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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
Timber Committee

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
European Forestry Commission

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION



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

**REVISED PROVISIONAL AGENDA  
OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION\***

to be held in Groningen, the Netherlands  
from 9 to 12 September 2004

The purpose of this document is to inform country delegations to the Joint Committee that the registration deadline for the session has been extended to 25 August 2004. Please refer to annex III.

The provisional agenda remains unchanged, therefore the explanatory notes are not reproduced. Some changes have been made to the tentative timetable and to the programme of study visits.

Delegations which have not yet sent country reports are invited to prepare them according to the outline in annex I.

**DOCUMENTS**

Joint Committee documents will be distributed by mail and they are presently available at the Committee's website <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/joint-committee>

\*This document has been submitted late due to the need for extensive external consultations.

## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Document</u>
1. Adoption of the agenda	TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/1
2. Fiftieth anniversary of the Joint Committee, 1954-2004	TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/3
(i) Achievements of the Joint Committee on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, 1954-2004;	
(ii) Forestry in the Netherlands;	
(iii) Developments on the utilisation of wood fuels.	
3. Achievements, problems and priorities in the Joint Committee's field of interest (summaries of national reports)	
4. International dialogue on forests, notably the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe and activities of other international organizations of relevance to the Committee	TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/4
5. Strategic review of the integrated programme of work on forests and timber of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission	TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/5
6. Review of the activities in silviculture and forest management (subject area 1) and programme for 2004-2007	TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/6
7. Review of the activities in wood harvesting and transport (subject area 2) and programme for 2004-2007	TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/7
8. Review of the activities in vocational training and applied ergonomics (subject area 3) and programme for 2004-2007	TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/8
9. Adoption of programme of work	TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/9
10. Any other business	
11. Election of officers	
12. Date and place of the next session	
13. Adoption of the report	

Please refer to document TIM/EFC/WP.1/2004/1 for the explanatory notes to the provisional agenda.

## REVISED TENTATIVE TIMETABLE

It is proposed that the Joint Committee session adhere to the following timetable:

### Opening of the session

Thursday, 9 September	Morning	The Dutch Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality will open the session
Thursday, 9 September	Morning	Items 1 and 2(i)
	Afternoon	Items 3, 4 and 5
Friday, 10 September	Morning	Items 2(ii), 6 and 7
	Afternoon	Items 8 and 9
	17:00-18:00hrs	Reception by the mayor of the city of Groningen at the City Hall
	19:00-22:00hrs	Official Dinner in Schimmelpenninckhuys, Groningen, offered by <i>Staatsbosbeheer</i> , the State Forest Service of the Netherlands
Saturday, 11 September	Morning	Items 2(iii), 10 to 13
	Afternoon	Excursion to the forests of Drenthe (or excursion to a wood energy plant in the Flevopolder near Lelystad, to be confirmed). ( <i>to be confirmed</i> )
Sunday, 12 September	All day	Field trip to the Island of Terschelling (see annex III)

## GENERAL

The government of the Netherlands kindly offered to host the twenty-fifth session of the Joint Committee (JC). The session will take place from Thursday 9 to Saturday 11 September 2004. A field trip to the island of Terschelling (annex II) will be organized on Sunday 12 September. JC delegates wishing to take part in the field trip are invited to indicate it when filling in the form in annex III.

### *Location.*

Groningen is the capital city of the Province Groningen and also the major city of Northern Netherlands and, with a population of 179 000, the seventh largest city in the country. It is situated at 200 km N.E of Amsterdam, with good connections by train and highway to the rest of

the country, Germany and Scandinavia. Groningen nearest airport, Eelde is a mere ten minutes drive from the city centre and there are daily flights to London Stansted Groningen boasts a level of amenities which can only be found in major cities. . Institutions such as the University and the University Hospital make Groningen the regional centre for more than half a million people. The city of Groningen has an old city centre, with many cultural sightseeing objects. The modern Groninger Museum is very famous, as well as is the old Martinitower.

### ***Registration and hotel accommodation***

The session will be held at Congress Centre *Meerwold*, which is located off the A28 motorway in the southern part of Groningen. The centre has 118 fully equipped hotel rooms. It is situated on the banks of the “Hoornse Meer”, a lake and nature reserve.

Delegates who have filled the registration form will be contacted automatically and provided with visitor information, transfer details from Amsterdam Airport to Groningen etc.

