



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
11 November 2010

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Timber Committee

Sixty-eighth session

Geneva, 11-14 October 2010

Report of the Timber Committee on its sixty-eighth session

Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	1 – 5	3
I. Adoption of the Agenda	6	3
II. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in a changing international environment: briefing and discussion of recent developments	7	3
III. Matters arising from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Session	8 – 15	4
IV. Market developments in 2010 and prospects for 2011	16 – 17	5
V. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations Policy Forum	18 – 20	5
VI. Review of activities since the sixty-seventh session and programme of work	21 – 32	6 – 7

Contents (*continued*)

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
VII. Election of Officers	33	8
VIII. Any other business.....	34	8
IX. Date and place of next session	35	8
X. Adoption of the report	36	8

Annexes

I. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and Food and Agriculture Organization for the United Nations Policy Forum Conclusions and Recommendations	9 – 11
II. Food and Agriculture Organization for the United Nations European Forestry Commission and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Timber Committee Integrated Programme of Work on Forests and Timber .	12 – 15
III. Revised Mandates of Teams of Specialists	16 – 29

Introduction

1. The Timber Committee held its sixty-eighth session in Geneva from 11 to 14 October 2010. Representatives of the following countries attended the meeting: Austria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. Representatives of Chile, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan and New Zealand also attended the session.

2. Representatives of the European Commission attended the session. The Liaison Unit Oslo of Forest Europe (the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe) was also represented.

3. Representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) attended the session. The European Forest Institute (EFI) and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) were also represented.

4. The following international non-governmental organizations were represented: Building and Woodworkers' International (BWI), European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-BOIS), European Network of Forest Entrepreneurs (ENFE), European Organisation of the Sawmill Industry (EOS), European Panel Federation (EPF), the Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST), and The Forest Trust (TFT).

5. The Chair, Mr. B. Glavonjic (Serbia), opened the session. The Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Director of the Trade and Timber Division, and the President of the Society of Wood Science and Technology welcomed the delegations and addressed the session. A member of the Board of Directors, Dovetail Partners Inc., delivered a keynote presentation.

I. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2010/1/Rev.1

6. The provisional agenda was adopted without any changes.

II. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in a changing international environment: briefing and discussion of recent developments

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2010/2

7. The Committee was briefed on international developments related to the forest sector. The briefing included: major events foreseen for 2011, the International Year of Forests (IYF), the Ninth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF 9), the Sixth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE 6) and the joint session of the Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission

(TC/EFC). The Committee reviewed the list of cooperation and supported further efforts to strengthen partnerships with key organizations, particularly in the context of the IYF.

III. Matters arising from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe session

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2010/3

8. The secretariat presented an overview of developments relevant to the UNECE/FAO joint Timber and Forestry programme of work and related matters arising from the sixty-third session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, held from 30 March to 1 April 2009.

9. The Committee reviewed the programme's cooperation with Forest Europe, which it considered crucial. It was briefed on the joint work with the European Commission on the Good practice guidance on the sustainable mobilization of wood in Europe; the preparation of the report on the State of Europe's Forests 2011; and an ad hoc UNECE seminar to provide advice on the experience gained in the hosting of conventions' secretariats, in view of possible negotiations towards a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe.

10. The Committee agreed that the secretariat should continue to intensify cooperation and strengthen synergies with the Forest Europe process. This would increase the coherence of the work and provide mutual support to the developments of pan-European forest policy and strategy. The Committee also recommended joining forces with other actors in the pan-European region in preparing activities for IYF, including ongoing work on communication towards a joint pan-European forest communication strategy.

11. The Committee welcomed the fact that the secretariat had continuously strengthened its activities on monitoring and analysing policies and institutions, through data collection and dissemination, analysis and discussion at forums and workshops. It also expressed appreciation of the capacity-building activities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia through the dedicated Team of Specialists.

12. It was briefed on cooperation with other UNECE programmes and units. It welcomed the strengthening of the cross-sectoral dimension of its work, in particular in energy, housing and land management, environment, trade and statistics. It requested the secretariat to continue to reach out to the other sectors and to cooperate with other UNECE divisions and programmes for the delivery of joint activities. Examples being: the project on Modern and sustainable heat and power from woody biomass in South-Eastern Europe, under the Energy Efficiency 21 initiative; the UNECE support to the Russian Federation for developing pellets production; and the work on guidelines on green building.

13. The Committee was informed of the progress in the Sustainable Buildings and Climate Initiative (SBCI) launched by UNEP to promote internationally recognized metrics and protocols for measuring and reporting on the environmental footprint of buildings. It recommended that the UNECE secretariat conclude an official agreement with UNEP to participate and contribute to this initiative and become actively involved in the discussions.

