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TIMBER COMMITTEE
Fifty-seventh session
27-30 September 1999

Review of activities since the fifty-sixth session and programme of work for 2000 to 2004

(Item 6 of the provisional agenda)

Note by the secretariat

This document contains a brief overview of activities since September 1998, a list of items which the secretariat believes deserves the Committee's attention, a draft work programme, a list of meetings and mandates of all the teams of specialists currently active.

The Committee is invited to:

- review the activities,
- thank countries who have contributed to them by hosting meetings, preparing papers or making available resources to the secretariat
- review, modify if necessary, and approve the work programme, the list of meetings and the team mandates.

Introduction

1. Under this agenda item, the Timber Committee is invited to review activities since October 1998 and to approve a programme of work for 2000-2004.

2. The present document contains:

- a short overview of all activities carried out between September 1998 and September 1999, with references to other documents (e.g. reports of meetings) where fuller information may be obtained;
- an indication of those points of decision or discussion to which the Committee and the Commission may wish to devote priority attention;
- a draft programme, which the Committee and the Commission are invited to review in detail, adapt if necessary and approve;
- a list of forthcoming meetings;
- mandates of all the teams of specialist active under the auspices of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies.

3. Supplementary documentation for this agenda item includes the following:

- information on activities which are not reported elsewhere, notably the activities of the teams of specialists on public relations (TIM/1999/5/Add.1), on recycling, energy and market interactions (Add.2), on countries in transition (Add.3) and options for future outlook studies (Add.4):

- Information on activities of FAO and of other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies which are of relevance to the Timber Committee (TIM/1999/6)

In addition, during the Timber Committee session there will be technical briefings on the Temperate and Boreal Forest Resource Assessment 2000.

4. In this way, it is hoped that delegations may have an overview of developments, while maintaining access to detailed background information, and thus be in a position to devote the limited session time to discussion of the most important aspects.

Overview of activities since autumn 1998

5. Set out below is a very brief overview of these activities:

1.1 Collection and dissemination of information on trends in the sector

- six issues of the *Timber Bulletin* were published (ECE/TIM/BULL/51/..), with information and analysis on market conditions, production and trade, prices and forest fires;

- Two numbers of *International Forest Fire News* were issued;

- the Timber Committee website (URL is <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber>), has been further developed

- the *Timber Committee Yearbook 1999* was issued;

- a survey of users of ECE/FAO publications is being carried out, with the support of the government of Finland: the results of the main phase were presented to the Joint Working Party, and a survey of potential users is being prepared;

- the Intersecretariat Working Group on forest sector statistics met in Yokohama in September 1998, Geneva in January and May 1999.

- A joint FAO/ECE/EUROSTAT/ITTO questionnaire was drawn up, circulated and the results used for the *Timber Bulletin* and the *Annual Forest Products Market Review*. The entire process was reviewed in detail by the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics.

1.2 Temperate and Boreal Forest Resource Assessment 2000

- during 1998 and early 1999, the data received were validated in an intense dialogue between the secretariat, its consultants (responsible for drafting thematic chapters) and national correspondents;
- a data base was created to manage and present the results;
- a draft of the study was reviewed in detail by the team of specialists and the Working Party in spring/summer 1999
- it is intended to send TBFRA 2000 to processing in September 1999.
- the results for the TBFRA countries will be incorporated into the global FRA data set starting from January 2000
- a technical briefing on TBFRA 2000 will be organised in conjunction with the Timber Committee session.

1.3 Sustainable forest management in the region: support to the follow-up to UNCED and the pan-European process on the protection of forests

- the ECE/FAO secretariat participated actively in meetings of the pan-European process, including discussions of the preparation of a pan-European programme of work;
- the mandate of the team of specialists, under the auspices of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee, on socio-economic aspects was extended so that it could contribute to the work of the pan-European process in this area; a team, also under the Joint Committee, on participation was founded and will begin work in summer 1999: a major objective is to contribute to the pan-European process;
- follow-up work to TBFRA 2000 as regards the extent of "protected forest areas" is being developed in close cooperation with the pan-European process;
- a discussion on the state of forestry in Europe was held at the EFC session in Finland, based on a synthesis report, which will be published in 1999;
- a study tour will take place in Ireland shortly before the Committee session;
- the team of specialists on public relations of the forest sector met in May 1999, in Estonia, with the theme of PR activities in transition countries. A study on the competitive climate for forest products was prepared and distributed. An International Forest Communications Forum and a series of European Forest Academies for Decision Makers are being planned;
- the team of specialists on reducing impact of forest operations on ecosystems is preparing a compendium of available knowledge on this topic;
- the Timber Committee continued to monitor markets for certified forest products: a special chapter of the annual review and a section of the Committee's market discussion address this question. A Discussion Paper on the topic was issued. A workshop on certification of sustainable forest management for countries in transition was held in Prague in August 1998

1.4 Activities for countries in transition

- the team of specialists met in Gmunden, Austria in June 1999;
- the secretariat continued to implement its mandate as international coordinator for Helsinki resolution H3 on forestry assistance to countries in transition; a data base on the topic, based on project by project information supplied by national correspondents has been developed: its contents were distributed in printed form and in ACCESS format. It is posted on the website.

1.5 Review of markets for forest products and short-term forecasts

- the *Annual Forest Products Market Review* was prepared in July 1998 (ECE/TIM/BULL/52/3);
- the annual market discussion will take place on Tuesday 28 September 1999.

