the need to promote sustainable forest management in the new EU Forest Strategy. It is calling for risk management measures to address the very serious issue of climate change impacts on forests. It also recognises the crucial role played by forest owners as well as the need to support them in the new Forest Strategy.

European Forest Owners endorse the AGRI committee call for an ambitious, independent and self-standing new EU Forest Strategy which should ensure long-term stability and predictability for the forestry sector, and are calling for this approach to be confirmed in the next policy making steps to frame the new EU Forest Strategy.

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