



Federal Forest
Agency
Rosleskhoz



Global Fire
Monitoring Center
(GFMC)



UNECE / FAO Team
of Specialists on
Forest Fire



UN International Strategy
for Disaster Reduction
(UNISDR)



Aerial Forest Fire
Protection Service
Avialesookhrana

International Conference on Cross-Border Forest Fires and Cooperation in Their Suppression

16-18 June 2010, Irkutsk, Russian Federation

Recommendations

The International Conference on Cross-Border Forest Fires and Cooperation in Their Suppression, accompanied by a Forest Fire Suppression Exercise, was held 16-18 June 2010 in Irkutsk. The Conference was organized by the Federal Forestry Agency (Rosleskhoz) of the Russian Federation, and supported by the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), UNECE / FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire and the Global Wildland Fire Network operating under the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR).

28 representatives from seven countries and two international organizations took part in the Conference. Besides the plenary meetings, an exposition "Protection of Forests from Fires" and a Forest Fire Suppression Exercise were held. Russian and Foreign participants listened to over 20 reports on matters of international cooperation in forest fire management and experience in organization of forest fire protection.

Among the principal speakers at the Conference there were representatives of Rosleskhoz, its subordinate organizations and territorial subdivisions under its jurisdictions, executive bodies of some constituent entities of the Russian Federation, Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defense, Emergency Situations and Mitigation of Consequences of Natural Disasters, Frontier Service of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation, Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), as well as representatives of ministries and agencies responsible for forest and fire protection of the People's Republic of China (PRC), Mongolia, Republic of Belarus, Ukraine, Republic of Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea and the United States of America (USA).

The Conference discussed, among other, the following topics:

- International experience in provision and receiving of assistance to suppress forest fires;
- Development of information system of remote fire hazard monitoring in forests;
- Modern technologies for fire prevention in forests;
- Inter-agency and inter-regional interaction in matters of fire prevention in forests;
- Russian and foreign experience in organization of interaction in forest fires suppression;
- Procedures for simplified State border crossing procedures to render assistance in forest fires suppression management.

The participants of the Conference, having discussed topical issues of organization of cooperation between border countries in suppression of forest fires affecting territories of contiguous States, been acquainted with experience of the Russian Federation in forest fires suppression, as well as modern systems of remote fire hazard monitoring and technologies designed to prevent forest fires, and informed about the capabilities of participating country delegations in fire management and their expressed willingness to enhance international cooperation in fire management, recommended the Participating States to consider options to:

- Conclude international agreements on mutual assistance in suppression of forest and landscape fires;
- Create working groups of experts from interested countries on matters of cross-border fires;
- Carry out joint assessments of border segments with cross-border forest fire potential;
- Exchange information on critical active forest fires and forest disease outbreaks in border forest segment, except on those segments of statutory limited access concerning national information;
- Exchange experience and techniques of assessing origin and projection of progression of forest and landscape fires;
- Initiate joint scientific research on development of methods of potential probability of forest fires expansion to a contiguous territory;
- Jointly develop proposals and measures to organize interaction in case of a forest fire threatening facilities and other values at risk, as well as living quarters in populated areas;
- Exchange of information and development of common standards of technology and practice of forest fires suppression;
- Carry out regular joint exercises and training of forest fire services of States Parties to international agreements on emergency response to potential disasters and forest fire suppression in border territories with the objective to develop interaction arrangements;
- Develop procedures for the use of air drones to monitor fire hazards in border forests in the contiguous territory;
- Carry out prophylactic fire preventive operations in border territories;
- Organize rapid exchange of information between duty shift services of the Parties related to emergency situations during forest fire suppression or a danger of an emergency in contiguous territories; appoint competent persons and exchange contact data of the Parties;
- Arrange participation of experts of the Parties in joint conferences and work-shops to exchange information and consult on issues within their competence;
- Organize instant notification of the Parties, through the channels of shift duty services, on the situation in case of a threat or a proved fact of expansion of forest-steppe or forest fire to the contiguous territory, and a threat of its expansion to populated areas;
- Provide simplified border crossing procedures, if necessary, for manpower and resources to limit the area of and suppress forest fires in a cross-border zone, as well as to prevent the expansion of the fire to contiguous territories of the Parties;
- Promote the regional and international cooperation in fire science, capacity building and management through the networking, notably through the UNISDR Regional Euro-Siberian, the Central Asian and the Northeast Asian Wildland Fire Networks, and collectively within the UNISDR Global Wildland Fire Network;
- Conduct a series of international fire management training courses for participation of countries belonging to the three regional networks by using latest state-of-the art competency-based training standards;
- Member countries contribute actively to the success of the International Wildland Fire Conferences (the next to be held in South Africa, May 2011 [WildFire 2011]);
- Contribute to the development of an International Wildland Fire Accord as a voluntary (non-legally binding) framework for cooperation in fire management at regional and global levels.



