

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General
13 December 2013

Original: English

**Food and Agriculture
Organization****Economic Commission for Europe****Food and Agriculture Organization****Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry****European Forestry Commission****Seventy-first session**

Rovaniemi, 9-13 December 2013

Thirty-seventh session

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**Report of the joint seventy-first session of the
Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and
thirty-seventh session of the European Forestry
Commission**

1. At the invitation of the Government of Finland, the joint seventy-first session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the thirty-seventh session of the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC), entitled “Metsä 2013”, were held in Rovaniemi, Finland, from 09 to 13 December 2013. More than 450 participants from the ECE region attended the session. Delegations from 40 COFFI and EFC member countries participated: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America and Uzbekistan. The delegation from China was also present as an observer.

2. Representatives of the European Union participated in the session.

3. Representatives attended the session from: the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and the World Bank (WB).

4. The following inter-governmental organisations were represented: the European Environment Agency (EEA), the European Forest Institute (EFI), and the European Investment Bank.

5. The Liaison Unit Madrid of FOREST EUROPE attended the session.

6. The following non-governmental organizations were also represented: Association of Austrian Land and Forest Owners, Bioversity International, BirdLife Europe, Bureau of Nordic Family Forestry, Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK), Confederation of European Private Forest Owners (CEPF), European Network of Forestry Entrepreneurs (ENFE), European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR), Finnish

Association for Nature Conservation, Finnish Forest Association, Finnish Forest Certification Council, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Global Ecovillage Network, International Family Forest Alliance, International Forest Alliance, International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), Karen Kayemeth LeIsrael-Jewish National Fund, Probos Foundation, Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC), the Forest-based Sector Technology Platform (FTP), the Norwegian Humanist Association, the Protect Sapmi Foundation, Union de Selvicultores del Sur de Europa (USSE), World Council of Churches, WWF Russia.

7. A large number of representatives from the private sector, local entities, academia and the media attended, at the invitation of the joint secretariat.

8. Ms Paola Deda served as secretary of COFFI and Mr Dominique Reeb served as secretary of EFC.

Opening

9. At the opening of Metsä2013, participants shared their vision of future forests. The meeting was officially opened by Mr Juha Ojala, Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland, on behalf of the Minister, followed by Mr Esko Lotvonen, Mayor of the city of Rovaniemi, Mr Sven Alkalaj, Under-Secretary General of the UN and Executive Secretary of ECE and Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales, Assistant Director General and Head of the Forestry Department of FAO. They both thanked Finland, the host country, for the excellent organization of Metsä2013 and the 2nd European Forest Week in Rovaniemi. The setting in the heart of the boreal forests on the Arctic Circle was said to be unique and the number of parallel events and participants from the forest community to be impressive.

10. Mr Juha Ojala introduced the long history of the forest sector in Rovaniemi and highlighted the importance of forests for the economic development of the region and the country. While celebrating 300 years of the concept of sustainability, which originates from the forest sector in Europe, Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales emphasised the intention of the meeting to look at the future. In this context, he underscored the opportunities arising from properly positioning forests in the post 2015 UN development agenda. Forests and trees are a renewable resource that provides an enormous range of goods and ecosystem services. They are deeply connected with the green economy and offer win-win opportunities for climate smart business and job creation. Mr Sven Alkalaj noted that Metsä2013 offered the possibility to further advance on the path to sustainable development through the adoption of the Action Plan for a Forest Sector in a Green Economy and the work programme that will guide the joint efforts of ECE and FAO in the coming years. For these many reasons, he considered Metsä2013 to be a 'milestone event'.

11. A letter to Santa Claus on future forests was read by Ms Vera Chapchikova, winner of the 10th International Junior Forest Contest held in September 2013 in the Russian Federation. At the meeting, she represented the younger generation and, thus, the reason for working so intensively to keep European forests healthy and productive for the years ahead. The message of the ambassador of the European Forest week, Santa Claus, supported her words and stressed that the future of our forests is in the hands of our children.

12. A keynote speech by Mr Juergen Blaser, Swiss Global Forests Advisor, presented what forests and sustainable forest management (SFM) might look like in 300 years and discussed how climate change, expected increases in population and resource consumption, the decline of ecosystems and unexpected events might impact them. He also presented the implications for the demand and supply of forest products and services of a "green

transformation” of our economies, and predicted a world that would be more reliant on its forests and its forest managers.

13. Based on Mr Juergen Blaser’s speech, a high-level panel shared its vision on the role that forests could have in the future, and various long-term national forest strategies that have been formulated to reach this objective. The high-level panel participants were Mr Alexander Panfilov, Deputy Head of the Federal Forestry Agency of Russia, Mr Magnus Kindbom, State Secretary of the Ministry for Rural Affairs of Sweden and Mr Janusz Zaleski, Under Secretary of State of the Ministry of Environment of Poland. Panellists encouraged the transition from a fossil-fuel to a bio-based economy and identified forests as one of the main building blocks of a sustainable society. They all recognised research and innovation, education, engagement of the forest community and communication to be key drivers of this change.

14. Both the Swedish and the Polish panellists recommended that the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy, expected to be adopted at the joint session, be named “the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy” in recognition of the important role played by Finland and the city of Rovaniemi in the organization of the meeting and in leading this work.

15. In his conclusions, Mr Juha Ojala emphasised that the green/bio-based economy is an opportunity for forestry and the forest industry and the related energy and chemical industries, which should be seized in order to generate green products and green jobs. He also stressed that the public sector plays an essential role in fostering change through, for instance, green investment strategies and enabling conditions.

16. The representative of Switzerland congratulated the host country for the hospitality and excellent preparations and praised the cooperation between ECE and FAO on forest matters. He underscored the relevance of the ECE-FAO joint work for the forest sector and beyond and, in this regard, the interest of Switzerland in continuing the tradition of the European Forest Week and the willingness of the Swiss Government to host a similar event in the Swiss Alps in 2015, if so agreed.

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/1 - FO: EFC/2013/1

17. Mr Andrey Filipchuk (the Russian Federation), EFC session co-chair, introduced the provisional agenda, which was adopted without changes

2. Green economy dialogues

(a) Market Discussions

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/3 - FO: EFC/2013/3

18. Moderated by Mr Heikki Granholm (Finland), COFFI session co-chair, the market discussions provided an update on the developments of forest product markets in the three sub-regions of ECE: Europe with a spotlight on Turkey, the Russian Federation and North America. The discussions were supported by data and information collected and publications issued by the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, such as the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2012-2013, the COFFI Timber Forecast Tables and the Countries’ Market Statements.

19. Mr Antti Koskinen, Senior Consultant of Pöyry Management Consulting from Finland, presented an overview of the forest products market in Europe and emphasised

that recovery and growth had stalled, with the exception of a few products only. The stagnant economic situation in Europe and increased competition from off-shore producers are the main cause. Exports to North Africa and Japan helped to mitigate some of the lost demand in 2012.

20. Mr Ramazan Bali, Director of the Market Research Section of the General Directorate of Forestry from Turkey, provided information showing the high growth of the Turkish forest sector, which is a result of the country's strong economic progress. Fibreboard production had increased sevenfold over the past ten years and other panel products, such as particle board, had also shown impressive growth. Turkey is highly dependent on imported wood fibres and initial plans for modern wood energy applications had been constrained by competition for raw materials. It was also pointed out that the economic stagnation in other areas of Europe and instability in some neighbouring countries were having a negative impact on country's exports.

21. Mr Vladimir Styazkin, Deputy Director General of the State Research Centre of the Timber Industry Complex, gave an overview of the forest products markets in the Russian Federation. He underlined major challenges which the Russian forest sector currently encounters. In particular, he touched upon the necessity to further develop forest related infrastructure and industrial capacity, as well as the importance of improving business conditions. In this regard, he drew attention to current developments in the Russian Federation to enhance the regulation of the forest industry and support it through appropriate policy measures and financial mechanisms. He also pointed out some differences in the forest sector that exist inside the Russian regions.

22. Mr Gordon Culbertson, Regional Manager of Pacific Northwest Forest2Market Inc. in the USA, discussed trends in forest products markets in North America, including an overview of developments in different sectors and sub-regions. Housing is slowly recovering and, thus, the demand for many forest products will rise given the strong linkage between the construction sector and the consumption of forest products. The trends for pulp and paper were mixed with slowing demand for graphic paper and newsprint, but generally positive growth in demand for most other paper products. Dynamics such as the mountain pine beetle epidemic and increased demand from Asia for exported logs and lumber were having an influence on the markets in western North America. Wood pellet production, particularly in the South, was increasing due to European demand.

23. These market overviews and the following discussion which addressed the key developments and drivers of change for the forest sectors in the ECE region were reflected in the market statement, attached to this report (Annex I).

24. In conclusion, representatives of the Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) and the Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF) presented a children's book, "The Unexpected Forest" that they collaborated to produce, which tells the story of the forest industry in a fun and informative way.

(b) Engaging the Private Sector

25. Metsä2013 offered a unique opportunity to gather all forest stakeholders in the same place and to discuss issues of common interest. In this context, a roundtable discussion was dedicated to hearing from the region's private sector and to learning about their concerns, as well as their proposals for policymakers.

26. The panel was moderated by Mr Gordon Culbertson, and consisted of eight panellists¹ representing the private sector, forest owners and industries from various geographical areas in the ECE region. They discussed challenges and opportunities for the sector and supporting actions that policy makers and other key actors should consider in order to support a thriving forest industry.

27. The key message from the panel discussion can be summarised as, “Grow more trees, use more wood”. Policymakers can help to create the conditions for achieving this by supporting a simplified regulatory framework with greater predictability that recognises the lower carbon footprint of forest products as compared with alternative materials. Another phrase coined by one of the panellists was, “Wood – the basis for a third industrial revolution”. It was noted that anything that can be made from oil can also be made from wood. It became clear that the forest industry is heir to a “forest of new opportunities” including for the creation of jobs and increasing income, especially from innovative products.

28. Competitiveness, together with communicating climate neutrality, were identified as the main challenges for the sector, while education together with training and youth mobility were seen as opportunities that the sector should seize to become more performant. The lack of proper policy frameworks and solid marketing and communication strategies needed to be addressed as a matter of priority, in order to support wood as the material of the future.

29. In closing the roundtable, the co-chair, Heikki Granholm, welcomed the open discussion during the roundtable and encouraged a continued open and transparent dialogue between the public and the private sector. He indicated that future dialogues should focus on ways and tools to address existing challenges and to take up emerging opportunities, both at the domestic and international level. He also underscored the importance of studies and guidance produced jointly by policy-makers and the private sector, and the need to identify proper mechanisms to promote the implementation of this guidance.

(c) Measuring and communicating the contribution of the Forest Sector to a Green Economy

30. In this parallel session, more than 50 participants representing various sectors, discussed challenges and priorities for the development of a comprehensive system to measure the progress of the forest sector toward all dimensions of a green economy.

31. During her presentation, Ms Ivonne Higuero, Programme Coordinator at UNEP, introduced the green economy concept and the green growth indicators. Mr André de Montmollin of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office, presented the Swiss sustainable development indicators system, and Mr Kit Prins, Independent Forest Sector Expert, explained the concepts and ideas underlying how to measure progress of the forest sector towards the green economy.

¹ The panellists were: Mr Mike Jostrom of Plum Creek Timber (USA), Mr Kimmo Jarvinen of European Sawmill Organization (Belgium), Ms Isabelle Brose of the European Panel Federation (Belgium), Mr Matti Mikkola of Stora Enso (Finland), Mr Bernard-Yves Capelle, wood construction architect (France), Mr Bernard de Galember of the Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) (Belgium), Mr Martin Forsén of Domsjö Fibre (Sweden) and Mr Stefan Sundman of UPM Biorefining (Finland).

32. The presentations were followed by a roundtable discussion with seven panellists². They noted that although no agreement exists yet on an analytical framework or set of indicators for monitoring a green economy as a whole, significant progress has been made in this direction by UNEP, OECD, the World Bank and other organisations. They stressed the need for prompt action in order to ensure that the forest sector could contribute to, and would not be left out of, this measurement effort. The sector's accomplishments in monitoring SFM were considered to be a good starting point. In addition it was mentioned that special indicators should be elaborated separately for forestry and forest industry. However, they also suggested that more work should be put into the definition of the conceptual framework and the requirements for a robust measurement system. Additionally, the involvement of all stakeholders through a participatory approach, including stakeholders beyond the forest sector, was said to be critical for achieving this goal.

33. In summarising the main messages from the roundtable discussion, the moderator Mr Juergen Blaser, concluded that a successful measurement system for the forest sector needs to be both compatible with those for other sectors and easy to understand for outsiders. Furthermore, this effort should be seen as an opportunity for the sector to be recognised as a key contributor to a green economy. Special attention should be given to strengthening communication and raising awareness at a national level on the concept of a green economy and the role of forestry and forest industry in this regard. Participants recommended that work in this area should continue, in line with the monitoring activities included in the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy.

34. During the consideration of the meeting report, Portugal expressed reservation in relation to the development of a system of measurement as described in paragraph 30 and regretted that the organization of the session did not allow the possibility for small delegations to attend and participate in the official discussion and deliberations, as there were parallel agenda items.

3. FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) matters

(a) Follow-up to the decisions of the thirty-sixth session

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/4 - FO: EFC/2013/4

35. Delegates were informed about implementation of decisions taken by the Commission at its thirty-sixth session.

36. Mr Dominique Reeb, secretary of EFC, delivered a presentation based on document ECE/TIM/2013/4 - FO: EFC/2013/4, which reports on the actions undertaken to respond to the requests made by the Commission during its last session, held in October 2011 in Antalya, Turkey. He also presented the capacity building work currently being undertaken by the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, within the framework of a UN Development Account (UNDA) project, for SFM for a green economy in seven countries of Central Asia and the Caucasus.

² The panellists were: Mr Thorsten Arndt, Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes, Mr Rob Busink, Ministry of Economic Affairs (the Netherlands); Mr Bernard de Galembert, Confederation of European Paper Industries; Mr Hubert Inhaizer, European Forest Institute; Ms Liubov Poliakova, State Forest Resources Agency (Ukraine); Guy Robertson, US Forest Service (United States of America); Félix Romero Cañizares, Forest Stewardship Council.

(b) Overview of recent activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia

37. Delegates were briefed on recent forestry activities implemented by the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, including the Sub-regional Office for Central Asia.

38. Mr Norbert Winkler-Ráthonyi, Forestry Officer at the FAO Regional Office in Budapest, and Mr Ekrem Yazici, Forestry Officer at the FAO Sub-regional Office in Ankara, explained FAO's presence in the European and Central Asian regions through its decentralized offices and country representation offices. Recalling the growing role of the FAO Regional Conferences in budgetary and program decisions, they both invited delegates to engage in active coordination in finalising the agenda for the next FAO Regional Conference for Europe that will be held in the first week of April 2014. Delegates were also informed about the way the new FAO Strategic Objectives will shape activities in the region.

39. Challenges and opportunities for forestry in the European region (e.g. active management in support of wood mobilization) and Central Asia (e.g. the role of forests and trees for combatting desertification and for watershed protection) were also discussed. In this connection, Mr Yazici highlighted FAO operational activities, including the country programme frameworks, government cooperation projects (GCP) and technical cooperation projects (TCP), which use regular as well as extra-budgetary funds. As examples, he mentioned the GCPs implemented in the territory under the administration of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), Montenegro, Central Asia and the Caucasus, and the TCPs in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Serbia and Turkey. He also presented a selection of sub-regional and regional forest-related events in 2013 and 2014 of potential interest to delegates. Cross-sectoral approaches were also highlighted within the framework of FAO's assistance provided through Global Environmental Facility (GEF5) projects, which were made possible through the establishment of several partnerships.

40. Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales invited Commission members to pay more attention to technical cooperation projects in the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia and provide more guidance on this important area of FAO work.

(c) Overview of recent activities of the FAO AFWC/EFC/NERC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions (*Silva Mediterranea*)

41. Delegates were briefed on the activities conducted under the auspices of *Silva Mediterranea*. Mr Christophe Besacier, secretary of *Silva Mediterranea*, presented the institutional setup and functions of the Committee and informed delegates about the 3rd Mediterranean Forest Week, the first State of Mediterranean Forests Report, and the Strategic Framework on Mediterranean Forests providing strategic lines and expected results targeted for decision makers. The Strategic Framework was adopted in 2013 by the Ministerial Meeting through the Tlemcen Declaration. He also highlighted the collaborative partnerships on Mediterranean forests, presented the work plan of the Committee's working groups and informed about the extraordinary session of *Silva Mediterranea*, to be held in June 2014 during COFO in order to discuss the recommendations proposed by the evaluation Panel of *Silva Mediterranea*. He also gave information on the 4th Mediterranean Forest Week to be held in Barcelona in March 2015.

(d) Review of the mandate and modus operandi of the EFC Working Party on Management of Mountain Watersheds

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/5 - FO: EFC/2013/5

42. Mr Thomas Hofer, secretary of the Working Party, congratulated delegates on the occasion of International Mountain Day, a celebration launched by the United Nations

General Assembly in 2002 and promoted by FAO throughout the world. A video, 'Be mindful of our mountains,' stressing the importance of mountains and the challenges and opportunities for mountainous regions, was projected. He also talked about the diversity of mountain watersheds and the main features of watersheds in Europe, disproportionately affected by climate change.

43. He reported that the Working Party, at its last meeting on 3 to 5 September 2013 in Montgenèvre, France, discussed its future work plan, which is now submitted to the Commission for discussion and endorsement. He noted with appreciation the support provided by several member States to the Working Party, and particularly Austria and France.

44. In discussing the document, Finland informed the meeting that it would not be in a position to act as a lead country for one of the working groups.

45. The Commission endorsed the new mandate and proposed work plan.

(e) Overview of the FAO Strategic Framework, the FAO Strategic Evaluation, and implementation of recommendations

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/6 - FO: EFC/2013/6 (FAO Strategic Framework)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/7 - FO: EFC/2013/7 (Strategic Evaluation)

46. The Committee and the Commission were briefed on implementation of the new FAO Strategic Framework by Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales. He presented the FAO vision and its five strategic objectives: 1) contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition; 2) increase and improve the provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner; 3) reduce rural poverty; 4) enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at the local, national and international levels; and 5) increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises. He also reported on the steps taken on the basis of the guidance given by COFO in 2012.

47. Commenting on this agenda item, Switzerland welcomed the improved representation of forests in the Strategic Framework and cautioned on the continued need for keeping forests as a priority. The Russian Federation noted the crucial role of cooperation with ECE in the region and suggested to enhance the focus on boreal forests, including through putting this on the agenda of future sessions of the Committee on Forestry (COFO). Norway noted the improvement in the Strategic Framework, emphasized the continued need for keeping forests as a priority, and highlighted the role of FAO in CPF in furthering key forest issues including, in particular, climate change. It also stressed the need to enhance work on rural areas and forest industries, and thanked FAO for its work in the European region, including the support to the negotiations of a legally binding agreement on forests. Sweden noted the raised profile of forests within the FAO agenda and underscored the crucial role of regional platforms and their increased connection to the global level. It supported the need to strengthen work on boreal forests and suggested to continue reinforcing the focus on the landscape approach.

(f) Recommendations to be drawn to the attention of the twenty-ninth session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe and the twenty-second session of the FAO Committee on Forestry

48. Mr Peter Csoka, Team Leader at FAO Forestry Department, presented the new process for the Regional Forestry Commissions' contributions to the FAO governance related to forestry issues, introduced in the course of 2011/12. He recalled the experience gained so far, as summarised by the meeting of the Bureaux of the Regional Forestry Commissions.

49. Mr Dominique Reeb presented the proposal of the EFC Executive Committee for the agenda of the twenty-second session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (Annex II). The Commission endorsed the proposal and requested the EFC secretariat to incorporate forest governance, particularly in relation to forest tenure and access rights as well as SDGs, as an additional item with reference to a similar recommendation from the North American Forest Commission. The recommendation for the attention of the twenty-ninth session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe was also discussed (also in Annex II). The Commission endorsed the proposal suggesting that the EFC secretariat align the language on the landscape approach with that of the twenty-first session of COFO and, in addition, ensure that the recommendation on boreal forests is linked to the Strategic Framework of FAO.

(g) Election of officers

50. In accordance with its Rules of Procedure and established practice, the Commission elected: Mr Rob Busink (The Netherlands) as chair, Mr Andrey Filipchuk (Russian Federation), Ms Christine Farcy (Belgium), and Mr Kenan Kilic (Turkey), as vice-chairs, to hold office until the end of the thirty-eighth session.

51. Mr Heikki Granholm and Mr Andrey Filipchuk, co-chairs, thanked warmly the outgoing office-holders, Mr Peter Blombäck (Sweden) and Mr Bekir Kayacan (Turkey), and expressed appreciation for their valuable contribution to the Integrated Programme of Work and joint activities.

(h) Date and place of next session

52. It was agreed that the next session of the European Forestry Commission be organised jointly with the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry in 2015. Switzerland reiterated its offer, made at the opening of Metsä2013, to host the next COFFI/EFC joint session and the European Forest Week in the Swiss Alps in 2015. The Commission and the Committee welcomed the offer and the proposal was adopted.

53. Portugal and France noted that, while not opposing the organization of the joint session and appreciating the kind offer of the Government of Switzerland, this should not be seen as creating a precedent with regard to the periodicity of joint meetings.

4. ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry matters

(a) Matters arising from the sixty-fifth session of the ECE

54. Ms Paola Deda, secretary of COFFI, informed the meeting of decisions adopted by the ECE at its sixty-fifth session, held in April 2013 in Geneva that are relevant to the Integrated Programme of Work. In particular, the ECE review of the 2005 reform stressed that the Timber and Forestry sub-programme, the Committee and its related subsidiary bodies work within current mandates in an efficient way, producing concrete results in a regular and ongoing way, have clear value added and attract extra budgetary funding. It also underlined that they benefit from well-established, long-term cooperation between ECE and FAO and the implementation of an Integrated Programme of Work.

55. In line with the ECE review, the Committee requested its Bureau, with the assistance of the COFFI secretariat, to develop draft Rules of Procedure for the Committee compatible with those of the ECE, to be adopted at the next session of the Committee.

(b) Matters arising from the seventieth session of the Committee

56. The Committee was informed by the COFFI secretariat about actions undertaken as a follow-up to the decision taken at its last session.

(c) ECE Biennial evaluation plan and programme of work 2014-2015

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/9 - FO: EFC/2013/9 (Biennial evaluation plan of the Forestry and timber sub-programme for 2014-2015)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/10/Rev.1 - FO: EFC/2013/10/Rev.1 (Draft programme of work of the Forestry and timber sub-programme for 2014-2015)

57. The biennial evaluation plan and the draft programme of work for the ECE Forestry and timber sub-programme for 2014-2015 were presented to delegates. The Committee then adopted the biennial evaluation plan and the draft programme of work for the ECE Forestry and timber sub-programme for 2014-2015, as contained in the documents above.

(d) Election of officers

58. The co-chair, Heikki Granholm, noted the departure of Ms Linda Langner and expressed his thanks for her excellent services over the years, and mentioned that she had been a Bureau member from October 2008 to September 2013.

59. The Committee elected its chair and vice-Chairs, who will hold office until the end of the seventy-second session: Mr Heikki Granholm (Finland) as chair and Ms Anna Zornaczuk-Luba (Poland), Mr Christoph Dürr (Switzerland) and Mr Guy Robertson (USA) as vice-chairs.

(e) Date and place of next session

60. Mr Alexander Panfilov proposed, on behalf of the Russian Federation, to host the 72th session of COFFI in 2014, in the city of Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan. A video on Kazan was projected and Mr Nail Magdeev, Minister of Forestry of the Republic of Tatarstan, gave a presentation on forests in the region and the work of the government on sustainable forest management. The Committee welcomed the offer and accepted the proposal. The co-chair, Mr Heikki Granholm, jointly with Mr Andrey Vasilyev, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECE, expressed gratitude for the offer put forward by the Russian Federation. The Russian Federation also suggested that the COFFI session in 2014 focuses on the implementation of the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy.

5. Outcome of the 10th session of United Nations Forum on Forests and implications for the ECE region

(a) Regional inputs, forests and economic development

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/Inf.1 - FO: EFC/2013/Inf.1

61. The joint secretariat introduced this agenda item, recalling that the publication, "Forests and Economic Development," was prepared as regional input to the 10th meeting of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF10). The joint secretariat indicated that a similar input could be prepared by the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section for the next meeting of UNFF, focusing on progress made towards the achievement of the global objectives on forests and SFM, and on challenges for forests and the forest sector in the ECE region. In the ensuing discussion, participants noted the usefulness and the high level of interest in the publication issued for UNFF10. Similarly, they underscored the

importance of providing regional input to UNFF11 based on the information available in 2014. This publication should be focused on the issues described above and should not address the general political discussion under the International Arrangement on Forests.

62. The Committee and the Commission mandated the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section to develop the study on progress towards the achievement of the global objectives on forests and SFM, and on challenges for forests and the forest sector in the ECE region and to submit the draft of the study for comments to member States during 2014, in order to issue the final study in time for it to be presented at the 11th session of the UNFF in mid2015.

63. The meeting also underscored the valuable contribution of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) chaired by FAO.

(b) Review of the effectiveness of the International Arrangement on Forests

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/Inf.2 - FO: EFC/2013/Inf.2

64. Mr Juergen Blaser addressed the meeting in his capacity as a member of the independent review team working on the independent assessment of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF). He explained the purpose of the IAF assessment, introduced its mandate and the composition of the team. He also informed the meeting on the process for the review and the organization of the work and concluded with the challenges that such an assessment presents.

65. The Committee and the Commission took note of the information and invited member States to approach the IAF consultants working in the region to provide input.

(c) Role of forests in the post-2015 development agenda

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/11 - FO: EFC/2013/11

66. Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales delivered a presentation highlighting the strategic importance of properly reflecting forests in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He described the global process for the development of SDGs and the options for reflecting forest issues in them. He underscored the importance of the SDGs raising the profile of forests, the need to reflect the multifunctionality of forests in the related goal(s) and to build on global objectives on forests, and existing criteria and indicators. In the ensuing discussion, member States considered the possible development of a forest SDG and related targets and indicators.

67. The meeting stressed the importance of identifying ways to properly recognize the role of forests in sustainable development, although some countries noted that they were not yet in a position to state how they would like to have forests treated in the SDGs. In his conclusions, Mr. Heikki Granholm, co-chair of the session, noted the high interest in the issue and the need to continue discussions and exchanges on the topic among experts and to encourage their involvement in the debate.

68. In this context, the Committee and the Commission requested that the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section organizes an expert workshop in Geneva between 22 and 24 January 2014 to exchange views and develop ideas on how to strategically include forests in the sustainable development goals and to report accordingly to the Open Working Group meeting in New York in February 2014. The Committee and the Commission underscored the importance for forests experts to participate actively in the New York meeting. Because the meetings dates coincide, the Assistant Director General, Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales, suggested that the Liaison Unit Madrid be asked to consider postponing the Valladolid meeting to a later date in order to avoid this overlap.

6. Joint Committee/Commission matters

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

69. Mr Steve Smith, from the European Commission, presented “A new EU Forest Strategy: for forests and the forest-based sector”, adopted by the European Commission in September 2013. This document replaces the previous strategy of 1998, with the aim of better reflecting the growing demands placed on forests by society, while also addressing the increasing threats that these ecosystems have to face. The strategy provides a holistic framework to be applied when developing policies that relate to forests or the forest-based sector. It reflects three principles: SFM, resource efficiency and global responsibility; and identifies eight priority areas. Mr Jeremy Wall, from the European Commission, provided complementary information on the related forest-based industry strategic approach, also called the “blue-print”, which is linked to the strategy, although it was developed as a stand-alone document. It contains a list of 12 sets of challenges to be addressed by the forest-based industry for the period 2012-2020. He also informed delegates that the new study on wood availability in the EU will be published shortly on the Internet.

70. Ms Eurne Lacalle, from the Liaison Unit Madrid, referred to the decisions taken by Ministers at the FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference which took place in Oslo in June 2011 on a vision and mission, goals and targets for European forests and the mandate given to the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop a legally binding agreement in Europe (INC). She also described the implementation of the FOREST EUROPE work plan adopted in March 2012 by the Expert Level Meeting. Finally, she announced that the next Expert Level Meeting would take place at the beginning of February 2014 in Valladolid, Spain.

71. Mr Peter Csoka reported on FAO activities in servicing the negotiations of a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe that had been made possible through a multi-donor trust fund project established under the technical cooperation programme. He gratefully acknowledged the support of countries and organizations to servicing the negotiation process through the secondment of staff, contributions to the trust fund and in kind contributions. FAO had serviced the four sessions (6 meetings) of the negotiations and facilitated the participation of delegates from eligible countries through the multi-donor trust fund project. Despite the important progress made, the INC could not reach an agreement on the complete draft negotiating text. At its last session, held in Geneva in November 2013, the INC decided to transmit the text to the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference for consideration and appropriate action. FAO is completing the tasks assigned to it, as secretariat, in the Oslo Mandate and in the Rules of Procedure.

(b) Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/12 - FO: EFC/2013/12 (Action Plan)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/Inf.3 - FO: EFC/2013/Inf.3 (List of activities from the Action Plan to be carried out by ECE/FAO)

72. Mr Arnaud Brizay, Forest Policy Officer at the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, informed delegates on the process that led to the Action Plan, which also reflects the input from the June 2013 special session of the Committee with the Commission held in Geneva.

73. Highlighting the important effort made by all stakeholders in the development of the Action Plan and the relevance of such a document for the transition towards a green economy, a number of countries supported the adoption of the Action Plan and suggested to

endorse the proposal made by Sweden during the opening of the joint session, to name it “the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy”. Austria informed the meeting that it could not support action B.4.6., on which it had placed a scrutiny reserve in June, and expressed its wish to have this activity deleted from the Action Plan.

74. Norway reiterated its concerns that the plan could appear too prescriptive and lead to new monitoring and reporting burdens and that changing the title of the document would better reflect the voluntary status of the Plan. Portugal noted that the decision of the Committee and the Commission should refer to paragraph 8 of document ECE/TIM/2013/12; FO: EFC/2013/12, which underlines the voluntary character of the Action Plan. The Russian Federation indicated some technical changes for the consideration of delegates and these were noted by the joint secretariat.

75. Recalling the non-prescriptive character of the Action Plan, which contains recommendations to governments, international organizations and stakeholders, who are free to adopt it in full or in part or not at all - as well as to adapt it, the Committee and the Commission decided:

- To delete action B.4.6.
- To reflect the technical and editorial changes proposed during the discussion.
- To adopt the Action Plan and call it “The Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy” (Annex III).

76. The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and International Forestry Student Association (IFSA) welcomed the adoption of the Rovaniemi Action Plan and expressed their appreciation that an objective on forestry education (C5) was included. They briefly reported on the outcome of the successful European Forest Week side-event that they had jointly organized on 11 December 2013.