1.6 Outlook for the supply and demand for timber and non-wood goods and services

- the team of specialists on recycling, energy and market interactions held a workshop in Turkey in November 1998, and the proceedings were published.
- the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics discussed the objectives and methods of future outlook studies, in the light of ETTS V, and FAO's recent global and regional outlook studies (TIM/EFC/WP.2/1999/9, paras. 24 to 25). The secretariat will prepare a paper presenting options for objectives, methods, topics, periodicity etc, of outlook studies, which will be circulated (and posted on the website) before the session.

2.1 Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics

- the Working Party met in May 1999 (TIM/EFC/WP.2/1999/9). The main topics were a review of TBFRA, the joint FAO/ECE/EUROSTAT/ITTO questionnaire, objectives and methods for outlook studies, inter-organisation cooperation, and the survey of users of ECE/FAO publications, as well as the regular review of statistics collection and dissemination

2.2 Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training

- The Joint Committee met in Slovakia in September 1998, reviewed activities in the three work areas and considered its potential contribution to sustainable forest management in the region (TIM/EFC/WP.1/1998/2); its Steering Committee will meet in Bordeaux in September 1999
- a report on multiple use forestry is being issued, and a report is under preparation by a team of specialists on reducing impact on forest operations on ecosystems;
- a seminar on "Forest operations for tomorrow" will take place in September 1999, three seminars or workshops are planned for 2000 and two for 2001 (see annex II), with the Joint Committee session in 2000.

Availability of resources

6. According to the ECE Plan of Action, 3.0% of ECE resources are devoted to the Timber Committee. The staff available in Geneva to carry out the integrated ECE/FAO work programme (including both ECE and FAO staff) are 5 professional posts, and 5 general service posts (of which 1 half time), together with part of the time of the Division Director (D1) responsible for the Timber Committee and the Committee on Trade Industry and Enterprise Development. The vacant post devoted to outlook study work will be filled in August 1999. The bureaux of the Committee and the EFC are consulted about priorities in allocation of resources between programme elements.

Questions requiring the attention of the Committee and the Commission

7. Delegations are invited to review in detail all items on the draft work programme, make any necessary changes and agree on a final version. There are a few questions which the secretariat wishes to draw to the attention of the Committee and Commission which appear to merit more detailed discussion. They are outlined below.

- outlook studies

8. The Joint Working Party noted that the staff post devoted to outlook study work would be filled shortly (in August 1999), so that work could be restarted on this central part of the programme. A wide-ranging discussion took place (see summary in TIM/EFC/WP.2/1999/9, para. 25). The Working Party asked the secretariat to prepare a paper with options for objectives, methods, topics and periodicity of future outlook work. This options paper will be prepared during the summer, and circulated shortly before the Committee session (and posted on the website). On the basis of this paper the Committee will be invited to approve the broad lines of future outlook work and agree on the first steps, notably the formation of a "core team" and the convening of a meeting.

- Forest Resource Assessment

9. By the time of the Committee session, the TBFRA main volume will be sent for processing, thus ending the first phase of the work. The next phase will concern the dissemination of results, their integration into the global FRA, further analysis, and preparations for future work (to maintain the momentum generated by TBFRA). It is proposed that forest resource assessment be given special consideration at the joint Timber Committee/EFC session in Rome in 2000. For these reasons, the Working Party proposed a number of modifications to the team of specialist's mandate, and that its duration be prolonged to 2002. The Committee is invited to review the mandate of the team in annex III and propose any necessary modifications.

- assistance to countries in transition

10. The team of specialists on this topic met in Austria in June 1999, reviewed developments, and collected information. Its report will be made available shortly. In general this work has been rather cost effective, and the results, including the data base collected under resolution H3, are considered useful. For that reason, it is proposed that the duration of this element which is due to terminate in 2000, be prolonged, to 2002, and the mandate of the team modified as in annex III.

- recycling, energy and market interactions

11. The team of specialists organised the special topic at the Committee's session in 1998, and held a workshop in Turkey, whose proceedings have been circulated. The mandate of the team terminates in 1999, so the Committee should thank the team for its most useful work.

- study tours

12. The 1999 study tour will be held shortly before the session, in Ireland. A report will be made to the session on the tour. Despite the excellent quality of the visits and organisation of the tours, and their reasonable price, in recent years, it has been sometimes difficult to attract sufficient participation, especially as many registrations are received at the last minute. One reason for this is probably general shortage of travel funds and the intensity of international work on forest issues in recent years. The Committee is invited to consider the question of study tours in general: do they serve a useful purpose, and if so, have they got the right focus? Might they concentrate more on a particular sector (e.g. forest industry, forest management, markets), a particular topic (e.g. certification systems, optimisation of organisation through better data sharing, participation in forest sector decision making) or a particular group of people (decision makers, mid-level professionals, technicians)? Delegates are invited to consider these questions and propose ideas, as well as offering to host the tour in 2000 or subsequent years.

- promotion of the sound use of wood

13. This topic was identified as a suitable one for the Committee to address, and is in accordance with the deliberations of IPF/IFF and the pan-European process. It has been suggested that a major meeting be held on this topic, under the Committee's auspices. The Committee is invited to consider whether it approves this idea, and if so, how it should be prepared, and what should be the main themes. Countries interested in hosting such a meeting are invited to contact the secretariat. If it is decided to pursue this idea, and a host country is found, an informal preparatory meeting should be held, with participation of the host country and other interested experts to consider the programme and suitable speakers. The team of specialists on public relations will hold an International Forestry Communications Forum in March 2000, which should provide valuable input for the meeting on promoting the sustainable use of wood.