International Conference on Cross-Border Forest Fires and Cooperation in Their Suppression
16-18 June 2010, Irkutsk, Russian Federation

New Multi-lingual Fire Management Terminology Introduced

In 1999 the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC)¹ was entrusted by the FAO to develop an update of the 1986 version of the FAO Wildland Fire Management Terminology.² The revised version with English definitions and partial translation to French, Spanish, and German has been continuously updated and is available since December 2003 as a internet-based glossary.³



In 2003 the National Aerial Forest Fire Center *Avialesookhrana* (Yevgheni Y. Shuktomov and Andrey M. Eritsov) started the work of translating the the glossary to Russian. This work was further supported and finalized by fire specialists of the Forest Fire Research Laboratory of the V.N. Sukachev Institute of Forest, Siberian Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences, Krasnoyarsk (Yegor K. Kisilyakhov) and the Pacific Forest Forum (Leonid G. Kondrashov, coordinator of the UNISDR Regional Central Asia Wildland Fire Network). In 2009-2010 Mongolian language was added by Byambasuren Oyunsanaa.

This first draft of the glossary contains the English terms and definitions, translated to Russian, Mongolian and German.

The glossary is devoted in memory of the main contributor from Russia, Dr. Leonid G. Kondrashov, who passed away 29 April 2010. He had served to enhance the role of Russian fire specialists in the Global Wildland Fire Networks since more than a decade. His contribution to foster international cooperation in fire management is recognized with respect.

Freiburg, Germany – Irkutsk, Russia, 16 June 2010

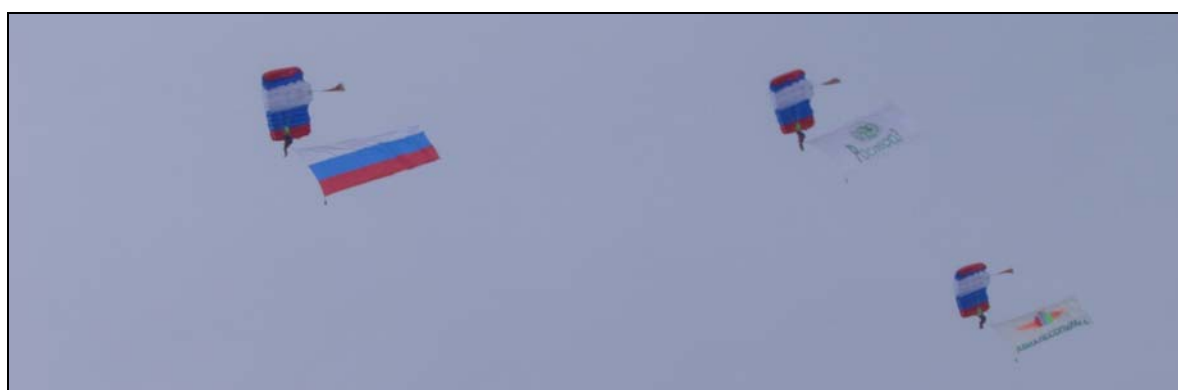
Prof. Dr. Johann Georg Goldammer
Head, Global Fire Monitoring Center
Coordinator, UNISDR Global Wildland Fire Network and
UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire

¹ <http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/>

² FAO 1986. Wildland Fire Management Terminology. FAO Forestry Paper 70, 257 p.

³ <http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/literature/glossary.htm>

Picture Gallery of the *International Conference on Cross-Border Forest Fires and Cooperation in Their Suppression* and the accompanying Forest Fire Suppression Exercise
16-18 June 2010, Irkutsk, Russian Federation





The demonstration and exercise included ground and aerial firefighting including deployment of smokejumpers and helirappellers. Public information and education included contests of school children on the theme of forest fire prevention, active involvement of young volunteers and dissemination of messages to the public through regional and national TV.