77. UNEP also welcomed the conclusion of this important work and, recalling possible synergies with UNEP’s work, indicated its willingness to work with ECE, FAO and other relevant organisations for the implementation of this Action Plan.

78. The meeting considered and approved the list of activities as contained in the document ECE/TIM/2013/Inf.3 - FO: EFC/2013/Inf.3 (List of activities from the Rovaniemi Action Plan to be carried out by the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section).

(c) Integrated Programme of Work (2014-2017), including the Terms of Reference for subsidiary bodies (Joint Working Party for Forest Statistics, Economics and Management and Teams of Specialists)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/13 - FO: EFC/2013/13 (Programme of Work)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/14 - FO: EFC/2013/14 (Terms of Reference)

79. Delegates were presented with the draft Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW), which includes the inputs from the special session of the Committee with the Commission. The EFC secretariat presented, in agreement with the Executive Committee, separately from the draft, necessary legal and editorial changes, particularly with regard to a decision on the periodicity of joint sessions.

80. The Committee and the Commission were invited to review and adopt the programme, including the relevant Terms of Reference for the subsidiary bodies.

81. The Russian delegation requested that the FAO secretariat provide information on the concrete grounds for the amendments that were suggested at the last moment to the agreed text of the draft IPoW, and whether it was done upon the request of any particular

member State. Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales, FAO, explained that the changes were proposed by the FAO Legal Office to ensure that the necessary procedural and constitutional provisions of FAO are respected. He indicated that the joint session could not make a prescriptive decision on holding joint COFFI/EFC sessions in the future as part of the IPoW because of implications in relation to the EFC Rules of Procedure, but could encourage such arrangements.

82. The Russian representative underscored that these proposals were given just before the meeting in Rovaniemi in violation of Rules of Procedure and with no opportunity given to countries to carefully scrutinise these proposals in the capitals. He also requested that specific references be provided for legal documents to which Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales was referring and stated that the decisions on such matters rest with member States and not with the secretariat.

83. Mr Rojas-Briales then quoted rule IV (.1 and .2) of the EFC Rules of Procedure³. The representative of the Russian Federation thanked Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales for the information received, although disagreeing with the argument made, and reiterating the point that the decisions on the format and timing of sessions of the EFC should be made by member States as the quoted rule clearly states.

84. The frequency of joint sessions was discussed. Some countries suggested to have joint sessions for every EFC session. Others suggested not to be prescriptive on this issue, leaving open the possibility for the EFC to decide to have standalone meetings as appropriate.

85. Portugal and Norway requested that the next session allocate sufficient time for EFC matters.

86. The United States accepted the text as amended in paragraph 49 of the Integrated Programme of Work, but noted that the integration of modelling activities is a non-trivial task, especially in terms of developing consistency between European models and already established USA modelling conventions and protocols (notably those associated with the RPA Assessment). The USA will work to facilitate consistency in reporting conventions (e.g. reporting units, time spans and categories), but the extent to which modelling approaches can be integrated, remains to be seen.

87. In response to Norway's request for more information on the cost implications of activities envisaged in the Integrated Programme of Work, the joint secretariat informed the meeting that budget requirements, including the needs for extra-budgetary funding, will be prepared on annual basis.

88. Switzerland stressed, during the discussion on the Terms of Reference of the Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook (as contained in document ECE/TIM/2013/14 - FO: EFC/2013/14), that the data and conclusions of research work done by teams of specialists should be crosschecked with national authorities, especially in the case of nationally relevant information. Norway, supported by Portugal, said that was not in favour of expanding the geographical scope of the Team of Specialists on Forest Policy.

³ EFC Rules of Procedure (FAO/EFC-61/24 Rev.1 Appendix 5) Rule IV Sessions : 1. The Commission shall hold sessions at such periodic intervals as shall be requested by majority of the Members of the Commission or considered necessary by the Director-General of the Organization, but in principle every second year. 2. The sessions of the Commission shall be convened, and the place where they are to be held shall be determined by the Director-General of the Organization, in consultation with the Chairman. The Executive Committee shall meet in connection with each session of the Commission.

89. The Committee and the Commission adopted the Integrated Programme of Work (Annex IV) along with the terms of reference of the Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management as well as those of the Teams of Specialists and related Guidelines (Annex V). The joint secretariat was mandated to produce a paper on work modalities for the joint COFFI/EFC work.

(d) Review of 2013 activities, list of activities for 2014 and publications for 2014-2017

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/15 - FO: EFC/2013/15 (List of activities)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/15/Add.1 - FO: EFC/2013/15/Add.1 (List of ECE/FAO publications for 2014-2017)

90. The meeting took note of the list of activities undertaken by the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section as contained in document ECE/TIM/2013/15 - FO: EFC/2013/15 (List of activities) and approved the list of publications as contained in document ECE/TIM/2013/15/Add.1 - FO: EFC/2013/15/Add.1 (List of ECE/FAO publications for 2014-2017), with the understanding that the latter will be updated to reflect publications decided at the joint Session such as the UNFF11 input (Annex V).

(e) Overview of activities for the International Day of Forests and the European Forest Week

91. Ms Maria de Cristofaro, Communication Officer at FAO, and Ms Nina Peeva, Communication Officer at the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, gave a summary of past and future activities developed to celebrate and promote the International Day of Forests and the European Forest Week (EFW).

7. FAO global activities on Sustainable Forest Management of relevance to the meeting

(a) Overview of the development of FAO tools for sustainable forest management

(b) Overview of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the context of national food security

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/16 - FO: EFC/2013/16 (SFM Toolbox)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/17 - FO: EFC/2013/17 (National Forest Monitoring)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/18 - FO: EFC/2013/18 (Fire Management)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/19 - FO: EFC/2013/19

92. Due to time pressure it was decided to discuss the items 7(a) and 7(b) together. Delegates were briefed by Mr Thomas Hofer, Team Leader at the FAO Forestry Department, on the following FAO work on SFM tools:

- Development of an SFM Toolbox, including educational materials, voluntary guidelines and communication platforms.
- Preparation of voluntary guidelines on national forest monitoring.
- Development of a guidance tool for managing wildfire-related risks at the landscape level.

93. Ms Tiina Vähänen, Associate Secretary-General of the XIV World Forestry Congress of FAO, provided participants with an overview of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines that are applicable to different land uses, including forests. She emphasized that strengthening the governance of forest tenure can significantly contribute to improved livelihoods, food security and poverty alleviation. The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, offer the first comprehensive, internationally negotiated global instrument on the tenure of these resources and their administration.

94. The Commission welcomed the useful tools FAO had developed, and encouraged the translation of these tools into other languages and for countries to make use of them as appropriate. They specifically emphasised the importance of strengthening the work on the implementation of the voluntary guidelines on tenure as well as the development of the SMF toolbox. Given the time constraints, delegates were asked to provide their comments to the secretary of the EFC, Mr Dominique Reeb (dominique.reeb@fao.org).

(c) State and conservation of the World's Forest Genetic Resources

95. The Commission was informed about the preparation of the report on the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources. Reports from eighty-six countries had been received by June 2013, accounting for 85% of total forest area. As requested by the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, FAO will finalize the first draft of the report by the end of 2013. An electronic version of the report will be launched on 21 March 2014, on the occasion of the International Day of Forests. Draft strategic priorities for action for the conservation, sustainable use and development of forest genetic resources will be developed on the basis of regional consultations and information from country reports on this issue. At its 38th Session, in June 2013, the FAO Conference adopted the Global Plan of Action. Delegates welcomed the work of FAO on SOW-FGR as well as collaboration with the Convention on Biological Diversity and encouraged further work.

(d) Information on the Global Timber Forum

96. The panel discussion, conducted under item 2 (b), concluded with a presentation from Ms Tiina Vähänen, Associate Secretary-General of the XIV World Forestry Congress of FAO, on the Global Timber Forum meeting held in Rome in May 2013. This meeting established the Forum, which is an informal information exchange platform for private sector actors for discussing pressing timber industry issues on a global scale, including the harmonisation of legal requirements, the consistency of legal definitions, and the need to advocate for more and better use of wood, particularly in the construction sector.

(e) Conference on Forests for Food Security

97. The Commission was informed about the International Conference on Forests for Food Security and Nutrition, organized by FAO in May 2013. The Conference highlighted the many ways in which forests, trees on farms and agroforestry systems contribute to food security by providing nutritious foods, energy, fodder, pollination, income generation and employment opportunities and important ecosystems services beneficial to agriculture. Participants in the Conference identified key challenges hindering these contributions, including the inadequate representation of forests in national food security and nutrition strategies, and developed recommendations for countries and the international community to address these challenges.

98. The Commission took note of the key messages and recommendations from the Conference and the commitment by FAO to address the issue of forests and food security in a cross sectoral manner in its new Strategic Framework, noting the unique opportunities offered by the socio-economic conditions in the region.

99. The Commission was informed by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), as a member of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, that a follow-up activity had been recently initiated to conduct a global scientific assessment on forests and food security in the framework of its Global Forest Expert Panels initiative (GFEP). GFEP was launched in 2007 to provide objective and independent scientific assessments of key issues in order to support more informed decision-making at the global level. Led by IUFRO, GFEP had established a new Expert Panel on Forests and Food Security. The outcomes of the assessment will be fed into discussions and negotiations in several UN bodies, including the General Assembly. The final report will be launched at the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) 11 in May 2015.

(f) Preparation of the 14th World Forestry Congress to be held in Durban, South Africa in 2015

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2013/20 - FO: EFC/2013/20

100. Ms Tiina Vähänen briefed participants about the preparatory work for the next World Forestry Congress (WFC), scheduled to take place in Durban from 7 to 11 September 2015. She recalled that the purpose of the WFC, which takes place every six years, is to provide a platform for exchanging experiences and views, and shaping a vision for forests and forestry at the global level. The expected outcome of the Congress, usually a declaration, will be brought to the attention of the FAO Conference and the FAO Regional Forestry Commissions, through the Committee on Forestry.

101. The Commission invited Members to support the 14th World Forestry Congress and encouraged the widest possible attendance and participation from all sectors within the Region.

102. The Commission supported the host country's intention to develop a theme under the social agenda, highlighting the gender aspect. They also proposed a number of topics that could be discussed at the technical sessions of the Congress, including forests and climate change; forests and people; integrated approaches across the landscape; the green economy; urban forest issues; and forests as basis for a bio-economy. Participants were invited to send written inputs by 20 December 2013 to the Associate Secretary General of the XIV World Forestry Congress (Tiina.Vahanen@fao.org).

8. Any other business

103. The issue of the non-inclusion of the State of Europe's Forests in the list of UN publications as contained in document ECE/TIM/2013/15/Add.1- FO: EFC/2013/15/Add.1 (List of ECE/FAO publications for 2014-2017) was clarified. As this will not be a UN publication but a FOREST EUROPE one, the joint secretariat indicated that questions on the matter should be addressed by member States in the relevant process. Switzerland emphasised the importance of giving the State of Europe's Forests a high profile and visibility and proposed to have the report printed in all relevant languages and jointly published by ECE, FAO and FOREST EUROPE. The Russian Federation maintained the view that it is crucial to ensure the wide dissemination of the publication under consideration and the necessity for it being translated into Russian. In this regard, it stressed the usefulness of employing the capacities of ECE and FAO for that purpose. It went on to request that the ECE and FAO not transfer the data and information that are made available to them by the Russian Government through the established reporting mechanisms without seeking its prior consent.

9. Adoption of the joint session report and closure of the joint session

104. The Committee and the Commission adopted the present report. They paid tribute to the Government of Finland and the City and people of Rovaniemi for their warm hospitality and excellent organization. The joint secretariat confirmed that the final report in the four languages of the Committee and the Commission would be distributed as soon as possible.

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Annex I

Market Statement 2013

1. Forest products potentially have a stronger role to play in the ECE region, providing sustainable and less carbon intensive raw materials for construction and other innovative uses. The principal uses of wood are well known. Other uses are under development, with innovations that ensure wood's place as an advanced versatile component for all facets of products, including energy.
2. The sector has a great deal of work to do in order to communicate the advantages of using wood. Policies on building standards and public perception have not kept pace with wood's current potential as a building material and for contributing to a truly green economy.
3. Regulations are a concern to the forest products industry and may be affecting the competitiveness of the forest sector. Increasing and changing regulations can provide a barrier to growth, but also may offer perspectives to gain new market opportunities.
4. Global economic growth has been moderate for the last two years (mid 2011 to mid 2013) and is expected to increase only slightly in 2014, remaining below the level attained in the five years before the 2008-2009 financial crisis. Growth in the ECE region is below the global average. Since mid-2009, emerging and developing economies grew solidly, although below recent trend levels, while North America has grown moderately. Europe, however, has stagnated with consistently increasing unemployment that has reached levels not seen in decades.
5. Official forecasts indicate a continuing, slow recovery during 2013 and 2014. At the same time, there are still significant risks for the economy, employment and consumption. In addition, sub-regional economic conditions vary considerably. So, while the outlook for the next two years is cautiously optimistic, a constant monitoring of systemic risks is necessary.

Policy and regulatory developments affecting the forest products sector

6. In 2013, the European Union and the United States began negotiations on a Transatlantic Free Trade Area. Similarly, the EU is also negotiating a Comprehensive Economic & Trade Agreement (CETA) with Canada.
7. In September 2013, the European Commission adopted "A new EU Forest Strategy: for forests and the forest-based sector" and its accompanying "Blueprint for the EU Forest-based Industries". Complete implementation of the European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR), which came into effect on 3 March 2013, will still take some time, as not all of the necessary national measures are yet in place. For example, there is still much work to be done on national sanction regimes, designating the control services, etc. At the private-sector level, operators need to have their due diligence system in place (with or without the assistance of a monitoring organization).
8. Several developments in 2012 and early 2013 could have a major impact on forest policy in the Russian Federation. These include the country's accession to the World Trade

Organization, the regulation of round wood export quotas, and the approved State Programme on the Development of the Forest-based Sector for 2013-2020.

9. The Russian Federation continues to pursue investment projects (value of \$12.5 billion⁴) aimed at making use of its forest resources and creating forest-based products with more value-added.

10. The Lacey Act in the United States, which was first introduced and made into law in 1900, addresses trafficking in illegal wildlife, fish and plants. Following a series of amendments in 2008, the Act requires that certain plants and plant products, including a wide range of wood and forest products, be accompanied by import declarations.

Environment

11. By May 2013, the global area of certified forest, as endorsed by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), amounted to 417 million hectares (which includes some double-counted areas). This is up 8.5% (32.8 million hectares) since May 2012. For the first time, the world's total certified forest area has topped the 10% mark in terms of the proportion of total forest area. In the 12 months prior to May 2013, some 3,766 more certificates of conformity were issued.

12. Carbon trading volume and pricing has suffered from the prolonged financial and economic crises in Europe, political obstacles in the US, slow progress in the negotiations on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the absence of full operational details for REDD+⁵. On a more positive note, more countries are establishing national emission trading schemes, including China and several other large emerging economies. Conversely, Australia and Canada are leaving the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

13. In the US, the American Wood Council has made environmental product declarations available for specific wood product categories, including sawn softwood, softwood plywood, oriented strand board (OSB), and glued laminated timber (glulam).

14. Building codes are gradually moving away from prescriptive to performance-based parameters. With this shift comes greater opportunity to include wood in non-traditional structures, including mid-rise and high-rise commercial constructions. Innovations in several parts of the world have demonstrated the capacity for wood and engineered wood products to provide advantages in diverse types of construction. There are still further opportunities to improve this kind of regulatory framework.