- trade and environment issues in the forest and forest products sector

14. On the basis of the special topic under item 5 of the provisional agenda, the Committee is invited to consider whether it should undertake further work on trade and environment issues, and if so what should be their nature and direction.

Integrated programme of work of the ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission

This programme is carried out by the ECE Timber Committee (TC) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC), and their subsidiary bodies, which meet approximately in a two year cycle:

- The Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training (JC)(2000, 2002)
- The Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (FES)(2001, 2003)

- The EFC Working Party on Management of Mountain Watersheds (2000, 2002)
- The EFC/AFWC/NEFC Working Party on Mediterranean Forestry Questions *Silva Mediterranea* (SM) (2001, 2003)

A. CORE PROGRAMME: MONITORING AND ANALYSIS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FOREST AND FOREST PRODUCTS SECTOR IN THE REGION

1.1 Collection and dissemination of information on trends in the sector, including publication of the *Timber Bulletin*

Description: Information is regularly collected and disseminated on production, trade and prices of roundwood and forest products, and forest fires.

Method of work: Statistics are collected on an annual basis from countries and published in the *Timber Bulletin* and on the Internet. Data collection is coordinated with FAO Rome, EUROSTAT and ITTO and the results are shared between all four organisations. The whole system is reviewed by the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics at its biennial sessions.

Duration: Continuing;

Annual outputs: publication of 6 issues of the *Timber Bulletin*: on forest products prices, statistics on production and trade, trade flow data, the annual market review, forest fire statistics and the Committee's market discussion at its annual session. The data and analysis are also made available in electronic form and on the Internet.

1.2 Forest Resource Assessment 2000 (temperate and boreal forests)

Description: Information on the forest resource of the temperate and boreal zones (including developed countries outside the ECE region), will be collected and published in the context of the FAO global forest resource assessment, under the guidance of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics.

Method of work: An enquiry was prepared under the supervision of a team of specialists, taking into account the recommendations of the Experts Consultation at Kotka (Finland) in June 1996. At all stages, the work is being carried out in close cooperation with the FAO Forestry Department and other organisations active in this area.

Duration: Continuing, review in 2003.

Outputs in 1999/2000: publication, database and background documentation. Team meeting in 2000, probably at European Forest Institute.

1.3 Sustainable forest management in the region: support to the follow-up to UNCED and the pan European process on the protection of forests

Description: The Committee and the Commission will provide support, as appropriate, to the follow-up to UNCED, including the work of the Commission for

Sustainable Development (CSD), the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF), and the pan European process of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests. In particular the Commission will review, on a regular basis, national forest policies and selected topical policy issues, such as certification of sustainable forest management, in order to review implementation at the national level of the provisions of UNCED and the pan European process, and as support for national policy makers. The Committee and the Commission will collect and analyse information relevant to Helsinki Conference resolutions H1 and H2, notably as regards quantitative indicators of sustainable forest management and support the reporting to the pan European process on this subject.

Method of work: At each EFC session, delegates submit national progress reports, according to an outline drawn up by the Executive Committee. These reports are synthesized by the secretariat before the session, presented, discussed and subsequently published. The Committee and the Commission will cooperate with the pan-European process in drawing up a pan-European programme of work, as laid down by the Lisbon Ministerial Conference. The team of public relations specialists will continue to work towards creating a positive image of the forest sector, according to the mandate in TIM/1999/5. The team of specialists on socio-economic aspects of forests, under the auspices of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee, provided input to resolution L1 of the Lisbon Conference and will transmit the Joint Committee's proposals on this topic to the pan European process. Possible activities on trade and environment issues in the forest and forest industries sector will be carried out as decided, in close cooperation with the ECE Committees on Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development and on Environmental Policies, with WTO, and other bodies. Strategies to stimulate and promote the sound use of wood and other forest based products as environmentally friendly and renewable materials will also be discussed by a seminar (to be confirmed).

Duration: to 2002

Outputs in 1999/2000: Participation in drawing up pan-European work programme. Review of national progress reports, at joint session, Rome 2000. International Communications Forum, Québec, March 2000. European Forest Academy for Decision Makers. Report and/or meeting on participation issues. Possible activities on trade and environment, promotion of sustainable use of wood.

1.4 Activities for countries in transition, including coordination of implementation of resolution H3 of the Helsinki Ministerial Conference

Description: The Committee and Commission will provide assistance to the countries in transition, in order to promote the process of economic reform and transition to a market economy in their forest and forest products sector. The topics and themes to be included in this programme shall be in line with the priorities and needs identified by the countries concerned. In particular, the Committee and the Commission will contribute to implementing resolution H3 on forestry assistance to countries in transition, by monitoring and analysing this assistance, in particular to determine whether it corresponds to countries' real needs and priorities.

Method of work: The work is guided by a team of specialists, which meets regularly. The secretariat, as international coordinator for H3, collects, stores and analyses information and reports regularly to the parent bodies and, as appropriate, to meetings of the pan European process. A data base on forestry assistance to countries in transition is maintained and its contents made

available. The Committee and Commission implement a wide range of activities, notably workshops, which are scheduled and organized in a flexible manner, under two broad headings:

- Institution building, including legal and policy infrastructure;
- Development of market oriented and ecologically sound enterprises.