14. It invited the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Black Carbon under the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution to consider reviewing the matter of particle emissions from wood fuel in cooperation with the secretariat.

15. It suggested that the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy include in the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference agenda segments on forest sector policies and forest and water, as well as recognition of the International Year of Forests in 2011.

IV. Market developments in 2010 and prospects for 2011

Documentation: (ECE/TIM/2010/4)

16. The Committee held joint Market Discussions with the Society of Wood Science and Technology. Developments were reviewed in forest products markets as reported in the Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2009-2010. There were expert presentations, country market statements and forecasts. The theme of this year's discussions was innovative wood products. The Committee appreciated the schedule of the discussions in the secretariat note and requested that it be included annually.

17. The session approved a market statement for subsequent publication and distribution via its website in a UNECE press release¹. For the first time, thanks to the Society of Wood Science and Technology, the discussions were broadcast live over the Internet as a webinar and will soon be available in English, French and Russian via a link from the Committee's website. This new technology enabled remote locations to see and hear the session.

V. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Policy Forum

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2010/5

18. During the session, a one-day policy forum on "Building Codes and Standards: Influence on Material Use and Construction Practices" addressed four themes: Codes and Standards – State of the Art and Prospects; Role of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) in Developing Building Codes and Standards; Role of Wood Products in Mitigating Climate Change; and Users' Demands: their Impact on the Forest-based Sector.

19. The forum recommended that the Executive Secretary of UNECE form a task force on green building to be composed of experts from the Timber Committee, the Housing and Land Management Committee, the Committee for Environmental Policy and the Committee on Sustainable Energy, together with partner organizations. The task force would address the issue of green building in a neutral and scientific way. It would start its work as soon as possible to develop a comparative study of the different materials in buildings and their carbon efficiency. The task force should participate in and contribute to the UNEP Sustainable Building Climate Initiative.

20. The Committee took note of the Forum's conclusions and recommendations, which are set out in annex I of this report. The presentations and the press releases will be made available on the Committee's website². The policy forum was also broadcast live on the Internet as a webinar in English, French and Russian, and will also be available on the Committee's website.

¹ See at http://www.unece.org/press/pr2010/10tim_p13e.htm

² See at <http://timber.unece.org/index.php?id=318> .

VI. Review of activities since the sixty-seventh session and programme of work

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2010/6

21. The Committee reviewed and approved the list of planned outputs for the period from October 2010 to December 2011, with additions as proposed by the secretariat. The final list of outputs is included in annex II.

22. The Committee reviewed the outcome of the UNECE biennial evaluations 2008-2009 as previously considered by the joint bureaux. The Committee also reviewed and approved a proposal for the biennial evaluations 2010-2011 and the proposed cluster-level framework.

23. The Timber Committee reviewed the mandates of the UNECE/FAO teams of specialists (ToS), and, in particular, those teams with changed mandates. It was informed of changes to the mandates of the teams of specialists on Forest Fire, Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Products Markets and Marketing by the team leaders and vice-leader, respectively. Team leaders stressed the need to find suitable partners to conduct joint activities. The leader of the Team of Specialists on Forest Fire asked the Committee to help the Team in securing resources for its work, which is often carried out in cooperation with other United Nations agencies.

24. The Committee discussed coordination among the teams of specialists, and between them and the secretariat as a priority. It asked the teams to consider involving other organizations such as the International Labour Organization, which had expertise to offer. The Committee also requested the teams of specialists to enhance outreach and cooperation with other sectors by mainstreaming communication activities into the work of all the Teams of Specialists in particular because the forestry community embarks on the International Year of the Forest in 2011. The Committee also requested the teams to address climate change aspects continuously in their work.

25. It asked for clarification regarding the change in the name of the ToS on Forest Products Markets and Marketing. Following an explanation by Team members that the term "marketing" as such included "markets" and that the former was a more forward-looking term that would appeal to a broader audience, the Committee agreed with the name change to ToS on Forest Products Marketing. Subsequently, the Committee requested the Team to consider the legality and competitiveness of forest products.

26. Following the review of the revised mandates, the Committee approved the mandates of all seven teams (included in annex III) for review and final approval by the UNECE Executive Committee.

27. A message from the Forest Communicators Network (FCN) was delivered to the Committee. The statement included details regarding the development of a European forest communication strategy. Key proposals for action during the International Year of the Forest (IYF) were presented, as well as the FCN communication objectives for forest communication in the European region. The FCN encouraged the wide use of the IYF logo at various events and websites, and called on the Committee to make the best use of media, including social networks, to seek commercial sponsorship and partnership.