Innovative wood-based products

15. Biorefineries offer an example, where the cost of oil, together with innovative processes that have increased the number of usable wood bio-feeds, has spurred exceptional innovation. The current process can turn more than 90% of the incoming woody biomass into marketable products, such as: construction materials, cosmetics, food, concrete additives, batteries, pharmaceuticals, paints and car-care products.

⁴ 1 USD = 31 RUB

⁵ Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation; plus conservation and sustainable management of forests and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

16. Despite the general slowdown in the construction industry, the cross-laminated timber (CLT) industry has continued to grow, with increased numbers of showcase buildings in more cities. CLT panels are widely used in the construction of wooden buildings-and increasingly in the construction of multi-storey timber structures. CLT has many advantages, including high strength-to-weight ratio, and it can be produced with the final design and application in mind. The result is designer-friendly, easily-assembled, strong (e.g. earthquake resilient), cost-effective and thermally-efficient buildings.

17. There have been a variety of innovations in wood-based products intended to make them more attractive as replacements for existing materials, especially in construction. Innovations in the wood-plastic composites (WPC) industry serve as a good example. In 2010, global WPC production reached 1.5 million tonnes.

18. Wood-fibre insulation is produced in similar forms to mineral or glass wool insulation – namely rigid boards, semi-rigid boards and flexible rolls. Its thermal conductivity is comparable to that for mineral and glass fibre.

19. Thermally modified timber (TMT) is also a good example of innovation to replace competing products. The resulting product is particularly well suited to outdoor applications, with a greatly reduced need for wood preservatives or more expensive alternatives.. In 2012, European production of TMT reached 315,000 m³; North America produced about 100,000 m³ of TMT.

20. Innovations in the forest products sector not only meet the immediate needs of the consumer, but also support long-term strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the life-cycle of the various products.

I. Summary of regional and subregional markets

21. The overall situation of forest products markets in the ECE region is mixed. European markets continue to suffer as a result of the prolonged recession and stagnation in the subregion. A notable exception to this trend in Europe has been Turkey, which has seen major growth in the consumption of most forest products.

22. In the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), growth has been moderate. Investment in new processing plants, the Russian Federation's accession to the WTO, stronger domestic consumption and the proximity of key export markets for most products have given the subregion grounds for optimism.

23. North America has seen fairly strong and positive movements in most markets. This is due to the recovering housing sector, the improved economic situation in the US and increased exports to Asia. However, in 2009 consumption fell the furthest in the North American subregion. Therefore, while there are strong signs of improvement, in 2012 the subregion consumed between 5% and 16% less of most forest products than in 2008.

24. In Europe, the market for forest products remains stagnant. However, there is hope that despite low levels of construction, wood can take a bigger share of construction materials.

Wood raw materials

25. Consumption increased by roughly 20% since 2009 to reach a total of just over 1 billion m³ in 2012. From 2011 to 2012, the increase was slightly less than 1%, with different trends in the three ECE subregions.

26. In the CIS, consumption was practically unchanged from 2011, whereas log demand fell by about 1% in Europe and was up by almost 4% in North America.

27. The mountain pine beetle epidemic will have strong future ramifications in North America, especially for western Canada, where it has killed more than 50% of the commercial sized pine volume in the province of British Columbia and moved across the continental divide (outside of its historical range) into neighbouring Alberta. The interior west of the US has also seen serious losses from the beetle.

28. Net exports of logs from the ECE region in 2012 reached the highest level since 2007, with total exports reaching 83 million m³ and imports falling almost 5 million from 2011 to 58 million m³ in 2012. The biggest changes in trade occurred in North America, where export volumes of logs to Asia were up over 30% and in Europe where demand for imported logs, mainly softwood, fell by 8% in 2012. Conversely, Europe's off shore exports of hardwood logs have increased. The major global log trade flows continue to be from the Russian Federation, New Zealand and the US to China, although Russian shipments have fallen substantially over the past five years.

29. In 2012, approximately 182 million m³ of the total wood harvest in the ECE region, or about 15% of total removals, was estimated to have been wood fuel.

30. There has been increased competition for raw material resulting in substantial sawlog price increases in the ECE region during 2012 and 2013. These occurred in the western US, western Canada, the Nordic countries and the Baltic States. In some areas of central Europe, prices reached record levels.

31. The costs of wood fibre for the world's pulp mills trended downwards during much of 2011 and 2012 because of reduced pulp and paper production, and in some regions, as a result of a higher supply of lower-cost fibre.

32. The COFFI forecasts that ECE region industrial roundwood removals will increase at an annual rate of 1.5% in 2013 and 1.1% in 2014, with a subregional breakdown as follows: Europe +2% in 2013 and +1.5% in 2014; CIS +3.8% in 2013 and +2.5% in 2014; and North America at +0.1% in 2013 and +0.3% in 2014.

Sawn softwood

33. The continuing economic uncertainty in Europe took its toll on the construction market, which had a direct impact on the sawn softwood market, with consumption dropping by 2.8% in 2012 to about 85.7 million m³.

34. The European debt crisis was responsible for weak consumption, especially in the traditionally larger markets Germany (-6.1%), France (-6.7%), Italy (-13.7%), Netherlands (-13.8%).

35. In some parts of Europe, there were also signs that the worst could be over. For example, consumption in the UK grew by 4.3% in 2012; Turkey continues to grow (+3.2% in 2012) and is now the fifth largest market in Europe.

36. There is still over-capacity in the European sawmill industry, which has resulted in low profitability, or in many cases, losses. With weak domestic demand, European overseas exports increased by 9% to roughly 18 million m³ in 2012.

37. CIS output increased by 2.9% to almost 34 million m³, with the Russian Federation accounting for almost 89% of this – its sawn softwood production increased by 3.4% to reach 30 million m³ in 2012.

38. Sawn softwood exports from the Russian Federation in 2012 increased by 3% to 19.4 million m³ - the highest volume since 2007. China was the destination for 6.2 million m³ or 32% of all Russian exports, followed by Uzbekistan (2.1 million m³) and Egypt (1.7 million m³).

39. North American apparent sawn softwood consumption soared by 8.2% in 2012 over 2011, to reach 78.3 million m³. US sawn softwood output in 2012 was 48.8 million m³ (+7.2%) as compared with 2011, with production gains being spread relatively evenly throughout the US. Canada's sawn softwood production rose more slowly, due to timber supply issues in British Columbia and Québec, to reach 39.4 million m³ (+5.4%).

40. The long-term trend in China is for rising dependence on imported sawn softwood from North America and the outlook is for stable to higher export volumes, as well as prices increasing in China.

41. Supply-chain dislocations in North America, coupled with strong demand in China and Japan, created soaring prices until early in the second quarter of 2013. But slowing demand and surging sawnwood production created an oversupplied market and prices crashed hard throughout the second quarter of 2013.

42. The expectations are for a gradual improvement in North American sawn softwood consumption and prices, led by US residential new construction growth.

43. The COFFI forecasts that ECE region sawn softwood production will increase at an annual rate of 2.3% in 2013 and 1.9% in 2014, with a subregional breakdown as follows: Europe +0.3% in 2013 and +2.5% in 2014; CIS +2.8% in 2013 and +1.4% in 2014; and North America at +4.2% in 2013 and +1.5% in 2014.

Sawn hardwood

44. Total apparent consumption of sawn hardwood across the ECE region was 29.6 million m³ in 2012, a 0.7% decline over 2011. In 2012, slight increases in consumption in North America and the CIS were offset by a fall in consumption in Europe.

45. In Europe, the economic and financial crises and a low level of construction activity led to a 3.4% decline in European consumption of sawn hardwood to 12.9 million m³ during 2012.

46. Apparent consumption of sawn hardwood in the CIS increased by 2.8% in 2012 to 1.9 million m³. In the Russian Federation in 2012, sawn hardwood production increased by 1.4% to 2.2 million m³ and exports increased by 0.6% to 860,000 m³. Exports from the Russian Federation to China were 763,000 m³ in 2012. This follows a big rise in exports to China between 2009 and 2011, stimulated by the Russian Federation's introduction of log export taxes.

47. North American sawn hardwood consumption increased by 1.3% to 14.8 million m³ in 2012. Growth continued in the first half of 2013, but may slow in the last six months of the year.

48. The overall shift in sawn hardwood trade flows away from the ECE region towards emerging economies continued into 2012. Sawn hardwood imports into the ECE region fell

considerably during 2012. But sawn hardwood production in all three ECE subregions increased in 2012, driven mainly by rising export demand, particularly in Asia. In just five years, net trade in sawn hardwood by the ECE region has increased from only 74,000 m³ to 3.2 million m³.

49. The COFFI forecasts ECE region sawn hardwood production will increase at an annual rate of 1.7% in 2013 and 0.7% in 2014, with a subregional breakdown as follows: Europe +2% in 2013 and +1.6% in 2014; CIS +0.3% in 2013 and +1.7% in 2014; and North America at +1.6% in 2013 and -0.1% in 2014.

Wood-based panels

50. Panel production within North America increased by 4.9% and structural panel production by over 6%. Despite this, capacity utilization rates remain relatively low, ranging from just 58.7% for the medium density fibreboard (MDF) sector to 78% for plywood.

51. By far the strongest growth in demand for structural panels occurred within the residential construction sector, which accounted for 83.4% of the total increase in demand. Imports of wood-based panels into North America declined slightly (-0.4%), with structural panel imports falling by 20%. Exports of wood-based panels grew for the second year in a row (+0.9%) although structural panel exports dropped by 16%. In 2013, the demand for structural panels in North America is forecast to increase by 9% and for non-structural panels by 7%.

52. The demand and consumption of wood-based panels fell in 2012 due to the economic turmoil in Europe. The competition for raw material with the wood energy sector is affecting the panel industry. Both production and imports of wood-based panels fell by about 0.5% in 2012, while exports remained almost unchanged. Increasing demand for wood-based panels in Turkey largely helped to offset weak demand within the rest of Europe. Demand for wood-based panels is projected to increase slightly in 2013 (+1.1%).

53. In the CIS, Russian panel production was up across all three sectors, led by MDF (+5.5%), while plywood production was up by 3.5% and particle board production by 1.8%.

54. The Russian Federation celebrated the opening of its first two OSB mills in 2012. Both mills operated at low capacity utilization rates in 2012 but are expected to reach full production in 2013.

55. Russian panel exports surged in 2012 (+29%), following an 8.7% decline in 2011. The outlook for 2013 is moderate with consumption expected to increase slightly, by 3.4% over 2012.

56. The COFFI forecasts the ECE region wood-based panels production will increase at an annual rate of 0.5% in 2013 and 3.6% in 2014, with a subregional breakdown as follows: Europe -0.5% in 2013 and +1.3% in 2014; CIS +1.4% in 2013 and +2.7% in 2014; and North America at +1.7% in 2013 and +3% in 2014.

Paper, paperboard and wood pulp

57. The pulp, paper and paperboard market remained in flux due to on-going large reductions in graphic paper capacity in Europe and North America. At the same time, South America continued to expand its chemical market pulp capacity and Southeast Asia

increased the number of paper and paperboard installations in order to serve its rapidly growing economies. The ramifications of these and other changes are resulting in an unprecedented global shift in pulp and paper supply.

58. Despite major capacity closures across several pulp, paper and paperboard grades in Europe and North America, production capacity is still too high when measured against falling or static apparent consumption which applies to most grades. In all major regions, only paperboard and hygienic production and apparent consumption remained strong.

59. Global demand for pulp, paper and paperboard remained largely static, reflecting the continuing economic recession in many European countries and China's slowing economic growth in 2012.

60. The popularity of the Internet and smart phones to transfer data and communicate continued the incentive to reposition advertising dollars from print media to electronic platforms. Thus demand for printing and writing grades of paper continued to decline across western Europe, the CIS, North America and Japan.

61. In general, prices for pulp and paper fell in mid-2012. Companies reacted quickly to try to reverse this by targeted capacity reductions. Market pulp prices fell mid-year. Those for printing and writing paper remained low after some failed attempts by companies to raise them. Major consolidation in the North American paperboard industry allowed a slight increase in prices. By mid-2013, market pulp producers managed to increase list prices, but heavy discounting meant that real prices barely changed.

62. With so much of the installed capacity in the developed world being old or inefficient, further rationalization is likely to occur across virtually all sectors of the vast pulp, paper and paperboard industry. In contrast, massive capital investment is continuing in South America, the Middle East, North Africa and Asia.

63. The sector has been advancing with green technology, such as wood-based bio refineries and biofuels, hoping to boost income by diversifying revenue streams, such as energy generation from biomass and black liquor.

64. Russian paper production in 2012 fell by 5% from 2011, whereas, during the same period, both chemical pulp and paperboard output grew by 2.2% and 0.5% respectively.

65. The COFFI forecasts that ECE region paper and paperboard production will change by an annual rate of -0.6% in 2013 and +1.2% in 2014, with a subregional breakdown as follows: Europe -1.1% in 2013 and -0.4% in 2014; CIS -1.7% in 2013 and +2.2% in 2014; and North America with no change in 2013 and +0.6% in 2014.

Wood energy

66. Wood energy markets in the ECE region continued to grow in 2012. Whereas wood energy consumption in the industrial sector declined slightly, residential and power-sector demand expanded. The EU28 and the CIS are poised to see large growth in wood energy consumption.

67. The most recent data from the ECE/FAO Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE 2011) show that in 2011, wood energy was the principal component of renewable energy, accounting for 38.4% of all renewables in 28 ECE member countries (ECE/FAO, 2013).

68. The EU is, and will continue to be, the world's largest market for energy from pelletized wood fuel. New and excess capacity in Canada, the CIS, southeast Europe and

the US should be able to match the growing demand. These expected increases in demand are also factors driving the continued investment in spite of the signs of current excess capacity in wood pellet manufacturing in North America and south east Europe.

69. In Europe, key issues for the further development of wood pellet trading appear to be buyer requirements for certification of the forests and wood used for pellets and financial support for renewable energy projects. The European Commission is considering whether to introduce mandatory sustainability criteria for all biomass used for bioenergy.

70. Data from Eurostat (2013) show that the EU27 region produced 3,270 Petajoules (PJ) (327 million m³) of energy from wood and wood waste in 2011. This was a 3.1% decrease from 2010, but still represents a 45.6% rise in absolute wood energy consumption since 2002.

71. The top five wood energy producers are (in order of production): Germany, France, Sweden, Finland and Poland. The latest data from the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry show that the residential sector leads wood energy use in the European subregion (41%), followed by industry (29%), and the power-and-heat sector (28%).

72. Wood pellets dominate trade in wood energy feed stocks within the EU27. The US was the main exporter of wood pellets to the EU27 in 2012, followed by Canada and the Russian Federation. In 2012, the EU27 imported 4.5 million tonnes, mainly from Canada, the Russian Federation and the US.

73. The Russian Federation's domestic consumption of wood energy for heat production is growing, including the use of sawmill co-products, firewood, wood briquettes and pellets. Russian wood pellet production is reported to have increased by about 50% and may have reached 1.5 million tonnes in 2012. An estimated 96% of production was exported.

74. Wood briquette production in the Russian Federation has risen by 20% to approximately 300,000 tonnes a year, of which approximately 40% was sold domestically in 2012.

75. By May 2013, Canada had 49 wood pellet plants, with an estimated capacity of 3.4 million tonnes per year. Some other facilities are in the planning phase, potentially adding capacity by as much as 2 million tonnes per year.