Duration: to 2000;

Outputs in 1999/2000: a workshop on development of marketing of sawnwood products in countries in transition is expected to be held in Moldova, perhaps in 2000, pending funding. The database on forestry assistance to countries in transition, established under resolution H3 will be updated regularly and made widely available. The team met in 1999 in Austria.

1.5 Review of markets for forest products and short term forecasts

Description: The Committee analyses, on a continuous basis, short term trends in the production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products and forecasts short term prospects, with a view to providing Governments and the forest products sector with accurate and up-to-date information and assessments.

Method of work: The annual session of the Timber Committee reviews short term trends and prospects in the markets, on the basis of estimates provided by delegations and the *Forest Products Annual Market Review*, prepared by the secretariat, which reviews trends in the previous year. An analysis of trends and short-term outlook, approved by the Committee, is published. The Committee's market discussion also reviews trends in the markets for certified forest products on the basis of information provided by delegations on developments in their countries, and statements by experts.

Duration: Continuing. **Annual outputs:** *Annual Forest Products Market Review* and the Committee's market statement at its annual session.

1.6 Forest and forest products sector outlook studies

Description: The Committee and Commission prepare and publish studies of the outlook for the forest and forest products sector in the region, addressing issues such as the long term scenarios for the supply and demand of forest products and other goods and services of the forest, as well as other major, policy relevant, issues, of a regional or subregional nature. The work is overseen by the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, which determines in particular the scope and objectives of the studies to be undertaken.

Method of work: The secretariat will prepare a note on options for the scope, methods and periodicity of outlook studies, based on the discussion at the Working Party's session in May 1999, and present it to the Timber Committee in September 1999. The outlook study core team will meet in 1999 or early 2000 to prepare detailed plans, which will be implemented when agreed, subject to the approval of the bureaux of the Committee and the Commission, which will be consulted at all stages.

Duration: Continuing

Output in 1999/2000: Outline and plan of action for future outlook studies. Initial output, as determined by meeting in 1999/2000.

B. AREAS OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMISSION AND/OR THE COMMITTEE

2.1 Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics

Description: The Working Party keeps under review the needs for international statistics in the forest and forest products sector and develops programmes to meet those needs, notably with regard to improving comparability; develops methodologies for collection and analysis of information and statistics; and undertakes projects in the field of economics and statistics relating to forestry and forest products.

Method of work: The Working Party meets every two years and advises the parent bodies and the secretariat on the implementation of work in its field. In particular, it is responsible for guiding the implementation, in its area of competence, of programme elements 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.5 and 1.6.

Duration: Continuing;

Outputs in 1999/2000: At its session in 1999 the Working Party reviewed TBFRA, preparation plans for the next outlook study, and considered intergovernmental cooperation on forest sector statistics.

2.2 Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training

Description: The Joint Committee assists countries, in particular those which its parent bodies may identify at any time as requiring priority attention, to develop their forestry activities in the context of sustainable development. This is achieved by fostering international cooperation on technical, economic and organizational aspects of forest management and forest working techniques and of the training of forest workers in logging and forest operations.

Method of work: The Joint Committee's activities are led by a Steering Committee, which meets annually. There are three subject areas: management (e.g. multiple use forestry, ecological and economical issues, marketing, information systems), technology (e.g. forest engineering, ecologically and economically sound operations in silviculture, wood harvesting and transport) and training (e.g. for workers, supervisors and managers, including applied ergonomics, occupational safety and health and social aspects of forestry). Much of the work is carried out by teams of specialists which report to the Joint Committee and Steering Committee sessions.

Duration: Continuing;

Outputs: the Joint Committee's work programme for 1999-2003 is set out in the report of its twenty-second session (September 1998), (TIM/EFC/WP.1/28).

2.3 EFC/AFWC/NEFC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions, *Silva Mediterranea*

Description: *Silva Mediterranea* will advise FAO and member countries in the Mediterranean region on the implementation of the Mediterranean Forest Action Programme (MED-FAP). It will also encourage the exchange of information and the coordination of research in topics of interest to Mediterranean forestry, through research networks.

Method of work: *Silva Mediterranea* will act, at regular sessions and between them, as an inter-governmental forum for the coordination, monitoring and orientation of MED-FAP. It will contribute to identifying international regional priority activities, as well as designing and monitoring them. Six research networks are at present operational, focusing on forest fires, key species of the subregion (stone pine, cedar species, and the most recently created network, on cork oak), other multipurpose tree species, and on selection of stands of Mediterranean conifers for the production of seeds to be used in reforestation programmes.

Duration: Continuing

2.4 FAO Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds

Description: The Working Party collects information, documents technologies, monitors evolution, exchanges experience and discusses progress within mountain ecosystems in view of their sustainable management and conservation. Important areas of concentration will be sustainable management and security of mountain ecosystems, with special attention to torrent control, avalanches, risk zoning, and mapping and early warning systems.

Method of work: The Working Party has an important role in the follow-up of Agenda 21, and supports FAO's role as task manager for chapter 13 on mountain ecosystems. The twenty-first session was held in May/June 1998 in the Czech Republic. Key areas of concentration will be sustainable management of mountain ecosystems, improved mountain livelihood systems, in response to UNCED, activities related to international agreements on mountains, and risk and disaster control and monitoring.