28. The Committee approved the proposal to include the collection of wood energy statistics under Work Area 1.

29. The Committee was presented with a proposal to formally include the EFC Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds (WPMMW) and the AFC/EFC/NEFC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions (*Silva Mediterranea*) into the

UNECE/FAO Strategic Plan on Timber and Forestry. Following discussion, the Timber Committee endorsed the decision by the EFC and Silva Mediterranea to be formally part of the integrated programme of work. The Committee also suggested that in the review of its mandate, the WPMMW should consider the proposal by the representative of France to change into two separate teams of specialists: one on general issues related to the forests and water theme, and the other on technical issues related to risks in mountain forests.

30. The Committee discussed the creation of a possible joint UNECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Policy and Management as a subsidiary body, on the basis of a proposal developed jointly by the members of the bureaux and the leaders of the teams of specialists. This proposal would enable the expert, technical and policy levels to be linked and provide a means for technical discussion of the outcomes from the work of the teams of specialists, thus bringing knowledge to the policy level through a technical body. At the same time, the proposed joint UNECE/FAO Working Party could identify emerging issues and provide technical advice to the Timber Committee and European Forestry Commission in support of policy decisions.

31. The Leader of the Team of Specialists on Forest Fire explained that since fire policy was of a cross-sectoral nature, affecting among others the agriculture and land-use domains, the proposed joint UNECE/FAO Working Party would be considered as a good means for discussing and raising awareness of the outcome of the work of the different Teams.

32. Delegates acknowledged the role that the proposed joint UNECE/FAO Working Party could have in achieving a better understanding of SFM within the sector, in cooperating with other sectors, and, at the same time, in strengthening other policy processes. The Committee agreed to further elaborate the proposal and submit it for consideration at the next joint session of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission to be held in late 2011. In order to do so, it decided to hold a “zero meeting” of the proposed joint UNECE/FAO Working Party back-to-back with the next meeting of the Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, in the first quarter of 2011. The meeting shall consider the name of the proposed Working Party and develop draft terms of reference, and discuss resource implications and reporting lines for the teams of specialists.

VII. Election of officers

33. The Committee elected Mr. Branko Glavonjic (Serbia), Vice-Chair, and Ms. Linda Langner (United States), Chair, to hold office until the end of the sixty-ninth session. It elected Mr. Heikki Granholm (Finland) as new Vice-Chair. It thanked the outgoing officer, Mr. Johann Dengg (Germany) for his contribution to the Committee’s work.

VIII. Any other business

34. The Secretariat and the chairperson presented expressions of appreciation to the Leaders of the Team of Specialists on Forest Fire, the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management and the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Expert Network to Implement Sustainable Forest Management. The Secretariat also presented expressions of appreciation to the outgoing Chair from Serbia, the outgoing vice-Chair of the Committee from Germany and a former member of the EFC Bureau from France.

IX. Date and place of next session

35. The sixty-ninth session of the Committee will be held in conjunction with the session of the FAO European Forestry Commission in late 2011. The Committee asked the secretariat to ensure that the session be scheduled as early as possible, to ensure timely availability of the results of the market statistics, in consideration of the meetings schedule to be agreed with FAO.

X. Adoption of the report

36. The Committee adopted its report based on a draft prepared by the secretariat.

Annex I

UNECE/FAO Policy Forum Building Codes and Standards: Influence on Material Use and Construction Practices, 14 October 2010

Co-Chairs' Conclusions & Recommendations from the UNECE Timber Committee and Society of Wood Science and Technology Policy Forum

1. The Policy Forum built on the two green-building workshops organized by the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Marketing (TSFPM), in 2008 and 2009 and gained from joining forces with SWST and the participation of over 300 of their members.
2. The programme was designed to give a methodological approach to the influence of building codes and standards on building material use and construction practices. The key points highlighted were the following:

I. Conclusions

1. As a major component of human-induced environmental impact, construction can make a significant contribution through "green building". This scope is increased rather than diminished by the current and continuing dismal economic and financial context. While prospects for construction in much of the UNECE region are set to remain bleak, sustainable building has potential.
2. However, wood has not yet taken the role it should in green building, often losing ground to less sustainable materials. It needs a fair comparison. Although wood can make a positive contribution to greener building, its use alone does not guarantee the sustainability of the building. Essential knowledge has to be developed for the proper design of buildings with wood, for energy efficiency and durability. Wood's heterogeneity can be overcome in Engineered Wood Products (EWP). Thus, EWP can be one of the drivers in using wood in green building. In any case, wood must perform technically and compete on price.
3. However, up until now green building standards and assessment systems have not been easily comparable and at times have had an inadequate scientific basis. Nevertheless, it was observed that specifiers often consider wood positively, based on their knowledge of wood's energy efficiency and substitution benefits. Concerns they might have about wood are generally linked to the sustainability of forest management. To help provide a neutral framework for further developing building standards, codes and assessment systems, a full science-based approach is needed.
4. This should be based on Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Environmental Products Declaration (EPD) as core tools. These tools employ common metrics in a harmonized framework, thus allowing fair comparisons of building materials, components and systems and their related standards and codes. LCA is complex and costly but it can be used to support a sound understanding of sustainable building and the role of wood products in green buildings. One must be aware of the limits of

LCA, which does not very effectively take into consideration land use or socio-economic issues.