There is no fee for attending the twenty-fifth session of the Joint Committee. However, participants are required to cover the cost of their travel arrangements and hotel accommodation.

Please fill in the registration form and send it to the address indicated in annex III. A credit card guarantee will be asked to secure the hotel room reservation.

Hotel reservations will be made by Westerlaken Congress Organization Services.

### ***Hotel room rates***

- Single occupancy hotel room per night (including breakfast) approximately €95.
- Double occupancy hotel room per night (including breakfast) approximately €58, per person.

### ***Weather***

The average temperature in mid-September is 14° Celsius, but can also be quite good, most of the time. It is advised to bring a sweater, raincoat, umbrella and walking shoes.

### ***Transportation***

If travelling by plane, you can opt to fly into Schiphol Airport, but it is also possible to fly to Groningen Airport Eelde, 8 km south of the city. There are daily flights from London Stansted (UK) to this airport.

The General Information pack, which will be sent to you together with the Confirmation of Registration, provides more details on transportation to Congress Centre *Meerwold*.

## ANNEX I

### COUNTRY STATEMENTS

#### Invitation to countries

Delegations are invited to submit statements on achievements and problems encountered in their countries in the Joint Committee's field of interest ahead of the Session. They are also requested to indicate priority issues for possible action by the Joint Committee.

The Steering Committee at its 14<sup>th</sup> session in 1999 expressed its regret that relatively few member countries do provide country statements. It reconfirmed that these statements are important for the Joint Committee's work, as they facilitate the exchange of information and the preparation of a programme of work in line with the needs and priorities of member countries. The country statements are not expected to be major formal reports, but rather to provide a quick overview based on the views of knowledgeable individuals in your country.

#### Points to cover in the statement

It is suggested to follow a similar pattern to that of previous sessions, i.e. the statements should be subdivided according to the Joint Committee's three main subject areas:

Subject area 1: Management (silviculture, multiple use forestry, ecological and economical issues, marketing, information systems);

Subject area 2: Technology (wood harvesting and transport, forest engineering, ecologically and economically sound operations in silviculture);

Subject area 3: Training (of workers, supervisors and managers; applied ergonomics and occupational safety and health).

#### Under each subject area they should concentrate on:

- (a) achievements and important innovations, changes in legislation and policy over the past two years;
- (b) difficulties that have arisen and measures initiated to deal with them;
- (c) emerging priorities for Joint Committee activities.

**Length of the statement** - The statements should **not exceed two pages** per subject area.

**Deadline** - Countries are requested to respect the deadline for submission of reports of 1 July 2004, by which date complete statements should reach the secretariat:

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Economic Affairs Officer  
Timber Section, UNECE Trade and Timber Division  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

Fax + 41 22 917 0041  
E-mail Jorge.Najera@unece.org

The secretariat will forward a copy of the country statements to the subject area coordinators, who will prepare syntheses to be presented to the Joint Committee's session. Replies will also be posted at the website.

## ANNEX II

### **The National Forest Service on the island of Terschelling Field trip scheduled on Sunday 12 September 2004**

What makes Terschelling so special? It's an important link in the chain of islands extending from Esbjerg, Denmark to Den Helder, Netherlands. This is, together with the Wadden Sea bordering on it, the largest undivided nature area of western Europe.

With a length of 30 km and an average width of 3.5 km, the island of Terschelling boasts a quite varied landscape; 20% consists of cultivated meadows, villages, roads etc, 80% is pure nature and unspoiled scenery. Mud flats, tidal marshes, beaches, dunes, woods, fresh water, salt water. All this is to be found here. The diversity of the landscape, flora and butterflies alone, is exceptional and is hardly found elsewhere in the Netherlands. In addition Terschelling lies on one of the major bird migration routes between the northern breeding areas and the winter quarters in the south. As nature is concerned, the island's crowning glory is *the Boschplaat*, which in 1970 was awarded the status of European Nature Reserve. The Wadden Islands have a history stretching back some 2000 years. The restless waves of the North Sea threw up a sand bar and, in turn, the drifting sand shaped the dunes. On the side bordering the Wadden Sea tidal marshes have developed and are flooded at high tide.

