## **CEF Statement**

The Council of European Foresters (CEF) and its Institutions: The European Forestry Academic Society (EFAS) and The Advisory Group of Forestry Experts from Europe (AGFEE) appreciate the Forest Europe initiative to develop the theme "Sustainable Forest Management: Unlocking forest biodiversity-s potential".

Considering the importance of forest biodiversity for the harmonious development and consolidation of the forest, the stabilization of forest soils, preventing the forest damages from storms and droughts, preventing the forest damages from wildfires, preventing the spread of insect attacks and tree diseases, increasing the landscape value of forests, mitigating effects of climate change, the development of wild animals and birds habitats, CEF, AGFEE and EFAS consider that:

The creation, maintenance and development of forest biodiversity should be one of the action priorities of all countries in Forest Europe, and Forest Europe for supporting this priority in the European forestry policy can initiate the elaboration and development of a "Pan European Mechanism for knowledge and development of biodiversity forests based on forest science information and good practice".

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CEF President, Marian STOICESCU 10.08.2022