Duration: Continuing

PART II

Projects for possible implementation at a future time

(See ECE decision O (45) and Supplementary report containing the views and proposals of ECE to the Special Commission of ECOSOC, E/ECE/1150/Rev.1, para. 131)

Structural trends in markets for forest products and in the structure and capacity of forest industries

Description: The Committee and the Commission review medium-term (3-5 years) trends in the production, consumption, trade and prices of major forest products and the structure and capacity of the sawmilling and wood-based panels

industries, so that governments may be continuously informed of structural trends in the forest products sectors.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: Medium-term surveys are carried out on a 3-year rotation of sectors. These surveys incorporate as appropriate the results of surveys of the structure and capacity of major sectors (every time for panels, every other time for sawmilling). The issue of the medium-term surveys has been suspended until the Geneva staff is at full strength.

(The bureaux will be asked to advise on this matter in 2000, as the professional staff will be at full strength in August 1999)

ANNEX II

PROVISIONAL LIST OF MEETINGS IN 2000 AND 2001 FALLING WITHIN
THE TIMBER COMMITTEE'S PROGRAMME OF WORK

Note: The meetings are sub-divided into two categories: meetings marked (A) are open to delegates or approved representatives from all member countries of ECE as well as from other countries that are members of the United Nations and organizations accredited to ECE (or to FAO and ILO, in the case of meetings co-sponsored by them). Meetings marked (B) are those restricted to the countries or individuals nominated by their countries to take part in the activity concerned, e.g. a team of specialists. At the Committee's website (<http://unece.org/trade/timber>) an up to date calendar of meetings, can be consulted.

2000

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Title</u>
April (to be decided)	Geneva	Meeting of the Timber Committee office holders and the EFC Executive Committee (B)
May(to be decided)	Finland	Workshop on information systems in forestry (A)
May or June (to be decided)	Chisinau, Moldova	Workshop on sustainable development of marketing of wood and non-wood forest products and recreation services in forests (A)
5-8 June	Geneva	Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training, twenty-third session (A)
11-17 June	Ossiach, Austria	Workshop on new trends in wood harvesting with cable cranes (A)
9-13 October	Rome, Italy	ECE TIMBER COMMITTEE, fifty-eighth session in Joint Session with the FAO European Forestry Commission, thirtieth session (A)
October or November (to be decided)	Turkey (to be confirmed)	Seminar on harvesting of non-wood forest products in the Mediterranean region (A)
(to be decided)	(to be decided)	Seminar on strategies to stimulate and promote the sound use of wood and other forest based products as environmentally friendly and renewable materials (A)

2001

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Title</u>
March or April (to be decided)	Lisbon, Portugal	Seminar on women in forestry (A)
April (to be decided)	Geneva	Meeting of the Timber Committee office holders and the EFC Executive Committee (B)
May (to be decided)	Geneva	Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, twenty-third session (A)
25-28 September	Geneva	ECE TIMBER COMMITTEE, fifty-ninth session (A)
September or October (to be decided)	Switzerland	Seminar on public relations and environmental education in forestry (A)
(to be decided)	(to be decided)	Steering Committee of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training, 15th session (A)

ANNEX III

MANDATES OF TEAMS OF SPECIALISTS

Reference to programme of work: 1.2.

MANDATE OF THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON TEMPERATE AND BOREAL FOREST RESOURCE ASSESSMENT 2000	
A.- TERMS OF REFERENCE	
ESTABLISHED BY:	The Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report of the 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd sessions of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, TIM/EFC/WP.2/23, 2/25, 2/27, and WP.2/1999/9 - Report of the 51st, 53rd, 55th and 56th sessions of the Timber Committee, and Joint session with the FAO European Forestry Commission, ECE/TIM/71, 85, 87 and 91
MANDATE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to lead, together with the UN-ECE/FAO and FAO secretariats, the work on the implementation of the temperate and boreal forest resource assessment, as a part of the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2000; - to advise on the concept, classifications, definitions and methods of the assessment implementation, taking into account current developments concerning criteria and indicators for SFM (sustainable forest management) and other post-UNCED processes; - to advise the secretariat on the coordination of forest resources assessment work with Montreal process, as it is being done with the pan-European process; - to advise on analysis, publication and dissemination of the TBFRA information (as a contribution to the Global FRA-2000), and on the intensification of the collaboration between the forest resources assessment team in FAO, Rome, and ECE/FAO in Geneva.
DURATION:	To 2002
APPROVED BY:	Joint Working Party, 20th session, June 1995, TIM/EFC/WP.2/25; Timber Committee, 53rd session, Nov. 1995, ECE/TIM/85. paras. 15-18; Joint Working Party, 22th session, June 1999, TIM/EFC/WP.2/1999/9. paras. 6-15;
REPORTING:	The team reports to each session of the Joint Working Party
EXPECTED OUTPUT IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS: - TBFRA-2000 Study Paper, and other contributions of the temperate/boreal data and information to the Global FRA 2000	

B.- INFORMATION SHEET (as of July 1999)