5. Although these tools are becoming available, they need to be further developed. A major issue is how to make available operationally the knowledge they can unlock. When LCA models will become available and integrated in simulation tools to perform “what if” scenarios, this should provide generic answers to questions regarding the sustainability of building materials. Model results could then be encapsulated in EPD or in policy guidelines.
6. As to the accounting of the role of forests and wood in mitigating climate change, the following was observed while taking into account the importance of sustainable forest management certification:
 - (a) There still is a need for a methodology to account for the increase in forest carbon stocks from Sustainable Forest Management;
 - (b) A methodology exists for substitution but not for sequestration; for which more work is needed. When this will be done and integrated in forest management accountancy, the role of Harvested Wood Products will be fully recognized. To achieve this, international trade and proper accountancy issues need to be addressed.
7. Wood’s end-of-life phase also merits attention. Too much wood still ends up in landfills. Not only can it be recovered and then re-used or recycled or used for heating, but also methane emissions should be either recovered or avoided all together. Recovered energy (heat and power) needs to have markets. Co-generation with district heating appears to be a very efficient way of achieving this. Research in this area is still required since this issue is far from being resolved.
8. The previous two points require policy attention and action from the wood products community to be able to communicate the full story of the benefits from wood in green building.
9. Based on such a scientific and quantitative approach, wooden building materials, products and systems need to be linked to the positive image of SFM and of wood as a green material.

II. Recommendations to policy makers

1. Identify and fill gaps in information and knowledge of wooden building materials, components and systems by stimulating and supporting further research, information gathering and dissemination.
2. Make that information and knowledge accessible to relevant users, especially the specifying professions, such as planners, architects, designers and builders, and ensure its input to policy-makers and legislators.
3. Develop wood awareness modules for users and potential end users, e.g. homeowners.

III. Recommendations to UNECE

1. The Executive Secretary of UNECE should form a Green Building Task Force to be comprised of experts from the Timber Committee, the Committee on Housing and Land Management, the Committee for Environmental Policy and the Committee on Sustainable Energy, with volunteer partners, to jointly address the issue of green

building in a neutral and scientific way. The Task Force should start its work as soon as possible, and provide a comparative study of the different materials in buildings and their carbon efficiency. It should serve as a tool for the UNECE secretariat to participate in and contribute to the UNEP Sustainable Building Climate Initiative

2. These results and recommendations should be formally submitted to UNFCCC COP 16 in Cancún, in December 2010, and presented at its associated Forest Day 4, as well as at other sessions outside the forest-based sector.
3. A series of focused follow-up meetings should be envisaged, organized with partners by the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Marketing, the next possibly back-to-back with the Toronto Green Building meeting of October 2011.

Annex II

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations European Forestry Commission and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Timber Committee

Integrated Programme of Work on Timber and Forestry

List of Outputs 2010-2011, by programme element of the Strategic Plan 2008-2013

1. Work Area 1 – Markets and Statistics

Programme elements

- 1.1 Collecting, validating and disseminating statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products
 - 1.1.1 Statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products, including certified products, for 2009 (collection, validation, publication)
- 1.2 Analysis of markets for forest products, notably topical and policy relevant aspects, including *Forest Products Annual Market Review* and annual Timber Committee Market Discussions
 - 1.2.1 UNECE/FAO Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2010-2011
 - 1.2.2 UNECE Timber Committee Market Discussions, October 2011
 - 1.2.3 Meetings of Team of Specialists on Forest Products Marketing
- 1.3 Implementing sustainable forest management through capacity building for forest products marketing
 - 1.3.1 Workshop on forest products marketing, Macedonia 2010, Slovenia 2011
- 1.4 Monitoring and analysis of markets and policies for certified wood products, including public procurement and green building
 - 1.4.1 Conference on “Green building and climate change: From science to policies”, 2011
- 1.5 Wood Energy
 - 1.5.1 Collecting, validating and disseminating statistics on wood energy.

