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Timber Committee

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
European Forestry Commission

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

**Joint Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training**  
Twenty-third session, Geneva (Switzerland), 5-8 June 2000

**Review of the programme in silviculture and forest management**  
(subject area 1)

(Item 6 of the Provisional Agenda)

**Note by the secretariat**

This document presents supplementary information on the activities under subject area 1 as referred to in TIM/EFC/WP.1/2000/5:

- Annex I - a report by the leader of the team of specialists on forest fire
- Annex II - the programme of BALTEX FIRE 2000
- Annex III - the programme of the workshop on Information systems 2000

## **ANNEX I**

### **1. Report of the 1998-99 Activities**

After the last team meeting which was held in conjunction with the first Baltic Conference on Forest Fire which was held in Warsaw (Poland) in May 1998 (see IFFN No. 19 / October 1998), the following actions were taken:

#### **1.1 Participation at the FAO Expert Meeting "Public Policies Affecting Forest Fire" (FAO, Rome, October 1998)**

The team leader contributed a preparatory paper for the expert meeting covering the temperate-boreal region of the ECE region. This paper has been published in the FAO report: Goldammer, J.G. 1999. Public policies affecting forest fires in Europe and boreal/temperate Asia. In: Proceedings, FAO Meeting on Public Policies Affecting Forest Fires, 113-164. FAO Forestry Paper 138.

The following team members participated in the consultation: Team leader J. Goldammer (Germany), E. Bilgili (Turkey), R. Velez (Spain) and J. Najera from the secretariat.

The expert meeting was followed by the FAO meeting of the ministers of forestry (March 1999). The recommendations of the FAO meeting were included in the "Rome Declaration on Forestry".

#### **1.2 Participation in various other fire policy activities**

The team leader participated and contributed to several meetings which were held in conjunction with the evaluation of the South East Asian fire situation in 1997-98:

- ASEAN: One of several ASEAN meetings were devoted to compare ECE procedures and rules on transboundary pollution, and how the two regions could learn from each other. The team leader provided inputs from the point of view of fire-related transboundary smoke-haze pollution.
- The WMO held a meeting on regional ASEAN meteorology in conjunction with transboundary smoke-haze problems. The meeting was supported by the team leader.
- The WHO prepared the "WHO Health Guidelines on Episodic Vegetation Fire Events". After a workshop in Lima, Peru, fall 1998, the preparation of the guidelines are now finalized. The team leader is co-editor of the guidelines. The guidelines are in press and will also be published on the website of the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC).
- The World Bank Seminar on Forest Fires, held in Surabaya, Indonesia, was supported by the team.
- The ITTO was supported by the team leader in a fact-finding mission in Indonesia. The responsible ITTO officer will visit the GFMC in September 1999.
- Participation and contribution to the IDNDR Scientific and Technical Council (STC) meeting in Washington, August 1998, and the IDNDR Programme Forum (the final IDNDR event), Geneva, July 1999.

### **1.3 Establishment of the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC)**

In June 1998 the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) was established as a joint activity of the home institute of the team leader (the Fire Ecology Research Group of the Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, c/o Freiburg University) and the team.

The Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) monitors, forecasts and archives information on vegetation fires (forest fires, land-use fires, smoke pollution) at global level. With this information decision makers at national and international levels are supported in evaluating fire situations or precursors of fire which potentially endanger humans or may negatively affect the environment. The GFMC is financed by a German contribution to the IDNDR operates in co-operation and in line with the:

- \* objectives of the UN International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR);
- \* objectives of work of the UN-FAO/ECE/ILO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire;
- \* recommendations of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and various scientific and policy conferences;
- \* policies of the UNESCO, the World Bank, Disaster Management Facility (DMF), and the World Conservation Union (IUCN), expressed by the co-sponsorship of these organizations; and the
- \* research agendas and co-sponsorship of international science programmes devoted to Global Change Research: The International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), and the International Boreal Forest Research Association (IBFRA).

The GFMC was inaugurated at the FAO Expert Consultation in Rome, October 1998. The daily updated GFMC products are public domain, accessible through the internet

<http://www.uni-freiburg.de/fireglobe>.

### **1.4 International Forest Fire News (IFFN)**

With the financial support of the US Bureau of Land Management, the team leader has continued editing the IFFN twice per year. Starting with IFFN No. 19 (October 1998) the comprehensive newsletter is also available on the website of the GFMC.