ACTIVITIES:	
Past:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Kotka II and Kotka III meetings, 1993, 1996; - meetings of the team, March 1995, April 1996, March 1999, Geneva; - meetings of the team, March 1997, Birmensdorf (Switzerland) and March 1998, Ispra (Italy); - meetings of national TBFRA national correspondents, for CITs in Gmunden (Austria) 1997 and Geneva, 1997; - review and revision of the first draft Main TBFRA-2000 Report
Ongoing:	Implementation of the TBFRA 2000
Future:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - preparation for publication, analysis, dissemination of TBFRA data, as a contribution to the Global FRA-2000; - preparation of the Expert Consultation on Global FRA, TBFRA 2010
References:	TIM/EFC/WP.2/R.144; TIM/EFC/WP.2/1999/2.
TEAM LEADER:	Professor Michael Köhl (Germany)
MEMBERSHIP:	Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, United States, European Commission, UNEP, EU/Joint Research Centre (Ispra), WWF, European Forest Institute, World Conservation and Monitoring Centre

Reference to programme of work: 1.3

MANDATE OF THE TEAM OF PUBLIC RELATIONS SPECIALISTS IN THE FOREST AND FOREST INDUSTRIES SECTOR	
A.- TERMS OF REFERENCE	
ESTABLISHED BY: FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) and ECE Timber Committee (TC)	
References: As approved in the reports of the TC session, ECE/TIM/91, paragraph 29, and EFC session, FO:EFC/98/REP, paragraph 26.	
MANDATE:	
<p>In support of the overall goal of creating a positive image of the forest sector (including all phases of forest resource management and forest industry), the TC and the EFC renew their decision to create a Team of Public Relations Specialists in the Forest and Forest Industries Sector, with a mandate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promote networking among member states for capacity building and exchange of information in public relations and communication; - identify key common concepts and promote their incorporation in forest sector communications and public relations activities in the member countries; - identify key needs for improvement of forest sector public relations and communication and communicate them to the TC and the EFC; - assist the TC and the EFC to improve public relations and information related to their work; - promote the development of national capacity in forest sector public relations and communication, particularly in countries in transition - stimulate and promote the sound use of wood and other forest products as environmentally friendly and renewable resources. 	
DURATION:	November 2000

APPROVED BY:	For discussion by the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission in September and October 1998, respectively
REPORTING:	The team reports annually to the TC session and to each EFC session.
EXPECTED OUTPUT IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A report on PR campaigns for wood and substitute materials; 2. Assist in PR for TC and EFC outputs like; Lisbon Conference contributions; workshop recommendations; report of the Team of Specialists on Recycling, Energy and Market Interactions; etc; 3. Conduct an international forestry communicators forum; 4. Expansion of the international network of PR specialists in the ECE region; 5. Establish a PR Team website within the Timber Committee site. 	
B.- INFORMATION SHEET (as of July 1999)	
ACTIVITIES	
Past:	
<p>Meetings for mandated work, exchange of information and discussion of issues in Fontainebleau (France), Tällberg (Sweden) Beaupré, Québec (Canada), Gmunden (Austria), Biri (Norway), Sesimbra (Portugal) and Sagadi (Estonia). Publication of <i>The Competitive Climate for Wood Products and Paper Packaging: the Factors Causing Substitution with Emphasis on Environmental Promotions</i> (the "substitution report") and a PR "toolkit". Workshop for countries in transition in Ossiach (Austria). Produced a poster for the 1996 FAO World Food Summit. Published "Forest and forest industries country fact sheets" (hard copy and WWW version). Established a PR Team website under the Timber Committee site.</p>	
Ongoing:	
<p>Advising PR for the outputs of the Committee and the Commission. Preparing an International Forestry Communications Forum 2000 in March, 2000 in Québec, Canada to build international consensus on issues and common approaches, including promotion of the environmentally friendly and renewability of wood. Conducting follow-up on the "substitution report." Preparing to conduct a European Forest Academy for Decision Makers in 2000 in Finland. Preparing a <i>Geneva Timber and Forest Discussion Paper</i> on the "substitution report."</p>	
Future:	
<p>Next meeting of the Team in Québec in March 2000. Provide PR follow-up on Lisbon Conference resolutions, especially as applied to the TC and EFC. Develop capacity in PR in central and eastern European countries (CEEC). Extend the Team's network to include more Mediterranean countries and CEECs. Increase PR activities concerning certification of sustainable forest management where appropriate.</p>	
References:	
TEAM LEADER:	Mr. I. Gschwandtl (Austria) and Deputy Leader, Ms. B. Sanness (Norway)
MEMBERSHIP:	Austria, Belgium, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States of America.

Reference to programme of work: 1.4

MANDATE OF THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS TO MONITOR AND DEVELOP ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE IN TRANSITION	
A.- TERMS OF REFERENCE	
ESTABLISHED BY:	UN/ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission
References:	Report UN/ECE Timber Committee, ECE/TIM/83
MANDATE:	The team will periodically review (one-two years) and make recommendations concerning the whole ECE/FAO programme of assistance to countries in transition to a market economy in the forestry, forest industries and forest products sector, with the purpose to ensure that it would be in accordance with countries' needs and performed in effective and efficient way. It will develop the ways of cooperation, monitor and support the signatory countries in the implementation of the Resolution H3 "Forestry Cooperation with Countries with Economies in Transition" of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe.
DURATION:	To 2002
APPROVED BY:	UN/ECE Timber Committee, 52nd session, ECE/TIM/83, paras.9-19; and 56th session, ECE/TIM/91; FAO European Forestry Commission, 27th session, FO: EFC/95/REP, para. 42
REPORTING:	The team reports and make recommendations to the UN/ECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission and through the ECE/FAO secretariat to the General Coordinating Committee for Pan - European process for the Protection of Forests
EXPECTED OUTPUT IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS:	
Up-to - date database is on Internet Timber Committee website, overview of assistance activities	
B.- INFORMATION SHEET (as of July 1999)	
ACTIVITIES:	
Past:	Meetings of the team: November 1997 in Ljubljana, Slovenia; June 1999 in Gmunden, Austria