2. Work Area 2 – Forest Resources Assessment

Programme elements

- 2.1 Collecting, validating and disseminating information according to criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management

- 2.1.1 Updating of the interactive database on pan-European indicators
- 2.2 Regional contribution to FAO Forest Resource Assessment 2015
 - 2.2.1 Cooperation on preparation of expert consultations on global forest resources assessment – Kotka VI
- 2.3 Implementing sustainable forest management through support to developing national systems for forest monitoring*
 - 2.3.1 Collection of national reports on state of forests and sustainable forest management
- 2.4 Improving information on forest types
 - 2.4.1 Preparation of the final report from pilot implementation of the new forest types
- 2.5 Reporting on and analysis of the state of forests in the UNECE region
 - 2.5.1 Meetings of the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, and the Advisory Group on the next Report on the State of Forests in Europe, December 2010, Geneva
 - 2.5.2 Preparation of key findings on State of Europe's Forests 2011
 - 2.5.3 Preparation of the main report on State of Europe's Forests 2011
- 2.6 Monitoring and analyzing forest ownership and tenure.

3. Work Area 3 – Forest Sector Outlook

Programme elements

- 3.1 Preparing European Forest Sector Outlook Studies
 - 3.1.1 Meetings of Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook and Core Group to prepare for next European Forest Outlook Study
- 3.2 Contribution to FAO State of the World's Forests Report
 - 3.2.1 European regional contribution in 2011 to global FAO studies
- 3.3 Analysing climate change issues relevant to the forest sector
- 3.4 Analysing energy-related issues, including demand and supply for wood energy
 - 3.4.1 Discussion paper on results of the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry 2009
- 3.5 Collecting, validating, and disseminating information and analysis of wood availability and potential wood supply

4. Work Area 4 – Social and Cultural Issues

Programme elements

- 4.1 Implementing sustainable forest management through promoting occupational safety and health

* Elements marked with an asterisk imply that extra-budgetary funding is required.

- 4.1.1 Meeting of the Joint UNECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network on Implementing Sustainable Forest Management
- 4.2 Implementing sustainable forest management through promoting best practice in forest education and training
 - 4.2.1 Seminar on Impact of Climate Change on Forest Work in 2011
- 4.3 Monitoring trends as regards gender and forestry
- 4.4 Implementing sustainable forest management through promoting best practice for forest contractors

5. Work Area 5 – Policy and Cross-Sectoral Issues

Programme elements

- 5.1 Contribution to the global dialogue on forests
- 5.2 Monitoring recent developments in forest sector policies, legislation and institutions, including national forest programmes
 - 5.2.1 Publication of chapter on qualitative indicators for the State of Europe's Forests report 2011
 - 5.2.2 Update of information repository on policies and institutions in Europe, comprising the pan-European qualitative indicators for sustainable forest management.
- 5.3 Analysing developments in forest sector policies, legislation and institutions, including interactions with other sectors
 - 5.3.1 Publication of "Finding forests: a sourcebook on international institutions and policy tools addressing the European forest sector".
- 5.4 Implementing sustainable forest management through capacity building for forest policies and institutions*
 - 5.4.1 Meeting of Team of Specialists on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- 5.5 Organizing policy forums on major topical issues
 - 5.5.1 Joint UNECE/FAO Policy Forum 2011
 - 5.5.2 Workshop on Payment for Ecosystem Services in 2011
- 5.6 Exchanging information on improving management of wildland fires
 - 5.6.1 Meeting of Team of Specialists on Forest Fire
 - 5.6.2 Conference on Forest Fire
- 5.7 Improving sectoral and cross-sectoral exchange and communication
 - 5.7.1 Meeting of Forest Communicators Network
(Ongoing activities and exchange with other UNECE committees and organizations)
- 5.8 Producing forest and forest products country profiles*
(Temporarily suspended, following discussion with the Bureaux of alternative options)

6. Sessions of intergovernmental bodies

Programme elements

- 6.1 ^{*}FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, Thirty-third session, Geneva, 2011
- 6.2 Joint UNECE Timber Committee/FAO European Forestry Commission session, 2011.

^{*}3

Elements marked with an asterisk imply that extra-budgetary funding is required.

Annex III

Revised Mandates of Teams of Specialists

I. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 2

Programme elements 2.1 – 2.6

A. Objectives

1. Advise the UNECE/FAO and FAO secretariats on the implementation of activities in Work Area 2 “Forest Resources Assessment”, with regard to data collection, validation and dissemination;
2. Contribute to the coordination of reporting on criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management by Forest Europe and Montreal process countries;
3. Support the regional contribution to the global Forest Resource Assessment FRA;
4. Strengthen the strategic discussion of the monitoring of sustainable forest management;
5. Improve countries’ reporting capacities and support development of national systems of forest monitoring;
6. Provide advice on the implementation of the framework on forest types;
7. Contribute to the institutional cooperation on monitoring of forests;
8. Maintain and expand the international network and forums for discussion on forest resources and the monitoring of sustainable forest management.