76. In the US, total wood used for energy consumption in 2012 was 26% below the 1985 high of 2,835 PJ. Wood energy continues to decline as a share of renewable energy consumption, contracting from 37% to 22% between 2000 and 2012. This was due to other forms of renewable energy having grown at a much faster pace.

77. Wood energy competitiveness has been reduced by the growing availability of inexpensive natural gas, particularly in North America.

78. According to Biomass Magazine, wood pellet production capacity in the US amounts to 8.2 million tonnes in 2012. The same source reports planned capacities of close to 15 million tonnes within the next four years. Actual wood pellet production is estimated at 1.7 and 4 million tonnes in Canada and the US, respectively.

Value-added wood products

79. Global furniture production was valued at \$450 billion in 2012. China was the largest furniture-manufacturing country, followed by the US, Italy and Germany. Furniture

production in emerging-market countries has grown by 18% per year on average since 2003, due to the strategic repositioning of manufacturers and increased consumption in emerging markets.

80. Furniture production within the ECE region as a whole has been largely flat, but with uneven results across countries and with some countries losing significant market share (Italy's declined by -10.5% from 2011 to 2012).

81. Global furniture trade value has finally exceeded the pre-crisis peak of 2008 by 3%, reaching \$122 billion in 2012 and is forecast to reach \$130 billion in 2013.

82. Many of the engineered wood products have strong credentials for contributing towards a greener economy through wood construction systems that can compete with more carbon intensive non-wood systems. Engineered wood products have made wood a material suitable for large-scale modern buildings and, as a result, the design values and aesthetics of wood are increasingly reflected in areas such as Olympic venues and large multi-storey buildings.

83. Glulam continues to be the engineered wood product with the largest market share in Europe. In northern Europe, laminated veneer lumber (LVL) competes with glulam. Germany is expected to start LVL production with beech (usually, softwoods have been used) in 2013, starting with an annual production capacity of 150,000 m³.

84. North American glulam production was 347,000 m³ in 2012, showing a 21.8% increase since the market's collapse in 2009. Glulam production is forecast to reach 380,000 m³ in 2013.

85. In North America, LVL is mostly used for beam and header applications in new home construction. Production in 2012 was 1.4 million m³, a 20% increase over 2011. The trend is expected to continue and production is forecast to reach 1.6 million m³ in 2013.

86. In 2012, wooden I-beam production in North America grew by 21.7% over 2011. The forecast for I-beam production in 2013 is 198.5 million linear metres, a 71% increase since 2009.

Housing

87. The construction sector is the principal stimulus in the demand for forest products in the ECE region. As housing is recovering in North America, the forest products industry is benefiting from this development. In North America, the US housing market is in the early stages of a housing recovery, yet starts are still near historically low levels. The Canadian housing market is projected to have 189,930 starts for 2013. Concern that Canada is in a housing bubble persists, however as yet the housing market appears healthy.

88. In Europe there was a 57.3% decrease in building permits between 2006 and 2013. The value of new residential construction is predicted to decrease through 2013 and is projected to increase beginning in 2014 – resulting in a rise from €235.3 billion in 2012 to €242.10 billion in 2015.

89. Housing completions in the Russian Federation have reached record levels. A total of 826,800 new dwellings were built in 2012.

Annex II

EFC recommendations for the attention of the Regional Conference for Europe

<i>Priority issues for the Regional Commission to consider</i>	<i>Expected outcome of the considerations (information/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow up activities for FAO</i>
Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy	Information and possible guidance	Support the implementation
Promoting sustainable management of forests and trees in an integrated approach across the landscape in the region	Give guidance to FAO for shaping the work in the region	Support the implementation and strengthen cross the sectoral dimension
Bioenergy	Information and possible guidance	The RC is invited to give attention to this issue in a cross sectoral manner

EFC recommendations for the attention of the Committee on Forestry (COFO)

<i>Priority issues for COFO to consider</i>	<i>Expected outcome of the considerations (information/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow up activities for COFO and FAO</i>
Boreal forests	Decision/recommendation for work priorities for the future, aligned with the FAO Strategic Framework	Develop analyses and outlook for the boreal region, overview of related policies, key issues, lessons learned, linking research to policy, showcasing eco-regional approaches in addressing major forestry challenges
Gender in forestry	Information and further guidance	Review of gender aspects are covered in forestry activities in the context of the new Strategic Framework of FAO
Role of FAO in CPF	Information and possible input to UNFF	The way forward, including possible input to the review process
The forest sector in a green economy: from concept to practice	Information and further guidance	Continue and further the discussion started at COFO21
Forests and the Sustainable Development Goals	Information/Decision	Advise members and FAO on further steps
Forest governance, in particular, forest tenure and access rights	Information and further guidance	Advise members on voluntary guidelines and FAO on related program priorities

Annex III

Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

This annex contains the “Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy” as adopted by “Metsä2013”, the joint meeting of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission, held in Rovaniemi, Finland, from 9 to 13 December 2013.

I. Introduction

A. Background and mandate

1. The Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy was prepared under the auspices of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI, formerly Timber Committee) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC). Their joint Bureaux⁶ developed the idea at their joint meeting in October 2010, deciding on the process and agreeing that the Action Plan should be at the centre of the joint Committee/Commission meeting in 2011, which focused on the forest sector in a green economy. The Action Plan was developed on the basis of an open consultation with member States and stakeholders (see list at the end of the document), consolidated by the secretariat and reviewed by a first stakeholder meeting in May 2011.

2. At their joint session in Antalya (Turkey) in October 2011, the Commission and the Committee welcomed the Action Plan, made detailed comments, agreed on next steps and requested that the secretariat gather further inputs during a second stakeholder meeting, which took place on 26 March 2012 (ECE/TIM/2011/20 - FO:EFC/2011/20, paragraphs 15 and 16).

3. At the 28th session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe in Baku (Azerbaijan) in April 2012, the European Union fully supported the decisions and recommendations of the European Forestry Commission and noted with satisfaction, that the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy developed by the UNECE and FAO will serve as reference for action at the national and international levels.

4. The Commission and the Committee also requested that the secretariat presents the revised Action Plan at the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012. This was done at the side event, “What is YOUR priority action for the forest sector in a green economy?” held in Rio de Janeiro on 22 June 2012. The substantive link between forests as natural resources and a green economy and the role of the Regional Economic Commission have also been laid down in the Rio+20 Outcome Document.

5. The FAO Committee on Forestry in September 2012 “welcomed the ongoing preparation of the UNECE/FAO green economy action plan for the forest sector” (COFO 2012/REP, paragraphs 16 and 17).

⁶ Joint meeting of the TC Bureau and the EFC Executive Committee.

6. The 70th session of the Committee in October 2012 decided to organize a special session with the European Forestry Commission, to be held in the first or second quarter of 2013 to complete the Action Plan and the Integrated Programme of Work (ECE/TIM/2012/14, paragraphs 73). The amendments and other editorial changes requested in October 2012 were reflected in a revised version of the Action Plan, which was circulated on 31 December 2013 for consultations among member States and among other Stakeholders who participated in the stakeholder meetings.

7. The special session of the Committee with the Commission was held on 17 and 18 June 2013 in Geneva. It reviewed a new version of the Action Plan, which included the contributions received during the consultation and received by 31 January 2013. The inputs from the special session were then reflected in a revised version, which was circulated from 12 July to 13 September 2013 among the possible actors cited in the Action Plan so that they can confirm their willingness, or not, to participate in the implementation of relevant activities. However, the list of possible actors for each activity remains open and new partners can always contribute to the implementation of activities.

8. The Action Plan was named the “Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy” and adopted by “Metsä2013”, the joint meeting of the Committee and the Commission, held in Rovaniemi, Finland, from 9 to 13 December 2013.

B. What is the Action Plan?

9. This Action Plan describes how the forest sector in the UNECE region could lead the way towards the emerging green bio-based economy at the global level. It identifies an overall vision, strategies and a number of areas of activity. For each area of activity, it proposes objectives and specific actions, and identifies potential actors, who might contribute to achieving the stated objectives. It is not a binding plan, nor does it contain prescriptive recommendations to Governments, international organizations or stakeholders, who are free to adopt, adapt, in full or in part, or not to implement the Action Plan as they wish. How the Action Plan may be implemented is discussed below (Section G).

10. The Action Plan reflects the ideas of participants in the process but does not constitute a binding commitment by any participant.

11. The Action Plan:

- a) Describes how the UNECE region’s forest sector could contribute to the development of a green economy.
- b) Promotes the sharing and implementation of best practices concerning the green economy.
- c) Promotes the development and implementation of policies for the forest sector which are effective in achieving stated objectives, efficient in the use of resources and equitable in their treatment of all actors, both inside and outside the sector.
- d) Communicates the potential of the UNECE region’s forest sector to policy makers, the general public and decision makers in other sectors.

C. Scope and definitions

12. The Action Plan addresses the forest sector in all of the UNECE region⁷ in the context of the global challenges.

13. For the purposes of the Action Plan, the forest sector includes the management of all forest, taking into account the pan-European set of criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management as well as:

- a) The whole range of functions they provide.
- b) The production, consumption and trade of wood and non-wood forest products and services.

14. The green economy, according to UNEP, is a system which results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. In its simplest expression, a green economy can be thought of as one which is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive.

15. The forest sector in a green economy is, therefore, a forest sector which contributes to the emerging green economy by improving human well-being and social equity while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. In every aspect of its activities, it minimises its carbon emissions, uses its resources efficiently and is socially inclusive.

16. Preparing the forest sector for the green economy is fully compatible with making progress towards sustainable forest management. Indeed a forest sector which plays a leading role in a green economy is promoting sustainable development, in the forest sector and outside it.

D. Vision

17. The Action Plan is based on the following vision of the forest sector in a green economy:

- *In a green economy, the forest sector makes a maximum contribution to human well-being, through the supply of marketed and unmarketed forest goods and services, and the creation of revenue and livelihoods, while conserving forest biodiversity, and maintaining and developing forest ecosystem services on a sustainable basis, all within the context of a changing climate. A green economy opens up additional opportunities for growth and employment in the forest sector.*
- *In a green economy, the forest sector protects the welfare of all stakeholders, including forest dependent indigenous peoples, forest owners, forest industry and the forestry workforce, uses all resources wisely and economically, and contributes to the mitigation of climate change through both sequestration and substitution, while providing tools for climate change adaptation of societies.*
- *In a green economy, forest sector governance systems take into full account all of the ecosystem services provided by the forest, compensating suppliers for providing them whenever appropriate. Progress is monitored in a transparent way, and policies adjusted to reach the goals which will be agreed at the national, regional or local levels. The forest sector learns from other parts of the emerging green economy and shares its own experience with them, to mutual benefit.*

⁷ The UNECE region covers 56 countries in Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and North America.

18. The vision and the Action Plan as a whole take into account the commitments made by ECE region Governments in other processes and especially the European Forest 2020 decision adopted at the last FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference in June 2011 and the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests adopted by the General Assembly in December 2007 on the recommendation of the 7th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

E. Overall Goal of the Action Plan

19. The forest sector in the UNECE region makes the greatest possible contribution to the emerging green economy.

F. Principles for the UNECE region forest sector in the emerging green economy

20. The Action Plan proposes that by 2020, the ECE forest sector be applying the following principles, to achieve its overall goal. The forest sector:

- Uses all its resources, especially those arising from the forest, wisely and economically, minimising waste, recovering, reusing and recycling as much as possible. It consumes only products from forests which can demonstrate that they are managed sustainably.
- Contributes to mitigation of climate change by sequestering carbon in forests and forest products, and by substituting renewable wood-based products and fuels for non-renewable products and fuels.
- Cares for and builds up its workforce, developing the necessary skills and significantly improving the occupational safety and health of workers and giving due consideration to gender equality.
- Makes sure that the situation of forestry education is reviewed and improved.
- Takes all externalities fully into account in policy making, introducing payment for forest ecosystem services whenever appropriate.
- Bases its governance on evidence-based decision making and the transparent monitoring of progress towards sustainable forest management.
- Provides products and services of high user/consumer value.
- Seeks the active participation of civil society and the private sector.

G. Follow-up to the Action Plan

21. The Action Plan proposes a vision, strategies and objectives for the forest sector in the UNECE region, and possible actions to achieve these. These could be implemented, if they wish so, by international organisations, governments of member States, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders. For each action, possible actors were identified by the stakeholder meetings.

22. This Action Plan is meant to inspire action and provide the basis for plans and activities to focus on the contribution of forests in a green economy. It provides suggestions and is not a work programme for any of the bodies mentioned.

23. The UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission invite their member governments to consider how they can contribute

to the implementation of the Action Plan. Some countries could choose to develop voluntary national action plans or green economy measures for their forest sector based on the Action Plan. UNECE/FAO could assist those countries in developing such plans or measures by facilitating policy dialogues and capacity building activities.

24. It is also suggested that UNECE/FAO draws the attention of other possible actors, in particular the private sector to the Action Plan, and invites them, without any obligation, to make use of the Action Plan, especially by implementing actions for which they have been identified as a possible actor. In this regard, public-private partnerships seem to be an effective way to disseminate the green economy approach within the forest sector.

25. For their part and taking into account available resources, the Committee and the Commission will prioritize and incorporate relevant actions in their area of competence and identified by the Action Plan into their own annual lists of activities, ensuring that the Action Plan and the Integrated Programme of Work are fully consistent with each other. The proposed list of activities from the Action Plan that are incorporated in the Programme of Work can be found in document ECE/TIM/2013/Inf.3-FO:EFC/2013/Inf.3.

26. The Action Plan was also developed to be used as a tool for communication with other sectors and for awareness raising. It is therefore proposed that the Committee and the Commission monitor progress of the forest sector towards a green economy and prepares, as a part of its Integrated Programme of Work, a report on “the Forest Sector in a Green Economy in the ECE region” using existing information. The secretariat will prepare in due course a proposal on how to proceed with the evaluation for the consideration of the Committee and the Commission.