Ongoing:	The team undertakes activities to achieve its mandate stated above. Initially these include compiling the information of countries, signatories of the Resolution H3, on the activities undertaken for its implementation. The list of meetings (workshops, seminars) on aspects of transition to a market economy in the forestry, forest industries and forest products sector is being compiled by the team every year and stored in the database. On the basis of this information, the priorities of assistance is being identified and updated on a regular terms. The information is supplied to the General Coordinating Committee for Pan - European process for the Protection of Forests
Future:	The next meeting of the team is to be organised at the end of 2000, or at the beginning of the year 2001
References:	TIM/R.237 and Add.1; ECE/TIM/91
TEAM LEADER:	Dr. Stanislaw Zajac (Poland)
MEMBERSHIP:	Austria, Armenia, Bulgaria, Belarus, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Greece, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, European Commission, UNEP, European Forest Institute

Reference to programme of work: 1.6.

MANDATE OF THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON RECYCLING, ENERGY AND MARKET INTERACTIONS	
A.- TERMS OF REFERENCE	
ESTABLISHED BY:	ECE Timber Committee
References:	Report of the fifty-fourth session, ECE/TIM/87, para. 27 (September 1996)
MANDATE:	The team will analyse the influences and interactions of technological and legislation developments on recycling (solid wood and fibre), energy and timber markets. It will also provide technology transfer to countries in transition.
DURATION:	October 1999
APPROVED BY:	Timber Committee
REPORTING:	The team reports annually to the ECE Timber Committee session
EXPECTED OUTPUT IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS:	
None	

B.- INFORMATION SHEET (as of July 1999)	
ACTIVITIES:	
Past:	A workshop was held in Hamburg in 1996 on "Policy issues in timber markets and recycling and energy generation from wood" by the Teams of Specialists on Wood and Energy and New Products, Recycling, Markets and Applications for Forest Products. A synthesis of national reports on recycling legislation and its effect on the forest and forest industries sector was presented to the fifty-second and fifty-third Timber Committee Sessions from the Team of Specialists on New Products, Recycling, Markets and Applications for Forest Products.
Ongoing:	Preparation of reports for the Timber Committee Special Topic presentation. Preparation of a workshop in Istanbul, Turkey in November 1998. September 1998: Timber Committee Special Topic presentation. November 1998: Workshop in Istanbul, Turkey. September 1998: final report to Timber Committee
Future:	Mandate terminates in 1999
References:	Report of the team meeting, TIM/R.281/Add.3, TIM/1998/5/Add.1, TIM/199/5/Add.2
TEAM LEADER:	Dr. B. Hillring (Sweden)
MEMBERSHIP:	Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United States of America.

Reference to programme of work: 1.6

MANDATE OF THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON TIMBER TRENDS STUDIES	
A.- TERMS OF REFERENCE	
ESTABLISHED BY:	Timber Committee, 56th session and EFC 29th session
References:	TIM/1998/5, FO:EFC/98/7
MANDATE:	The team will advise the secretariat on the planning and implementation of the ECE/FAO programme of outlook studies, notably as regards scope, objectives, methodology, data and presentation
DURATION:	To 2003
APPROVED BY:	Joint FAO/ECE Working party on Forest economics and Statistics, May 1999 (TIM/EFC/WP.2/1999/9, paras 24-25)
REPORTING:	To sessions of Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics at sessions in 2001 and 2003
EXPECTED OUTPUT IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inaugural meeting in 1999/2000 - further activities as decided. 	

B.- INFORMATION SHEET (as of July 1999)	
ACTIVITIES:	
Past:	None (this team is the successor of the "ETTS V core team" which advised the secretariat in a similar way for the completion of ETTS V in 1996.)
Ongoing:	Inaugural meeting
Future:	To be determined
References:	TIM/1998/5, FO:EFC/98/7, TIM/EFC/WP.2/1999/9, paras 24-25)
TEAM LEADER:	To be chosen
MEMBERSHIP:	Members of ETTS V core team included representatives from Austria, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, USA, FAO. Nominations are invited from those countries and others. Team members should have considerable knowledge and experience of outlook study work, and be prepared to make substantive contributions to a technical discussion.

Reference to programme of work: 2.2.(1.2)

MANDATE OF THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON FOREST FIRE	
A.- TERMS OF REFERENCE	
ESTABLISHED BY:	The Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training.
References:	Report 19th session Joint Committee: TIM/EFC/WP.1/22, para. 76 Report 21st session Joint Committee: TIM/EFC/WP.1/26 Report 22nd session Joint Committee: TIM/EFC/WP.1/28
MANDATE:	The team will undertake forest fire activities as determined by the Joint Committee, through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the promotion of scientific methods in forest fire management and forest fire policy; - the provision of guidance to member states on forest fire management and forest fire policies; - the organization and preparation of seminars, workshops and educational programmes; and the promotion of the continuous exchange of information and experience among country forest fire specialists from the policy, managerial and research spheres; - cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations dealing with forest fire questions in the region (FAO, Silva Mediterranea, IUFRO, the European Union and others); - criteria for harmonization and reporting of forest fire statistics; - the publication twice yearly of <i>International Forest Fire News</i> (IFFN).
DURATION:	To 2002

APPROVED BY	The Joint Committee's 20th and 21st sessions
REPORTING:	The team reports to each session of the Joint Committee and of the Steering Committee
EXPECTED OUTPUT IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS:	
1.	develop a feasibility study for a Global Vegetation Fire Information System;
2.	develop the link between fire inventory, management and policy;
3.	develop a fire inventory system to meet the objectives of UNCED;
4.	revision of the FAO Forest Fire Glossary;
5.	bi-annual publication of <i>International Forest Fire News</i> (IFFN).