B. Expected major outputs

1. Regional contribution to Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 and 2015;
2. Assistance in the preparation and review of the next report on the State of Forests in Europe, for the Sixth and Seventh Ministerial Conferences: including advice on enquiries, definitions etc., covering quantitative indicators;
3. Improved reporting capacity of countries weak in reporting on criteria and indicators for the State of Europe’s Forests Reports;
4. Guidance on the implementation of the forest type classification.

C. Background

Established by:	Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Approved by:	UNECE Timber Committee, 14 October 2010 and Bureau of FAO European Forestry Commission, 15 October 2010
Duration:	From 2010 to 2013, renewable thereafter
Methods of work:	To be determined by the Team
Reporting:	Once a year to the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
Team leaders:	Leader: Simon Gillam (United Kingdom) Deputy: Andrius Kuliešis (Lithuania) Brad Smith (United States)
Responsible secretariat:	Roman Michalak

II. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 5

Programme element 5.6

A. Objectives

1. To promote a continuous exchange of (new) knowledge and practices on fire management through the organization of meetings on emerging issues in Fire Management in the UNECE region and the publication of the International Forest Fire News;
2. To provide, in close cooperation and coordination with the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group / Global Wildland Fire Network, FAO, UNISDR, Council of Europe and other partners, guidance to ECE member states on forest fire management and forest fire policies, including bilateral / international cooperation of ECE member states;
3. To organise regional seminars and training workshops in fire management.

Note: In the context of this mandate the Team will continue to address all vegetation fires (“wildland fires”), including fires in the agricultural sector and in peatland / wetland biomes.

B. Expected major outputs

Time period 2008-2010:

1. Symposium on Fire Management in Cultural and Natural Landscapes, Nature Conservation and Forestry in Temperate-Boreal Eurasia (GFMC, Freiburg, Germany, 25-28 January 2008);
2. Meeting on Fire Management on Terrain Contaminated by Radioactivity, Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and Land Mines” (Kyiv / Chernobyl, Ukraine, 6-8 October 2009);
3. Advanced Wildland Fire Management Seminar (Antalya, 1-4 March 2010);
4. Finalization of the Russian language version of the International Multi-Lingual Fire Management Terminology;
5. International meeting on Cross-boundary Fire Management (Irkutsk, Russia, 16-18 June 2010);
6. International conference on Forest Fire: Management and International Cooperation in Fire Emergencies of the Asia Pacific (Khabarovsk, Russia, 3-7 October 2010);
7. Continue online publication of IFFN.

Time period 2011-2012:

8. Support the preparation of and participate at the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference (South Africa, May 2011) with presentations on fire management in ECE member states;

9. Support the preparation of an “ECE Regional Conference on Cross-boundary Fire Management” (proposed to be held in 2011), to build on the results of the Irkutsk, Khabarovsk and South Africa conferences.

C. Background

Established by:	Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Approved by:	UNECE Timber Committee, 14 October 2010 and Bureau of FAO European Forestry Commission, 15 October 2010
Duration:	From 2010 to 2013, renewable thereafter
Methods of work:	To be determined by the Team
Reporting:	Once a year to the Joint Bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission
Team leaders:	Leader: Johann G. Goldammer (Germany)
	Deputy Leaders: Andrey Eritsov (Russian Federation) Nikola Nikolov (FYR Macedonia)
Responsible secretariat:	Pieter van Lierop, FAO

III. UNECE/FAO TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON FOREST PRODUCTS MARKETING

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 1

Programme elements 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4

A. Objectives

1. To contribute to the sustainable development of forest products markets in the UNECE region:
2. Provide a forum for discussion of forest products marketing in the UNECE region. In particular, contribute to the UNECE Timber Committee annual market discussions and thereby advise UNECE/FAO on forest products market developments.
3. Advise the UNECE/FAO secretariat on implementation of Work Area 1, focusing on its products and publications, and undertaking studies as appropriate.
4. Provide assistance in marketing in the UNECE region, especially to central and eastern European countries, (and CIS countries where possible), through information collection, analysis and dissemination, and capacity building.
5. Maintain and expand the international network and forums for discussion, information exchange and collaboration on forest products markets and marketing.