In 1910 the management of the 'waste dune lands' was entrusted to the National Forest Service. The assignment was to fix drifting sand and to produce wood for the mining industry. Until 1940 some 550 hectares of dune woods were established, using the unique 'Terschelling planting method'. Peat, soaked in water, was laid in the plant hole at the roots of the young pine trees. Excellent results were achieved this way.

A remarkable feature of Terschelling is that only a few mammal species are indigenous to the island. The squirrel, mole, field vole and fox never made the crossing and consequently do not occur. Because there are only a few predators and owing to the diversity of the landscape and vegetation no less than 125 bird species find a quiet breeding place on the island. The proximity of the Wad, which is uncovered twice every 24 hours, makes Terschelling a favourite feeding area for migratory birds.

The island offers a great variety of growing conditions for many plant species. In addition the sea nearby keeps temperatures lower in summer and higher in winter, creating favourable conditions for plant species from both northern and southern regions. From the 1360 species of higher plants occurring in the Netherlands over 600 thrive on this island.

Terschelling offers a wide range of possibilities for nature recreation. There are over 125 miles of unpaved tracks, 18 miles of which have been especially equipped as nature trails. Concerning cycling: there is a cycle path network covering over 35 miles and thousands of bikes are for hire. As to camping, the Service runs three nature camping sites on the island. A visitor's centre was set up and fitted out in cooperation with the National Forest Service.

During the field trip several points of interest will be visited:

- dune forest of Corsican Pine and changes into mixed forest
- salt marches
- natural dune vegetation
- nature recreation facilities

The excursion will depart by coach or van early on Sunday morning from *Meerwold* Congress Centre in order to be in time on the ferry in Harlingen. Returning to the hotel in the evening, depending on ferry departures from Terschelling. Lunch and refreshments will be provided during the day. The excursion is free of charge.

## ANNEX III

## REGISTRATION FORM

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION JOINT FAO/ECE/ILO COMMITTEE ON FOREST TECHNOLOGY,  
MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING

Groningen, the Netherlands

9 - 12 September 2004

**Please return before 25 August 2004 to:**

Westerlaken Congress Organization Services  
P.O. Box 1558  
6501 BN Nijmegen  
The Netherlands  
Telephone; +31-24 323 44 71  
Fax: +31- 24 360 11 59  
E-mail: [jc-session2004@congres.net](mailto:jc-session2004@congres.net)

**With copy for information to:**

Mr. Jorge Najera  
Economic Affairs Officer  
Timber Branch  
UNECE Trade Development and Timber Division  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland

**Further information:**

Mr. Joop Kalb  
Knowledge Officer  
Staatsbosbeheer (National Forest Service)  
Telephone: +31-592 305 133  
Fax: +31- 592-305 199  
E-mail: [j.kalb@sbb.agro.nl](mailto:j.kalb@sbb.agro.nl)

Telephone: +41-22-917 3240  
Fax: +41-22-917 0041  
E-mail: [Jorge.Najera@unece.org](mailto:Jorge.Najera@unece.org)

Mr./Ms./Dr.

Family Name: ..... First Name: .....

Title: .....

Organization/ministry/governmental department: .....

Full mailing address: .....

.....

Country .....

Telephone number (with country code): .....

Fax number (with country code): .....

E-mail: .....

Other requests or comments (e.g. diet).....

**Arrival:** .....

**Departure:**.....

I will attend the 25th session of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training (9–11 September), and wish to participate in the field excursion on Sunday 12 September 2004

YES

**HOTEL RESERVATION**

Price (including breakfast and tax):

€58 per person sharing per night; €95 per single room per night.

Accommodation is to be paid on departure.

To secure your reservation , please provide credit card details. Bookings cancelled prior to arrival incur a cancellation fee equal to the cost of the intended number of nights stay. Early departures will also incur a cancellation fee equal to the cost of the nights missed.

To secure my reservation, I include my credit card details( *below* )

Credit Card Type (VISA , Mastercard, other).....

Card Number:..... Expiry  
date:...../.....

Cardholder Name: .....

Full address of the cardholder: .....

.....

.....

Signature cardholder for authorisation of payment €..... of the credit card:

.....

To be sent only to:

Westerlaken Congress Organization Services

P.O. Box 1558

6501 BN Nijmegen

The Netherlands

Telephone; +31-24 323 44 71

Fax: +31- 24 360 11 59

E-mail: [jc-session2004@congres.net](mailto:jc-session2004@congres.net)