## **2. Upcoming team activities**

### **2.1 Continuation of the GFMC**

The team will further continue to expand the contents and operations of the GFMC and preparing the IFFN. Currently the GFMC is funded by the German Foreign Office (until December 1999). Follow-up funding will be requested by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), in collaboration with the World Bank and the IUCN. Currently three GFMC operators are employed full-time.

## **2.2 Continuation of IFFN**

Support for IFFN production has been provided by the BLM in 1998-99. The team leader suggests the Joint Committee to ask the BLM for the continuation of the support beyond 1999.

## **2.3 Creation of an Interagency Task Force on Fire (ITFF)**

In the frame of the transition of the IDNDR to the IDNDR successor arrangement, an interagency platform under the Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs, the team leader has proposed the creation of the ITFF. This proposal is currently investigated by the IDNDR.

It is envisaged to convene a team meeting in Geneva, December 1999, and invite UN and other international organizations and programmes to attend the meeting in order to facilitate the creation of the ITFF.

## **2.4 Next fire seminar**

In accordance with the traditional 5-year sequence of seminars organized by the team, the next seminar should be held in 2001. It will be desirable to focus on the Eastern Mediterranean part and the southern/central Asian countries of the ECE region. A candidate country to host the seminar is Turkey. The Turkish team member, Mr. E. Bilgili, has spent several months at the institute of the team leader and is highly interested to expand the collaboration with other countries of the ECE region.

The reason to concentrate on the southern/central Asian countries is the fact that some of the new independent states and other neighbour countries so far have been isolated from fire science, technology and policy transfer.

Collaboration for the preparation of the Seminar will be sought with the FAO Silva Mediterranea fire group (team member R. Velez) and the US BLM.

## **2.5 Update of the FAO Wildland Fire Management Terminology**

The team leader has been officially entrusted by the FAO by work contract to update/revise the multilingual FAO Wildland Fire Management Terminology (FAO Forestry Paper 70, 1986).

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**ANNEX II**

**BALTEX FIRE 2000**

**The Second Baltic Seminar and Exercise in Forest Fire  
Information and Resources Exchange 2000**

*The Emergency Services College, Kuopio Finland, 5-9 June 2000*

5 June 2000 (Monday)

- 12.00- Arrival / registration  
16.00 Opening remarks  
    S Ministry of the Interior  
    S Emergency Services College  
    S Organization Committee
- 17.00 Forest Fires in the Baltic Region: National and International  
Issues(Johann G. Goldammer, UN-ECE/FAO/ILO Team of Specialists on  
Forest Fire & Global Fire Monitoring Center)
- 19.00 Reception

6 June 2000 (Tuesday)

- 09.00 Session I - Forest Fire Research - Activities in Finland  
    S A Soil Moisture Index for the Assessment of Forest Fire Risk in  
    the Boreal Zone  
    S Forest Fire Detection with Satellites for Fire Control  
    S Spreading of Fire and Combustion Gases in Forest fires  
    S Use of Modified Fertilising Aircrafts for Forest Fire Suppression  
    S Fuel Type Classification of Forest Fire Risk assessment and  
    Modelling of Fire Behaviour in Boreal Forests
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 Session II - Forest Fire Research - Activities in the Baltic Sea Region  
    S Resume of the 1st BALTEX Conference 1998  
    S National Reports  
    S Conclusions  
    S Formation of Breakout Working Groups (for Session IV, Thursday 8  
    June)  
    Social Event

7 June 2000 (Wednesday)

- 09.00 Session III - Fire Ecology and Prescribed Burning  
    S Use of Prescribed Burning in Finland  
    S Fire and its Use in Forest Ecosystems  
    S Structure and Dynamics of Natural and Managed Boreal Forest  
    Landscape

- S Linking Landscape Pattern, Stand Structure and Species Diversity
- S Forest fires and environmental management

11.00 Lunch

12.00 Departure to field trip

- S Demonstration: (1) Prescribed Burning in a National Park and (2) Prescribed Burning
- S Extinguishing Demonstration (Finland / Russia / ( Poland))National Parks and Conservation Measures in Finland

18.00 Return to the Emergency Services College

8 June 2000 (Thursday)

09.00 Session IV - Group Work

- S Forest Fire Hazard and Risk Assessment (prevention)
- S Forest Fire Detection (detection and monitoring)
- S Transboundary Operational Cooperation and Technological Development (suppression)
- S Forest Fire and Environment, Prescribed Burning in Forestry and Nature Conservation (post fire measures)