II. The Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

27. The Action Plan consists of 5 pillars with their respective areas of activity:

A. Sustainable production and consumption of forest products

0. Strategies for sustainable production, consumption and trade of forest products including non-wood forest products
1. Certification of sustainable forest management and related labelling as well as other standards for sustainable forest management
2. Procurement practices, both public and private
3. Wood mobilisation and increasing the potential sustainable wood supply
4. Innovation in forest management and in the production and use of forest products
5. Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)
6. Policies and standards for green building.
7. Ensure and monitor legality of forest products

B. A low carbon forest sector

0. Strategies for the low carbon forest sector
1. Substitution of non-renewable materials and energy
2. Efficient production, processing and use of wood: eliminating waste from forest to consumer

3. Adaptation of the forest to a changing climate
4. Carbon sequestration and storage

C. Decent green jobs in the forest sector

0. Strategies for decent green jobs in the forest sector, including gender equality
 1. A skilled workforce
 2. Safety and health of the forestry workforce
 3. Efficient forest operations
 4. Socio-economic impacts of green economy policies
 5. Forestry education preparing specialists for future challenges

D. Long term provision of Forest Ecosystem Services

0. Strategies for the long term provision of Forest Ecosystem Services
 1. Valuation of forest ecosystem services
 2. Payment and markets for forest ecosystem services: moving from theory to practice
 3. Forests and human health and well being

E. Policy development and monitoring of the forest sector in relation to a green economy

0. Strategies for governance and monitoring of the forest sector in the green economy
 1. Policy instruments and institutional frameworks for the forest sector in a green economy
 2. Implementation and improvement of criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management
 3. Assessment of sustainable forest management in the region
 4. Communication, promotion and raising of awareness of sustainable forest management, the forest sector and their role in a green economy
 5. Cooperation and coordination with other parts of the green economy

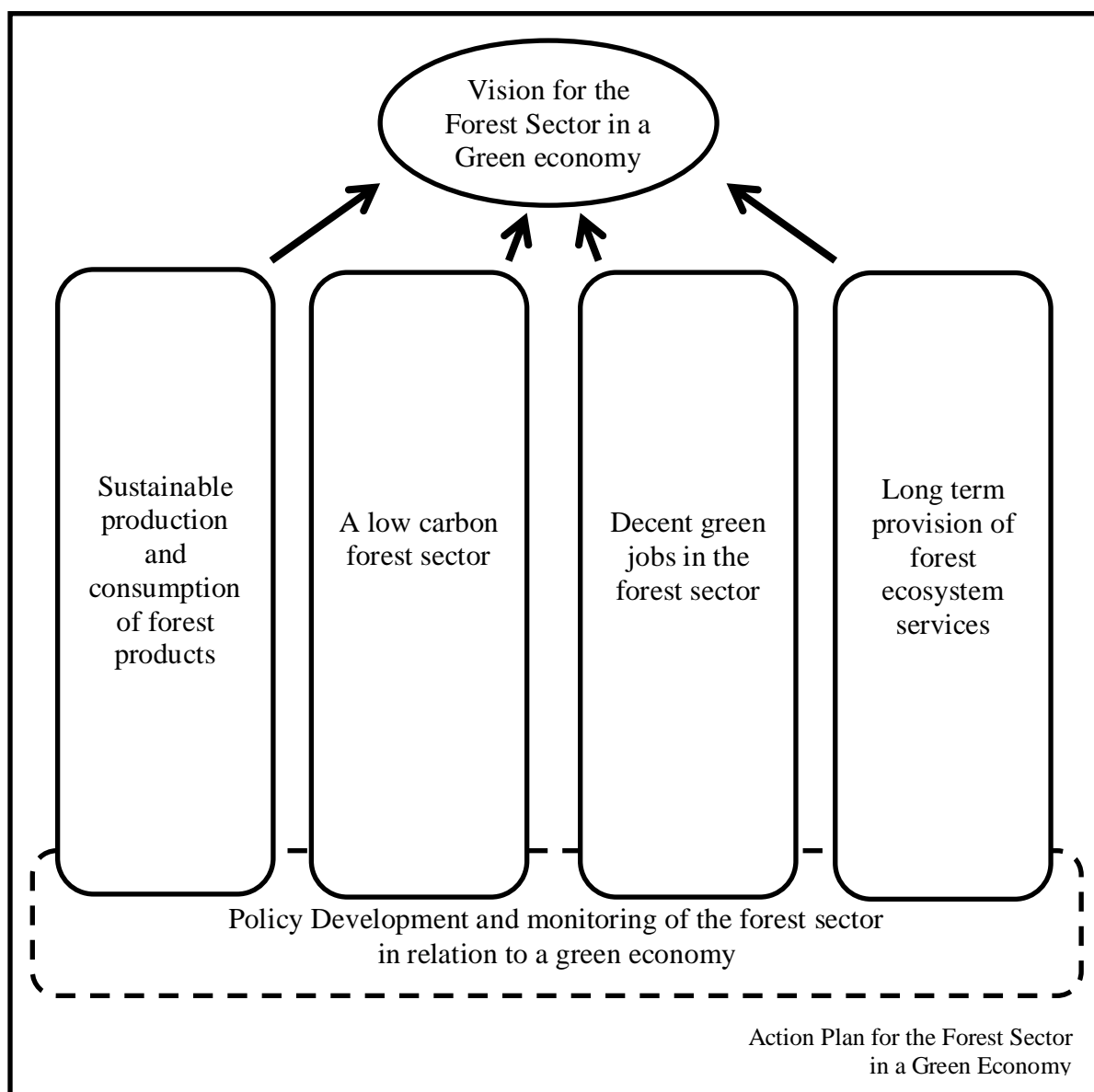


Figure 1: Graphic illustration of the Action Plan

Pillar A: Sustainable production and consumption of forest products

Goal: Patterns of production, consumption and trade of forest products are truly sustainable

	Possible actions	Possible actors ^{8 9}
A.0	<i>Objective: To develop and communicate realistic and ambitious strategies for sustainable patterns of production, consumption and trade of forest products and the related services¹⁰.</i>	
A.0.1	Develop strategies for sustainable production and consumption in the green economy, including, but not only, forest products and the related services.	Governments and private sector, consumer organisations
A.0.2	Review challenges and opportunities for sustainable consumption patterns for forest products and the related services (e.g. through a high level conference).	UNECE/FAO*, stakeholders, ARCMED
A.0.3	Promote the use of sustainable forest products (solid, reconstituted, fibre, products of biorefineries) in all sectors.	Private sector, stakeholders, governments, FCN, ARCMED
A.0.4	Ensure that the forest sector is appropriately represented at all international forums on sustainable consumption and production.	All forest related international organisations, governments, stakeholders, ARCMED
A.0.5	Evaluate the risks and benefits of including genetically modified trees in sustainable forest management and encourage public dialogue on this question.	Science, stakeholders, (including consumer associations, forest owners, EUSTAFOR), governments, FAO
A.1	<i>Objective: To ensure that consumers are fully and accurately informed whether the forest products they purchase come from sustainable sources, and that certification and labelling systems encourage the sound and sustainable use of wood and forest products.</i>	
A.1.1	Maintain monitoring of developments in certification and labelling, preferably with more analysis of the impact of certification and labelling in the marketplace.	UNECE/FAO*, EU ¹¹ , certification systems ¹² , science

⁸ Activities that are incorporated into the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work for 2014-2017 are marked with an asterisk.

⁹ The leading actors are mentioned first.

¹⁰ Services may be related, e.g., to forest products (maintenance, planning, servicing, monitoring, programming, patents, R&D, education, consulting, etc.), forests (tourism, recreation, inventory and monitoring, forestry services, etc.), and more generally the "Ecosystem services" (climate services, protection services, etc.) For the ecosystem services, see Part D.

¹¹ During the last round of consultation, EEA informed that it would focus on activities where the EU and/or JRC were identified as possible actors and would monitor other activities to contribute as appropriate.

¹² Both PEFC and FSC confirmed its willingness to contribute to activities where certification systems are identified as potential actors. FSC was particularly interested in A.1.1, A.1.4 and mentioned that it was already involved in activities such as those proposed for A.1.5.

A.1.2	Consider policy frameworks for harmonised labelling and certification systems for forest products.	UNECE/FAO*, stakeholders, including certification systems, EU, governments, stakeholders/private sector
A.1.3	Further develop standards and guidelines at a national and local level which may satisfy the requirements of more than one certification system, thus simplifying procedures and reducing costs.	Governments, certification systems, forest owners, all stakeholders
A.1.4	Review experience with certification of forest owners/managers and stakeholders throughout the value chain: has it changed silvicultural practice? Are the costs bearable? Has it opened new markets or developed old markets? Has forest certification given a competitive edge to its users throughout the value chain?	Science, certification systems, forest owners, stakeholders,
A.1.5	Further develop, in a holistic manner, standards that consider forestry in the context of other land uses, making forest certification relevant to non-traditional forest users, and adaptable to the needs of those that are not yet certified and for whom forest certification may currently be a barrier, in order to further encourage the sound and sustainable use of wood and forest products.	Certification systems, forest owners, EUSTAFOR, all stakeholders
A.2	<i>Objective: To help public and private buyers of forest products to develop and implement procurement rules which encourage sustainable practices and promote demand for certified forest products.</i>	
A.2.1	Link the development of procurement policies to existing legislation and practice on sustainable consumption and production.	EU and other procurement authorities, certification systems
A.2.2	Work to promote procurement policies, public and private, that adequately take into account sustainability considerations, for instance the use of certified forest products, and do not discriminate against forest products.	Procurement authorities, EU, governments, private sector and consumer organisations, ARCMED
A.3	<i>Objective: To ensure that wood supply from the region's forests is sufficient to satisfy, on a sustainable basis, society's needs for renewable raw materials and sources of energy.</i>	
A.3.1	Generate information and data to support effective forest planning, including through national forest inventories.	UNECE/FAO*, FOREST EUROPE, ITTO (CFRQ initiative), JRC, governments
A.3.2	Take into consideration the <i>Good practice guidance on sustainable mobilisation of wood in Europe</i> (2009) or equivalent North American guidelines and initiatives when developing wood mobilisation policies and instruments.	Governments, private sector, forest owners, stakeholders
A.3.3	Carry out national studies on opportunities to increase the potential sustainable wood supply.	Governments and relevant stakeholders, JRC

A.3.4	Carry out research into the social and economic drivers of wood supply, for instance motives and values of non-traditional forest owners, supply curves for wood removals.	IIASA, EFI, Metla; governments, private sectors and forest owners, JRC, TI, ARCMED
A.3.5	Invest in the forest sector, including forest infrastructure, for wood mobilisation.	Governments, private sector, forest owners, EUSTAFOR
A.4	<i>Objective: To promote innovation in forest management and in the production and use of forest products and the related services so that the forest sector is a competitive supplier of renewable and sustainably produced goods and services.</i>	
A.4.1	Showcase innovative uses of wood and forests, e.g. by regular forums/market places.	Private sector, UNECE/FAO*
A.4.2	Assess the potential and impact of biorefineries.	FTP, private sector,
A.4.3	Review and promote innovation intended to improve efficiency in the use of materials in the manufacturing and processing of forest products, and the competitiveness of the sector.	UNECE/FAO*
A.4.4	Create conditions and approaches which promote innovation (policies, framework conditions and changed attitudes).	Governments, stakeholders, forest industries and relevant stakeholders, ARCMED
A.4.5	Carry out studies on the current status of services related to forest products, and other marketable forest sector services, and their impact in terms of employment and value added.	EFI, research organizations, JRC
A.4.6	Carry out research into the future social and economic drivers of forest sector services, for example, R&D, globalization and the trade in tasks, instead of trade in goods.	EFI, research organizations, JRC, TI
A.5	<i>Objective: To promote the use of LCA data based on internationally agreed standards for all materials at all stages of manufacturing, use and recycling, to support decision making at all levels.</i>	
A.5.1	Present and discuss LCA outcomes, starting from the recommendations of the workshop on LCA “the Green Life of Wood” held in October 2012.	UNECE/FAO*, LCA community, stakeholders
A.5.2	Promote the development and use of tools, including LCA to go beyond measuring and reflecting the carbon/energy/pollution footprint of products to include also an assessment of the influence of a product during its life cycle on biodiversity, human health, the workforce and other social aspects.	LCA community, stakeholders, ISO, UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative, EFI, Certification systems
A.5.3	Participate in LCA strategic decision making, for instance by ensuring that the forest sector is represented at UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative (LCI) Programme.	Governments, private sector
A.5.4	Promote the development and use of environmental product declarations (EPDs) that are impartial between materials and of Type III ecolabels, as per ISO standardised methodologies	Governments, stakeholders
A.5.5	Use LCA tools in accordance with ISO standards to assess options in a comprehensive way, and take this into account in decision making.	Governments, private sector and civil society

A.6	<i>Objective: To contribute to the development of green building standards and promote the equitable treatment of all materials in terms of sustainability.</i>	
A.6.1	Participate actively in strategic thinking on green building, notably by joining the UNEP Sustainable Building and Climate Initiative (SBCI) steering committee and its Technical Advisory Committee on materials.	Private sector, stakeholders
A.6.2	Establish a task force to monitor and analyse developments in green building, in order to bring important trends and issues (e.g. the alleged unfair treatment of forest products) to the attention of policy makers, and monitor whether green building codes, standards and programmes constitute barriers to trade in forest products.	UNECE/FAO*, EFI, governments, private sector organisations
A.6.3	Study the advantages of including in green building standards the carbon footprint of construction materials as well as the characteristics in the use of the building. Promote the conclusions of the study.	Building research institutes (FCBA, etc.)
A.6.4	Inform forest sector stakeholders and stakeholders from other sectors about developments in green building, especially in as much as they affect forest products.	FCN, FCBA
A.6.5	Promote the development and implementation at a national level of green building standards which treat all materials equitably in assessing their environmental impacts in the sourcing, use and waste phases.	National and sub-national governments and relevant stakeholders
A.7	<i>Objective: To ensure that only legally produced forest products enter the market.</i>	
A.7.1	Exchange national experiences with regulations on illegal logging.	TTF, EFI-FLEGT, governments, TI, FOREST EUROPE, UNECE/FAO*
A.7.2	Analyse and monitor the effectiveness and long term impacts and consequences of the US Lacey Act and EU timber trade regulation on the sector (inside and outside the region), with participation from other regions.	EFI, EU, UNECE COFFI, ITTO, UNFF, TI, JRC, FOREST EUROPE, all UNECE member countries
A.7.3	Assess the gap between <i>sustainability</i> and <i>legality</i> in the relevant law of UNECE region countries.	Science, EFI-FLEGT, certification systems, JRC

Pillar B. The low carbon forest sector

Goal: The forest sector makes the best possible contribution to mitigation (sequestration, storage and substitution) of, and adaptation to, climate change

	Possible actions	Possible actors
B.0	<i>Objective: To develop and communicate ambitious and realistic strategies for the low carbon forest sector.</i>	
B.0.1	Analyse the emerging climate change regime from the viewpoint of the forest sector, to ensure that accounting rules for forests, forest management and wood products are based on scientific facts and that the response of the sector to the new regime is balanced (notably between sequestration and substitution) and compatible with the other dimensions of sustainable forest management.	EFI, JRC

B.0.2	Review consistency of national forest programmes and climate change strategies as regards forest sector contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation with a view to improving intersectoral communication and cooperation	Governments
B.0.3	Carry out a study on the impact of the new carbon accounting scheme on international trade in wood and forest products.	EFI, EU, UNFCCC, all UNECE member countries
B.1	<i>Objective: To encourage the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases by substituting wood from sustainable sources for non-renewable materials and energy.</i>	
B.1.1	Identify, using LCA, markets where the use of forest products instead of competing products would cause a significant reduction in carbon emissions. (For instance low carbon housing) Promote this analysis, in cooperation with the private sector.	EFI, FTP, LCA community, private sector, FCN
B.1.2	Continue to monitor developments in wood energy (supply and trade), compare developments with policy targets, put demand for wood energy in the context of overall forest sector trends and potential.	UNECE/FAO* (in context of outlook studies)
B.1.3	Provide guidelines and recommendations for developing national action plans for energy efficiency and material efficiency in buildings (not only for forest products). EU members will coordinate this work with implementation of EU legislation on energy efficiency.	EU
B.1.4	Promote the use of wood in construction. Compare national experiences with the use of different benchmarks, policy measures and legal frameworks. Establish targets for the use of wood in construction.	National authorities, architecture and urban planning professional associations, and forest industry. International standardisation bodies. FCBA, UNECE/FAO*
B.1.5	Incorporate all negative externalities into prices of all products and fuels to encourage increased use of renewable materials and sources of energy, including wood.	Science, policy makers, private sector and market actors
B.1.6	Use the Strategic Framework for Forest Communication in Europe to promote the use of wood as a contribution to climate change mitigation.	FCN, governments and relevant stakeholders, ARCMED
B.1.7	Promote use of low carbon energy and materials over high-carbon/non-renewable alternatives.	UNEP, UNECE/FAO*, FCN
B.1.8	Promote wood mobilization by improving the functioning of the wood energy market.	National forest policy makers, market actors (sellers and buyers)
B.2	<i>Objective: To promote the most efficient production, processing and use of wood raw material.</i>	
B.2.1	Analyse the advantages and disadvantages of the “cascade” approach to wood use.	UNECE/FAO*, EFI, FCBA, LCA community
B.2.2	Develop and/or improve technologies to increase the efficiency and profitability of producing wood-based renewable energy while minimizing environmental impacts.	Private sector in cooperation with research community International funding programmes