B.- INFORMATION SHEET (as of July 1999)	
ACTIVITIES:	
Past:	Meetings in April 1994, December 1994, 1996 and May 1998, attendance at World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction and the International Wildfire Conference, Canada 1997; Seminar on Forest, Fire and Global Change, August 1996; First International Baltic Conference on Forest Fire 1998.
Ongoing:	International Forest Fire News
Future:	Report to the Steering Committee, fourteenth session. Explore possibilities of holding a seminar in The Mediterranean region or in North America.
References:	Report of the first meeting, TIM/EFC/WP.1/R.121/Add.1, TIM/EFC/WP.1/1998/3, annex 1 and 2. Issues of IFFN report on the team's activities
TEAM LEADER:	Mr. J.G. Goldammer (Germany)
MEMBERSHIP:	Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Poland, Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, United States

Reference to programme of work: 2.2.(2.2)

MANDATE OF THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON REDUCING THE IMPACT OF FOREST OPERATIONS ON ECOSYSTEMS	
A.- TERMS OF REFERENCE	
ESTABLISHED BY:	The Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training
References:	Report of the 20th session of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee, TIM/EFC/WP.1/22. Reports of the 21st session of the Joint Committee, TIM/EFC/WP.1/26 and the 22 nd session, TIM/EFC/WP.1/28.
MANDATE:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep under review developments in research on machine-site interactions; 2. On the basis of (1), indicate directions for future research and development to research organizations and funding bodies; 3. Consider whether it is desirable and feasible to prepare international guidelines to designers and users of forest machines and equipment, to minimise the negative impact on forest sites and make a recommendation on this to the Joint Committee; 4. Prepare standardised measurement methods concerning damage to forest sites, as recommended by the FORSITRISK team in 1994, for use by both practitioners and researchers; 5. Present the findings at a workshop in 1999 (if necessary and feasible) and prepare a state of the art report for wide dissemination. <p>All activities should be carried out in close cooperation between researchers, manufacturers and practitioners.</p>
DURATION:	Four years to 2000
APPROVED BY:	Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee, twentieth session, November 1994 Steering Committee, twelfth session, June 1995
REPORTING:	The team reports to each session of the Joint Committee and of the Steering Committee
EXPECTED OUTPUT IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS:	
Review of developments. Preparation of draft international guidelines.	

B.- INFORMATION SHEET (as of July 1999)	
ACTIVITIES:	
Past:	(build on results of previous FORSITRISK team), 1st meeting of the ToS, December 1995, other meetings in 1997, 1998 and 1999
Ongoing:	Review of relevant activities and documentation; preparation draft international guidelines.
Future:	Drawing up of draft international guidelines to reduce the impact of forest operations on ecosystems and recommendations for measurements for damage assessment and standards for measurement methods
References:	Report of the inaugural meeting, presented to the Joint Committee's 21st session (TIM/EFC/WP.1/R.129/Add.1)
TEAM LEADER:	Professor Iwan Wästerlund (Sweden)
MEMBERSHIP:	Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United States

Reference to programme of work: 2.2.(3.4)

MANDATE OF THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON PARTICIPATION	
A.- TERMS OF REFERENCE	
ESTABLISHED BY:	The Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training
References:	Report 22nd session Joint Committee: TIM/EFC/WP.1/28
MANDATE:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assist in the preparation of the proposed seminars in Switzerland on Public relations and environmental education in forestry, and in Belgium on Partnerships. 2. Clarify the concept of "participation" and develop the framework and opportunities for increased participatory forest management (involvement of the public), awareness of the forest and use of forest products and services by the public. 3. Collect and even initiate case studies. 4. Draw-up a report to the Joint Committee on participatory management, including principles, strategies and guidelines.
DURATION:	to 2000
APPROVED BY:	The Joint Committee's 22nd session
REPORTING:	The team reports to each session of the Joint Committee and of the Steering Committee
EXPECTED OUTPUT IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS:	
Report to the Steering Committee in 1999	

B.- INFORMATION SHEET (as of July 1999)	
ACTIVITIES:	
Past:	Preparatory meeting to launch the activities of the team (June 1999) in coordination with the past team on socio-economic aspects.
Ongoing:	Preparation of background paper for the inaugural meeting in autumn 1999 and outline for country reports by Team members.
Future:	Develop concepts and address main issues of the participatory process. Prepare a report for the European process and proposals for follow-up actions. Assist in the preparation of the Joint Committee seminars on Public relations and environmental education in forestry; on Partnerships; and on Women in forestry.
References:	
TEAM LEADER:	Miles Wenner (United Kingdom)
MEMBERSHIP:	To be determined