11.00 Lunch

12.00 Session V Peat Bog Fires - Peat Production and Peat Bog Fires in Finland

13.00 Departure to field trip

- Peat Production
- S Peat bog Fire Demonstration: Extinguishing Methods and Equipment

17.00 Arrival to the Emergency Service College

18.00 Examples of International Cooperation:

- S Forest Fire Management in Russia (Eduard P. Davidenko)
- S Forest Fire Management in North America (BLM representative)
- S Forest Fire Management in Developing Countries (Mike Jurvelius)

9 June 1999 (Friday)

Session VI - Future Cooperation

09.00 Breakout Group Work

- S Conclusions and Recommendations

11.30 Closing Ceremony

12.00 Lunch

13.00 Departure

13.00 Meeting of the ECE/FAO/ILO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire jointly with members of the UN International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG-Europe/Africa).

10 June 1999 (Saturday)

Optional Tour

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## ANNEX III

### JOINT FAO/ECE/ILO COMMITTEE ON FOREST TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING

#### Workshop on Forestry Information Systems 2000 Hyytiälä (Finland), 16-20 May 2000

#### PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE WORKSHOP

##### 1. Purposes of the Seminar

Forestry Information Systems 2000 - The workshop aims at presenting information systems which are already tested or used in practice. It will enable foresters and forest industries to evaluate and fully utilize the potential of such systems.

The workshop invites papers, posters and vendor stands from different countries in areas concerning the management and use of information systems in forestry. The organising group will select papers and posters and form some working groups which will deal with specific topics during the workshop.

The Workshop is being organized at the request of and under the auspices of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training. The coordinator of the workshop will be the Forest and Park Service (Metsähallitus, see pages <http://www.metsa.fi>) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MOAF, see pages <http://www.mmm.fi>) will be the organiser.

Conference centre and accommodation will be Hyytiälä Forestry Field Station (about 240 kilometre) North West of Helsinki. Hyytiälä is managed by the University of Helsinki. The station's main activities are forestry field education and research. Hyytiälä also provides an extraordinary location for scientific and other meetings. The auditorium and accommodation capacity of the station is 110 persons. Maximum number of participants of the workshop is preferably some 90 persons.

The Workshop will be held in English. Detailed programme for the workshop see programme table (back cover of this brochure).

During the Joint Week you can combine two different seminars (Forestry Information Systems 2000 and Logistics in Forest Sector, 1st World Symposium). If you need transportation please specify it on the registration form.

##### 2. Topics

Contributions can cover the following subjects of spatial data management in forestry:

- Mapping of natural resources
- Mobile mapping and field computing
- Advanced technologies of forest data management
- GIS

- Tools for forest management planning
- Environmental management and quality systems
- Logging, transportation and timber trade

Suppliers can demonstrate implemented systems. Totally 24 proceedings and 20 posters will be selected for presentation. Papers and posters will be presented under the following headings:

**Session 1 (common session)**

"Overview of Information Systems"

- advanced technologies of forest data management
- data modelling and project management
- implementation on information systems

**Session 2 (alternative session)**

"GIS in Forestry"

- GIS, mapping, spatially indexed data
- field computing and wireless data communication
- experiences of projects

**Session 3 (alternative session)**

"Tools for operational forestry"

- tools for forest management planning
- environmental management and quality systems
- logging, transportation and timber trade

**Working groups** (12 persons each group) will be set up to outline topics:

- The future of mobile computing in forestry
- The future of customer-oriented timber chain from the forest to the customer
- New concepts for forest management planning and environmental management
- The experiences of pilot projects: what we can make better?
- Implementation of forestry information system: what we should consider?

**Closing session** will include short summaries of these working groups.

Please, tell (see registration form) which session and working group you are going to participate in.

There are two alternative excursions during the workshop:

- Forest industry logistics (industry and data system excursion)
- Forest management and certification of forests (forest excursion)

### **3. Participants**

The workshop is designed for all persons active in the forestry and timber sector:

- Public and private forest owners
- Forestry contractors and operators
- Forestry cooperatives
- Forest industry
- Technology transfer centres and consultants



- Forestry researchers
- Suppliers of information systems for forestry

**4. Registration and important dates**

January 15, 2000	Submission of abstracts
January 31, 2000	Acceptance notification
March 30, 2000	Deadline for registration
April 14, 2000	Camera ready copies and files of presentations

Registration and reservations are valid only once payment has been received. Confirmation will be sent to you in the form of a receipt.

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