B.2.3	Carry out research on the potential and use of bio-based products ¹³ , including biochar. ¹⁴	IUFRO
B.2.4	Develop productive uses for landscape care wood ¹⁵ and recovered wood products, including consideration of the framework conditions necessary for their development.	National actors, including municipal authorities
B.2.5	Avoid wherever possible landfill as a final destination for wood and paper waste.	Environment ministries, private sector
B.2.6	Promote local, decentralised and highly efficient use of wood energy, where appropriate.	Energy policy makers, private sector, ARCMED
B.3	<i>Objective: To improve the capacity of the forest sector to adapt to climate change and manage the risks associated with a changing climate.</i>	
B.3.1	Bring together science and policy, for instance at a conference on the Adaptation of Forests and Forest Management to Changing Climate in the ECE region, to review progress since the global conference on the same topic in 2008 ¹⁶ .	UNECE/FAO*, FOREST EUROPE, EFI, IUFRO
B.3.2	Promote international cooperation and experience sharing on the development of specific adaptive management regimes.	UNECE/FAO*, FAO, EFI, IUFRO, governments
B.3.3	Commission research into changes in demands on forests goods and services directly or indirectly due to the changing climate.	EFI, EUSTAFOR, CEPF, FOREST EUROPE, governments
B.3.4	Improve monitoring and early warning of forest pests and diseases in the region with strengthened international cooperation.	FAO, IUFRO, EFI, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)
B.3.5	Maintain and strengthen wildfire early warning and monitoring capacities, and promotion of integrated fire management approaches, i.e. the targeted extraction of biomass for both renewable energy provision and reduction of wildfire hazard; and the integration of communities / private forest users in the achieving these goals at local level.	FAO, GFMC, EU (JRC), EFI, UNISDR, UNECE/FAO*, national fire management bodies
B.3.6	Commission research on forest resilience in relation to the impacts of climate change on “events” such as pest outbreaks, storms and fires.	Research community including IUFRO, EFI, GFMC,
B.3.7	Develop strategies for the use of forests as a tool for the adaptation of society and the environment to climate change.	Governments, research

¹³ Commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) that is composed, in whole or in significant part, of biological products or renewable domestic agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials) or forestry materials or an intermediate feedstock. (US Secretary of Agriculture).

¹⁴ Charcoal, when used for specific purposes, notably for soil amendment.

¹⁵ Landscape care wood is wood from non-forest sources, including: maintenance operations; tree-cutting activities in the horticulture industry; other landscape care or arboricultural activity in parks, cemeteries etc.; trees along roadsides and boundary ridges, rail- and waterways and gardens (EUwood). Industrial residues and post-consumer recovered wood are not included.

¹⁶ See <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/k2985e/k2985e00.htm>

B.3.8	Develop and implement risk management and adaptation strategies for forests at a national level and by forest region.	Governments, forest authorities, private forest owners, EUSTAFOR, research institutes, insurance sector, EFI, ARCMED, FCBA
B.4	<i>Objective: To promote the sequestration and storage of carbon in forest ecosystems and harvested wood products.</i>	
B.4.1	Contribute to the development of a climate change regime which provides appropriate incentives to maintain or increase carbon stocks in the forest ecosystem (including soil carbon) and harvested wood products, while preventing adverse environmental impacts.	Climate change negotiators, private sector, forest sector analysts and policy makers
B.4.2	Improve national forest inventories and monitoring of carbon stocks in forests and harvested wood products, for instance by developing and/or improving national greenhouse gas inventories, combined with forest inventories.	Governments, UNFCCC, FRA, UNECE/FAO*, FCBA
B.4.3	Analyse how chain of custody systems for forest products can contribute to the monitoring of carbon flows in harvested wood products, and create incentives to develop this approach possibly with the cooperation of certification bodies.	FAO acting as conveners of private sector actors with policymakers, certification systems
B.4.4	Improve the understanding of consumer perceptions and requirements regarding the increased use of long-lived wood products.	Science
B.4.5	Improve the understanding of carbon in wood products (accounting, flows, and consequences of the new climate change regime).	EFI, VTT, TI Hamburg
B.4.6	Incorporate incentives for carbon sequestration and storage into planning and operations (for forest owners and industries).	Climate change and forest sector policy makers
B.4.7	Analyse the influence on national and local harvest levels and silvicultural objectives of present and possible future climate change regimes.	EFI, IUFRO
B.4.8	Improve forest management in order to optimise carbon sequestration and storage while ensuring the sustainability and multifunctionality of forests at all levels.	National/regional forest authorities, forest owners and researchers, ARCMED

Pillar C. Decent green jobs in the forest sector

Goal: The workforce is able to implement sustainable forest management, and the forest sector contributes to achieving the social goals of the green economy by providing decent jobs

	Possible actions	Possible actors
C.0	<i>Objective: to develop and communicate ambitious and realistic strategies for decent green jobs in the forest sector.</i>	
C.0.1	Review forest sector workforce issues in order to recommend priorities and communicate their importance including through wide stakeholder consultation.	UNECE/FAO*, ILO, social partners, NGOs and researchers
C.0.2	Develop national gender strategies for the forest sector and/or streamline gender aspects into relevant forest policy strategies.	Governments, stakeholders
C.1	<i>Objective: To ensure that the workforce has the necessary skills at all levels to carry out the increasingly complex tasks associated with sustainable forest management.</i>	
C.1.1	Improve monitoring and analysis of the forest-sector workforce, including gender aspects, starting by updating the earlier ECE/FAO/ILO study of professional skills and training ¹⁷ .	UNECE/FAO*, ILO, Joint Expert Network to implement SFM with stakeholders (ENFE), governments
C.1.2	Review and discuss at policy level the main threats to sustainability of the workforce, and possible countermeasures. The review should also include gender aspects.	UNECE/FAO*, ILO, FOREST EUROPE, ENFE, EUSTAFOR, CEPF, governments, other stakeholders
C.1.3	Review and discuss the developments of new forest jobs and rural entrepreneurship in the green economy.	ILO, FOREST EUROPE, ENFE
C.1.4	Develop tripartite (government/unions/employers) approaches to green jobs in the forest sector, using tools such as regulations, minimum standards, certification etc.	Governments, ILO, stakeholders
C.1.5	Increase investment in the education and training of contractors, forest workers and forest owners as well as key personnel along the processing stages (operators, engineers, designers, developers, architects etc.).	Governments (labour/training ministries), Joint Expert Network, EFESC, ENFE, other interested parties
C.1.6	Encourage associations, such as contractors associations, as a means to improve access to training.	Governments, ENFE, other interested parties

¹⁷ *Skills and Training in Forestry-Results of a Survey of UNECE Member Countries*. Geneva: FAO/ECE/ILO Joint Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training, 1996.

C.2	<i>Objective: To reduce the levels of illness and injury experienced at present by the forestry workforce, taking into account the changes in technology and their implications for occupational health and safety due to the transition to the green economy.</i>	
C.2.1	Raise the level of political will to improve the safety and health of the workforce, by studying workforce status and trends, with national comparisons, and analysis of the differences.	ILO, national occupational safety and health organisations, stakeholders, UNECE/FAO*
C.2.2	Radically improve the monitoring of occupational safety and health of the forestry workforce, to enable meaningful analysis and preventive action, notably by improving monitoring coverage of contractors, farmers, migrant labour, etc. and by putting in place capacity building for improved reporting on social indicators.	UNECE/FAO*, ILO, national forest and occupational safety institutions
C.2.3	Promote and monitor implementation of the FAO code of practice on forest contractors.	ENFE, ILO
C.2.4	Enforce relevant legislation and develop regulations, if necessary, to take account of changing technology (vibration hazard) and changing social conditions (self-employed contractors, migrant workers).	Governments with relevant stakeholders
C.2.5	Fund extension work to make employers and workers sensitive to safety and health issues, and implement campaigns to promote a culture of preventative occupational safety and health.	Governments with relevant stakeholders
C.3	<i>Objective: To review the work methods used for harvesting and silviculture, determine whether they need to be improved and to ensure that best practice is applied everywhere.</i>	
C.3.1	Develop and share best practice for environmentally efficient, productive, safe and sustainable forest operations.	Governments with relevant stakeholders, ILO/UNECE/FAO Joint Expert Network, ENFE, FCBA
C.3.2	Identify changes in forest operations which might be necessary for sustainable forest management (workshop).	Joint Expert Network, with ENFE, ILO, national operations research institutions
C.3.3	Review challenges and dilemmas connected to forest operations (reconciling different management goals, mobilising sufficient operational capacity for sustainable forest management).	ILO, ILO/UNECE/FAO Joint Expert Network, stakeholders
C.4	<i>Objective: To promote the use of tools to assess the socio-economic impacts of green economy policies on the forest sector.</i>	
C.4.1	Monitor and analyse at the policy level the impact of green economy policy on employment in the forest sector, possibly with a cross-sectoral approach.	ILO, UNECE/FAO*, FOREST EUROPE, UNEP
C.5	<i>Objective: To improve the situation of forestry education and identify present and future requirements for forestry professionals in the region, in order to get well prepared for future and emerging challenges for the sector.</i>	

C.5.1	Review and assess existing curricula or study courses related to forestry professionals within the region and analyze their correspondence to the present and emerging needs of the sector.	Governments, universities, IUFRO, IFSA, Silva Network, sector policy makers, Bologna process, UNECE/FAO*, FAO,
C.5.2	Monitor the situation of forestry education and stimulate exchange between member states on this matter.	Governments, IUFRO, Silva Network, UNECE/FAO*, FAO

Pillar D. Long term provision of Forest Ecosystem Services

Goal: Forest functions are identified and valued and payments for ecosystem services (PES) are established, encouraging sustainable production and consumption patterns.

	Possible actions	Possible actors
D.0	<i>Objective: to develop and communicate ambitious and realistic strategies for the valuation of and payment for forest ecosystem services.</i>	
D.0.1	Review and develop approaches to the valuation of and payment for different forest ecosystem services, in the UNECE region, and involve both research and policy bodies in this work.	UNECE/FAO*, EFI, FOREST EUROPE, UNEP, JRC, TI
D.1	<i>Objective: To support the assigning of economic value to non-marketed forest goods and services and to enhance the understanding and recognition of the public goods provided by forests.</i>	
D.1.1	Intensify research on the valuation of forest goods and services, notably as regards policy objectives, possible funding sources, and the incorporation of values of forest ecosystems into national accounting frameworks. Build databases and online platforms for exchange, cooperation and data dissemination. Develop guidance for the valuation of forest ecosystem services.	Science, EFI, EEA, UNECE/FAO*, JRC
D.1.2	Organize a policy forum, based on survey and analysis, leading to concrete recommendations on the valuation of the public goods provided by forests such as human health and well-being, as well as on emerging dilemmas and trade-offs for managers and policy makers.	FOREST EUROPE, science, EFI, certification systems; This could also be a country-led initiative
D.1.3	Cooperate with other communities such as health, biodiversity, climate change, energy, agriculture and business, including the insurance sector, to exchange knowledge on valuation methodologies.	UNEP, TEEB
D.1.4	Undertake national and regional reviews of forest ecosystem services and assess their values, with the participation of forest managers, researchers and consumers of forest ecosystem services with a view to enabling forest investments.	Governments, science, stakeholders, certification systems, FOREST EUROPE
D.1.5	Promote the disclosure of the values of forest ecosystem services (supplied or consumed/impaired) at the corporate level.	Private sector, governments, stakeholders, ARCMED

D.2	<i>Objective: To promote best practice in the development and implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in order to ensure the continued provision of forest environmental services.</i>	
D.2.1	Review and share experience on payment for forest ecosystem services, notably enabling conditions for PES and monitor progress, taking into account existing material (e.g. SoEF 2011) and identifying implications for PES design and implementation.	UNECE/FAO*, FOREST EUROPE, EFI, certification systems, research community, EU: multi-level FP7 consortium and regional funds, JRC, ARCMED
D.2.2	Build capacity at the national level for PES development and implementation and incorporate PES into existing strategies on the basis of experience.	Governments, stakeholders, ARCMED
D.2.3	Develop guidelines for policies and instruments that will provide a framework for PES and identify potential PES funding options.	UNEP, certification systems, JRC, ARCMED
D.2.4	Empower forest owners and promote partnerships between forest owners and other actors/stakeholders in developing and providing ecosystem services, for instance forest tourism/ecotourism services.	Forest owner associations, state forest organisations, governments, certification systems, ARCMED
D.2.5	Capitalize on success stories for PES in the forest sector and use them to raise public awareness.	FCN, certification systems, stakeholders, ARCMED
D.2.6	Undertake a comparison between the value of marketed and non-marketed forest goods and services, and develop recommendations as to how academic valuation methods could be transformed into payment systems.	Science, private forest owners, financial services sector, JRC
D.3	<i>To review ways in which forests contribute to or endanger human health and well-being, and ascertain whether this information is properly incorporated into policies and practices.</i>	
D.3.1	Organise a regional forum on forests and human health to review the situation, opportunities and challenges including the specific hazards and risks (e.g., air pollution from forest and other vegetation fires affecting human health and security), as well as benefits to human health from forests, and make recommendations for future work, at the international and national level.	WHO, IUFRO, ministries of health, medical schools, forest owners, GFMC, UNISDR, JRC, ARCMED
D.3.2	Study on wellbeing in wooden buildings vs. buildings with other structures.	Building research organisations
D.3.3	Undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the health and recreational services provided by forests (capturing positive and negative aspects) and communicate findings and conclusions of this exercise.	WHO, IUFRO, ministries of health, medical schools, forest owners

Pillar E. Policy development and monitoring of the forest sector in relation to a green economy

Goal: Policies and institutions relevant to the forest sector promote sustainable forest management; policy making is evidence-based, policy instruments are effective, efficient and equitable and monitoring is adequate in order to mainstream the green economy in forest sector policies.

	Possible actions	Possible actors
E.0	<i>Objective: to develop and communicate ambitious and realistic strategies for governance and monitoring of the forest sector.</i>	
E.0.1	Upon request of the country, carry out national forest sector policy reviews, in an international context, with peer review, along the lines of the environmental performance reviews carried out by UNECE.	UNECE/FAO*, governments with relevant stakeholder
E.0.2	Review national forest sector governance and the adequacy of available supporting information (when such a review has not been undertaken recently).	Governments with relevant stakeholders
E.0.3	Analyse the conditions under which policies affecting the forest sector are set, to better understand why policies are formulated as they are and to investigate where improvement may be made in order to overcome limitations.	Science, EFI
E.0.4	Develop the capacities (skills, information, institutions, etc.) of all stakeholders (workforce, private sector, administrations, etc.) to implement sustainable forest management, and forest protection and monitor progress in its implementation.	Governments, stakeholders, public private partnerships, UNECE/FAO*
E.0.5	Review gender aspects of the forest sector in the green economy, starting from the conclusions and recommendations of <i>Time for action: changing the gender situation in forestry</i> by the ECE/FAO team of specialists on women in forestry, 2006 ¹⁸ , and develop further actions as appropriate.	Governments, civil society, UNECE/FAO*, FAO
E.1	<i>To review existing forest sector policy instruments in the light of the requirements of a green economy, and, if necessary, make proposals for a new approach, while improving synergies at the international level.</i>	
E.1.1	Prepare detailed and objective study at the regional level of policy instruments in place and whether they are appropriate for a green economy, leading, if appropriate to proposals for improvement.	UNECE/FAO*, FOREST EUROPE, EFI, ILO with other IGO, JRC
E.1.2	Include the green economy as one of the main topics of programmes of work.	UNECE/FAO*, relevant forest sector organisations and institutions, JRC
E.1.3	Create European forest partnership on a voluntary basis to improve coordination and cooperation between international organisations in Europe.	UNECE/FAO*, FOREST EUROPE, EU agencies, EFI, with other agencies, JRC, ARCMED

¹⁸ Available from <http://www.fao.org/forestry/10952-0dc39dc097e544f4dbe8167fb9b62ea99.pdf>.