B. Expected major outputs

1. Contribution to Timber Committee Market Discussions, studies and workshops on current and relevant topics, including, but not limited to, the market effects of green building policies, corporate social responsibility in forest products marketing and trade, public procurement policies, wood energy, etc.
2. Advice on market-related publications and products, including the provision of expertise in the production and technical reviews of the Forest Products Annual Market Review.
3. Participation in the secretariat's short- and long-term outlook studies on all forest products market sectors, including those in 1 above.
4. Include the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) Forest Products Marketing and Business Development Group as a partner in the maintenance and expansion of the "Current Issues Website" to collect and share with a wider community forest products marketing information, and the Forest Products Marketing Distance Learning Website.
5. Maintenance and expansion of the "Forest Products Marketing & Business Management Reference List." Build the international network of marketing specialists by collaboration in joint meetings, shared databases, websites and analyses with other groups, such as the IUFRO Research Group 5.10.00 on Forest Products Marketing and Business Development.

6. Conduct marketing workshops in southeast Europe and CIS according to need and funding availability.
7. Work with universities to develop and implement curricula and courses devoted to forest products marketing at undergraduate and graduate levels. Curricula content could include topics listed in activity 1 and other topics specifically relevant to the individual universities.

C. Background

Established by:	UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Approved by:	UNECE Timber Committee, 14 October 2010 and Bureau of FAO European Forestry Commission, 15 October 2010
Duration:	From 2010 to 2013, renewable thereafter
Methods of work:	Regular analyses, meetings, information sharing and collaboration
Reporting:	Once a year to the FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
Team leaders:	<p>Leader:</p> <p>Richard Vlosky (USA)</p> <p>Deputy Leaders:</p> <p>Branko Glavonjic (Serbia),</p> <p>Eduard Akim (Russian Federation)</p> <p>Jeremy Wall (European Commission)</p> <p>vacant (Canada)</p>
Responsible secretariat:	Ed Pepke

IV. JOINT FAO/ECE/ILO EXPERT NETWORK TO IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 4

Programme elements 4.1, 4.2, 4.4

A. Objectives

1. The focus of the Experts Network's activities is the implementation of sustainable forest management in Europe and North America, in particular relating to social, cultural and environmental aspects, on the basis of the broad policy objectives established by the parent bodies and the MCPFE. It concentrates on a limited range of topics, for instance training, workforce, private forestry, contractors, occupational safety and health, social dimension of forestry (SFM), i.e. on human resources.
2. While all countries benefit from international cooperation, the Experts Network recognizes the special needs of some countries of the CIS and Southeast Europe, as identified in the integrated programme of work.

B. Expected major outputs

1. Regular exchange of information and advice on best forest practice and technology transfer, allied with the use of innovative information technology and communication systems;
2. International seminars and workshops which are primarily intended for forest specialists and practitioners;
3. Quality standards and analysis.

In particular:

4. International Forestry Training Centres Conference, Lyss, Switzerland;
5. European qualification certificate for forestry operations (EU programme);
6. Quality and forestry training: joint quality reference standards for forestry training centres (EU programme);
7. Generalisation of use of training products on forestry safety and training;
8. Contribution to EFECT programme on forest contractors with ENFE;
9. Data base on web with concrete examples of best practice in implementing sustainable forest management.

C. Background

Established by:	UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Approved by:	UNECE Timber Committee, 14 October 2010 and Bureau of FAO European Forestry Commission, 15 October 2010
Duration:	From 2010 to 2013, renewable thereafter
Methods of work:	To be determined by the Expert Network
Reporting:	Once a year to the joint bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee the and FAO European Forestry Commission
Team leaders:	Leader: Christian Salvignol (France) Deputy Leaders: Josef Herkendell (EEA) Diarmuid McAree (Ireland) Martin Büchel (Switzerland)
Responsible secretariat:	Paola Deda

V. UNECE/FAO TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON FOREST SECTOR OUTLOOK

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 3

Programme elements 3.1, 3.4, 3.5

A. Objectives

1. Advise and support the UNECE/FAO secretariat on the methodology, implementation and follow-up of regional outlook studies: European Forest Sector Outlook Study and specific studies;
2. Monitor and analyse policy aspects of use of wood for energy generation and material use and the implications for the forest sector;
3. Monitor the use of wood for energy;
4. Provide guidance on wood availability, demands and mobilization to the Task Force on Wood Availability and Demands;
5. Contribute to the implementation of Forest Europe Warsaw resolution W1 "Forests Wood and Energy".

B. Expected major outputs

1. Provide guidance on methods, analysis and conduct of forest sector outlook studies
2. Advice on wood energy-related publications and products
3. Scenarios for production and consumption of goods and services of the forest, and for wood supply, taking into consideration all influencing factors
4. Research on the topic area, in support of forest sector outlook studies and other relevant support to policy making
5. Advice to the secretariat on implementation of the ECE/FAO/EU/IEA Joint Wood Energy Enquiry.

C. Background

Established by:	UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Approved by:	UNECE Timber Committee, 14 October 2010 and Bureau of FAO European Forestry Commission, 15 October 2010
Duration:	From 2010 to 2013, renewable thereafter
Methods of work:	To be determined by the Team
Reporting:	Once a year to the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Products Economics and Statistics
Team leaders:	Leader: Mart-Jan Schelhaas (Netherlands)
	Deputy Leaders: Tatjana Yakusheva (Russian Federation) Jeff Prestemon (United States)
Responsible secretariat:	Franziska Hirsch

VI. UNECE/FAO TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON FOREST POLICY IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 5

Programme elements 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.7, 5.8

A. Objectives

1. To enhance effectiveness of international activities intended to support and contribute to sustainable development of the forest sector in eastern Europe and central Asia, notably through:
2. Strengthened forest management and marketing;
3. Strengthened policies and institutions;
4. Improved forest information management and communication;
5. Identifying emerging issues and facilitating dialogue and discussion on important policy and cross-sectoral aspects;
6. Better integrating countries of eastern Europe and central Asia in international networks and forums for discussion of forest sector issues in Eastern Europe and Central Asia;
7. Advising the UNECE/FAO secretariat in the dissemination of its products in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and in the implementation of Work Area 5;
8. Monitoring implementation of the “Strategy for UNECE/FAO Activities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia,” and UNECE/FAO activities on implementing sustainable forest management.

B. Expected major outputs

1. The team will identify priority issues in countries in the region and promote a transparent regional discussion of priorities and best practice in reforming policies and institutions in the sector. It will advise the UNECE/FAO Secretariat, on the implementation of their programmes within the framework of the integrated programme of work. In this context, the Team focuses on the policy and institutional dimension of the work. It will:
2. Guide the development of a publication on Forest Policies and Institutions in Eastern Europe;
3. Improve exchange of information and experiences on forest sector policies and institutions between member countries;
4. Raise awareness of existing forest policy information and networks;
5. Promote better integration of countries into international policy networks;
6. Improve public awareness on forest sector issues and issues of a cross-sectoral dimension in eastern Europe and central Asia;
7. Maintain the ToS website.

C. Background

Established by:	UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Approved by:	UNECE Timber Committee, 14 October 2010 and Bureau of FAO European Forestry Commission, 15 October 2010
Duration:	From 2010 to 2013, renewable thereafter
Methods of work:	To be determined by the Team
Reporting:	Once a year to the joint bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee the and FAO European Forestry Commission
Team leaders:	Leader: Anatoly P. Petrov (Russian Federation) Deputy Leaders: Jana Jovanovska (FYR Macedonia) Alisher Shukurov (Uzbekistan)
Responsible secretariat:	Norbert Winkler (FAO-SEUR) Franziska Hirsch (UNECE/FAO) Ekrem Yazıcı (FAO-SEC) Irina Buttoud (FAO)

VII. UNECE/FAO TEAM OF SPECIALISTS FOREST COMMUNICATORS NETWORK

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: All Work Areas

Programme elements 5.7

A. Objectives

1. To improve the ability of the forest and forest products sector to communicate effectively, within and outside the sector, through:
2. Providing a forum for international interaction and cooperation in forest related communications;
3. Developing and introducing state of the art communication approaches.

B. Expected major outputs

1. European forest communication strategy;
2. Updated studies on public perception concerning forests, their management and related products;
3. Best practice guide on forest related environmental education (Forest Pedagogics);
4. Communication Strategy and follow up to the European Forest Week 2008 (upfront and follow up media work; evaluation of achievements and lessons learned; improved concept for future activities);
5. Preparations for the International Year of Forests 2011 (raising awareness in the region; developing a strategic outline for concerted activities of local, regional and global relevance);
6. Contributions to the EU Forest Action Plan, in particular on forest related environmental education and on a European forest communication strategy;
7. Public relations (PR) advice, upon request, to joint Bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, and joint UNECE/FAO secretariat, to the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Markets and Marketing, to other Teams of Specialists, and to the Forest Europe Liaison Unit Oslo;
8. Build PR capacity in member countries of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission through workshops and topical meetings.

C. Background

Established by:	UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Approved by:	UNECE Timber Committee, 14 October 2010 and Bureau of FAO European Forestry Commission, 15 October 2010
Duration:	From 2010 to 2013, renewable thereafter
Methods of work:	To be determined by the Team
Reporting:	Once a year to the joint bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee the and FAO European Forestry Commission
Team leaders:	Leader: Ingwald Gschwandtl (Austria) Deputy Leaders: Marta Gaworska (CEPF) Colin Morton (United Kingdom) Kai Lintunen (Finland) Tomas Kotovics (Latvia)
Responsible secretariat:	Eve Charles