E.1.4	Prepare detailed and objective study at the national level of policy instruments in place and whether they are appropriate for a green economy, leading, if appropriate to proposals for improvement.	Governments, science, EFI
E.1.5	Promote sustainable forestry in rural communities including forest-based entrepreneurship, capacity building and innovation.	Governments
E.2	<i>Objective: To ensure that the forest information available is comprehensive and comparable, structured according to the regional criteria and indicators sets, at the appropriate spatial resolution for decision making, that analysis of the outlook makes it possible to assess the consequences of policy choices, and that policy makers make use of the best available information and analysis.</i>	
E.2.1	Maintain and develop present inter-organisation cooperation on forest resource assessment (CFRQ), State of Europe's Forests (SoEF) and forest sector outlook studies, set up appropriate task forces to address the challenges in measuring particular indicators.	UNECE/FAO* (notably teams on Monitoring of SFM and on Outlook), FOREST EUROPE, Montréal Process, TI, JRC, partners for SoEF and the outlook studies
E.2.2	Develop the capacity of all countries so that they can make available usable data for all indicators for sustainable forest management.	Governments, UNECE/FAO*, international Criteria and Indicators partners, JRC
E.2.3	Develop the forest sector's contribution to broader green economy indicator data sets: - explore how "forest sector" indicators can be used to report on the green economy - discuss with other sectors how they want to report on their contribution to a green economy - use the pan European and the Montreal Process criteria and indicators to assess sustainable forest management - update indicators and develop new ones whenever appropriate - ensure that forest sector indicators for green economy monitoring are consistent with other forest sector indicators, notably those for sustainable forest management.	FOREST EUROPE, Montréal Process, UNECE/FAO*, EFI, UNEP JRC
E.2.4	Produce regular fact based reports on sustainable forest management in countries, based on international and national criteria and indicators.	Governments, stakeholders, EFI, UNECE/FAO*, JRC
E.3	<i>Objective: To develop an agreed method for assessing sustainable forest management at the international level, based on criteria and indicator sets, and apply this method, to provide policy makers, particularly in the forest sector, with clear information on whether forest are being sustainably managed or not.</i>	
E.3.1	Develop an agreed methodology to assess the sustainability of forest management, possibly building on SoEF 2011 experience, as well as the experience of other processes, and implement it.	UNECE/FAO*, science, SoEF partners, Montréal Process, JRC, EU

E.3.2	Encourage cooperation between FOREST EUROPE and the Montréal Process.	FOREST EUROPE, Montréal Process, UNECE/FAO*, FAO/FRA, Governments
E.3.3	Assess the sustainability of forest management at the national level.	Governments, with relevant stakeholders
E.3.4	Develop capacity for reporting on indicators of sustainable forest management, at national and international level.	UNECE/FAO*, FOREST EUROPE, EFI (incl. its project on implementation of criteria and indicators), JRC
E.4	<i>To improve communication with the public and policy makers about the forest sector's actual and potential role in the green economy and facilitate public participation in the debate on the green economy</i>	
E.4.1	Improve the sector's capacity to communicate, by developing national and international communications, capacities and funding, and sharing experience.	UNECE/FAO*, FCN, FOREST EUROPE, Montréal Process with other agencies
E.4.2	Implement communications that will result in public opinion and legislators considering wood to be an "ecologically, economically, and technically preferred" construction material and make the best use of the Strategic Framework for Forest Communication in Europe to this end.	UNECE/FAO*, FCN, FOREST EUROPE, Montréal Process, relevant national actors, ARCMED
E.5	<i>Objective: To communicate lessons learned in the forest sector to other sectors, and to learn from other sector's experience</i>	
E.5.1	Monitor green economy developments in the ECE region forest sector and ensure that organisations active on global green economy issues, such as UNEP, are aware of them.	UNECE/FAO*, UNEP
E.5.2	Carry out a comparative analysis of the concept of "sustainable forest management" as it appears in work from different backgrounds such as LULUCF, forest sector, criteria for bio-energy, etc.	EFI with relevant partners (UNFF, FAO, UNFCCC, EU, FOREST EUROPE etc.) , Montréal Process
E.5.3	Ensure the participation of forest stakeholders in cross-sectoral processes and initiatives related to green economy.	Governments, science, stakeholders, ARCMED
E.5.4	Establish cross-sectoral working groups, develop contacts with other green economy sectors, and share experience (also international) and identify success factors.	UNECE/FAO*
E.5.5	Add "forests and the green economy" to the educational curriculum.	Forestry faculties, education ministries

LIST OF ACCRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

ARCMED	Arc Forestier Méditerranéen
CEPF	Confederation of European Forest Owners
CFRQ	Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire
COFFI	Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry
EEA	European Environment Agency
EFC	European Forestry Commission
EFESC	European Forest and Environmental Skills Council
EFI	European Forest Institute
EFSOS	European Forest Sector Outlook Study
ENFE	European Network of Forest Entrepreneurs
EU	European Union
EUSTAFOR	European State Forest Association
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCBA	Institut Technologique Foret Cellulose Bois-construction Ameublement
FCN	Forest Communicators' Network
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FOREST EUROPE	the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe
FRA	Global Forest Resources Assessment
FTP	Forest-based Sector Technology Platform
GFMC	Global Fire Monitoring Center
IIASA	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
ILO	International Labour Organization
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUFRO	International Union of Forestry Research Organizations
JRC	Joint Research Centre, European Commission, Ispra
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment
Metla	Finnish Forest Research Institute
NAFSOS	North American Forest Sector Outlook Study
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SoEF	State of Europe's Forests

TEEB	The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
TTF	Timber Trade Federation (UK)
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP/SETAC	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC)
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
VTT	Technical Research Centre of Finland
TI	Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institut, Germany
WHO	World Health Organization

LIST OF THE STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ACTION PLAN

Governmental Organizations and Bodies

Agency for Statistics, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Canadian Forest Service, Canada
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Ireland
Federal Forestry Agency, Russian Federation
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria
Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, Germany
Forest Management Institute, Czech Republic
Forestry Commission, United Kingdom
Kazakh Research Institute of Forestry, Kazakhstan
Ministry of Agriculture, Agrifood and Forestry, France
Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forest Policies, Italy
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland
Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, Cyprus
Ministry for Climate Protection North Rhein-Westphalen, Germany
Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, Netherlands
Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Georgia
Ministry of Environment, Estonia
Ministry of Environment and Forests, Romania
Ministry of Environment, Poland
Ministry of Forestry, Belarus
Ministry of Forestry and Water, Turkey
Ministry of Regional Development, Forestry and Water Management, Croatia
National Forest Administration – ROMSILVA, Romania
National Forest Centre, Slovakia
Natural Resources Canada
Swedish Forest Agency, Sweden
Swiss Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland
USDA Forest Service, United States of America

Stakeholder Organizations

Arc Forestier Méditerranéen, Spain
Agriforest S.A., Switzerland
Alpine Convention, Austria
Alterra, Netherlands
Antoine de La Rochefordière, International Consultant, Switzerland
APA - The Engineered Wood Association, United States of America
Association of the Austrian Wood Industries, Austria
International Technical Tropical Wood Association, France
Belgrade State University, Serbia
Bern University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland
Bureau of Nordic Family Forestry, Belgium
Building and Wood Workers' International, Switzerland
Canadian Wood Council, Canada
Carey Research and Consulting, Switzerland
Christopher Prins, International Consultant, Switzerland
European Confederation of Woodworking Industries, Belgium
Confederation of European Private Forest Owners, Belgium
Client Earth, Belgium
Duzce University, Turkey
Dublin University College, Ireland
Edinburgh Napier University, United Kingdom
European Commission, Belgium
European Academy Research, Italy
European Environment Agency, Denmark
European Forest Institute, Finland
European Network of Forest Entrepreneurs, Germany
European State Forest Association, Belgium
European Union, Belgium
Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, Kazakhstan
European Panel Federation, Belgium
EXP GLOBAL INC, Canada
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome
Forestry Training Centre of the region Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, France

Johann Heinrich von Thunen Institut - Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, Germany
FederlegnoArredo, Italy
Finnish Forest Association, Finland
Finnish Forest Industries Federation, Finland
FOREST EUROPE, Spain
Foundation for International Education, Norway
Forest Stewardship Council, Germany
Forest Industries Intelligence Ltd, United Kingdom
French Development Agency, France
French Timber Trade Association (Le Commerce du Bois), France
FPInnovations, Canada
Global Fire Monitoring Center
Green Eco-Land, Switzerland
International Forestry Students Association, Germany
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria
International Labour Organization, Switzerland
Institute for Timber Plants and the Environment, Italy
International Union for the Conservation of Nature, Switzerland
Louisiana State University, Agricultural Center, United States of America
Metsähallitus, Finland
Mondi AG, Finland
National Association of Forestry and Timber Engineers and Experts (CNIEFEB), France
Natural Forest Resources Management, Mongolia
Natural Resources Development Project, Albania
Narat-K, Timber Industry Company, Russian Federation
Network for Global Environmental Citizens (NGEC)
Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners, Finland
PAN BERN, Switzerland
Paneco Foundation, Switzerland
Probos Foundation, Netherlands
Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes, Switzerland
Pictet Asset Management, Switzerland
Poyry Forest Industry Consulting, Germany
Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations Organization in Geneva, Switzerland
Quebec Wood Export Bureau (Q-WEB), Canada

SGS Forestry Monitoring Programme, France
State Forestry University, Russian Federation
State Technological University of Plant Polimers, Russian Federation
University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Sweden
University of Washington, United States of America
The Forest Trust, Switzerland
United States Permanent Mission to the United Nations Organization in Geneva,
Switzerland
Umea University, Sweden
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Switzerland
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Switzerland
United Nations Environment Programme, Switzerland
Union of Foresters of Southern Europe, Spain
University of Camerino, Italy
University of Oregon, United States of America
University of Utrecht, Netherland
All-Russia Institute of Continuous Education and Training of Forestry Managers, Russian
Federation
Wood Technology Institute, Poland
Wood Focus, Norway

Annex IV

Integrated Programme of Work 2014-17 for the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission

This document contains the Integrated Programme of Work 2014-2017 of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC), as adopted by the joint session of the Committee and the Commission, “Metsä2013”, held from 9 to 13 December 2013 in Rovaniemi, Finland.

I. Integrated Programme of Work

A. Scope

1. The Integrated Programme of Work covers all fifty-six member States of the ECE region, in line with the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry membership. Thirty-nine member States, which are all ECE members States, as well as the European Union are members of the FAO European Forestry Commission¹⁹. The Programme encompasses sustainable forest management as well as the sound and legal use of forest products, for raw material and energy, and forest services, based on appropriate policies and institutions.²⁰

2. The Programme continues to cover many traditional topics related to forest products and services (as contained in the previous Programme of Work ECE/TIM/2008/7 – FO:EFC/08/7). It also introduces new elements to address emerging issues related to sustainable forest management. These new elements include:

- Linkages between sustainable forest management and a green economy, including: the contribution of forest products and services to a green economy; decent green jobs and employment in the forest sector.
- Innovation in the forest sector, including new forest products and the use of wood in construction.
- Enhanced emphasis on wood energy and payment for ecosystem services.
- Interactions between forest policies and other sectors, such as the effect of wood energy policies on land use and the effect of urbanization on forest extent and character.
- Adaptation to climate change.

¹⁹ Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan and the European Union.

²⁰ The scope is unchanged from the period 2008-2013. For ease of reference, please see the Annex V.

- Forest health and disturbance-related issues.
- Mainstreaming of biodiversity and environmental issues into the different areas of work.

3. The Programme makes reference to the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy, which was also adopted by the Committee and the Commission at “Metsä2013” (see Annex III). Actions contained in that Plan and attributed to the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section are indicated with an asterisk and reflected in the annual list of activities as part of the Integrated Programme of Work.

B. Overall goal

4. The overall goal of the Integrated Programme of Work 2014-17 for the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the European Forestry Commission, their related bodies and the Teams of Specialists is to, “*Support member countries and relevant stakeholders in their efforts to sustainably manage and use ECE-region forests so that they provide products and ecosystem services to benefit society*”.

C. Objective of the Integrated Programme of Work

5. The Integrated Programme of Work aims to assist member countries to achieve the overall goal by: providing the best available information; facilitating policy dialogues and communication; and building capacity.

D. Structure and work areas

6. The Integrated Programme of Work is structured around four main functions, or work areas (WA), as follows:

WA 1: Data, monitoring and assessment

WA 2: Policy dialogue and advice

WA 3: Communication and outreach

WA 4: Capacity-building

7. Specific activities and outputs proposed for the four work areas are outlined below.

WA 1: Data, monitoring and assessment

8. The data collection and reporting system of the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section consists of the following:

- Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, products, functions and services, sustainable forest management, forest policies, institutions and instruments, and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy.
- Analysis and assessment of the state of forests, sustainability of forest management and forest products markets; and monitoring the role of the forest sector in a green economy.
- Cooperation and support to international processes in sustainable forest management, including the development and use of regional Criteria and Indicators and the preparation of the report on the State of Europe’s Forests.

9. The joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section monitors and analyses developments in different forest-related areas and also has extensive cooperation with other organizations in this area. This includes the gathering of comprehensive statistics and data (quantitative and qualitative), and developing methodologies for data collection, analysis and assessments on:

- Forest product markets and services in the region.
- All aspects of forests and forest resources, their functions and services, and sustainable forest management.
- Long-term supply of and demand for wood and other forest goods and services.
- Use of wood energy and its implications for sustainable forest management.

10. Outputs from this work area include: the Forest Products Annual Market Reviews; the State of Europe's Forests in cooperation with Forest Europe; the regional input to the FAO Global Forest Resource Assessment; Joint Wood Energy Enquiries; associated databases; studies on forest ownership, occupation and employment, the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy; and ad hoc sectorial studies on topics such as the profitability and competitiveness of the forest sector and other emerging issues.

11. Data are collected in partnership with countries, international organizations and the scientific community, based on agreed standards and rules. Activities under WA1 are also expected to improve the quality of information, ensuring international compatibility, storage, dissemination and analysis of the information, and helping countries to strengthen their capacity in this area (see WA 4 on capacity-building).

12. This programme area also addresses monitoring and assessment components of priority activities identified in the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy and attributed to joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section for the period 2014-2017.

WA 2: Policy dialogue and advice

13. This includes contributions of the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section to the global (mainly United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO)), regional (in particular CIS Intergovernmental Council on Forestry and Forest Industry, Eurasian Economic Commission, European Commission, European Forest Institute, Forest Europe) and national forest dialogues and cross-sectoral cooperation.

14. This component also involves the organization of policy dialogues and specific studies in the ECE region, and at the national level on request from member countries. Subjects to be covered will, depending on availability of funds, include:

- Forest policies, institutions and instruments.
- Regional and national coordination of forest and forest-related policies.
- Governance and policy making.
- Green economy and green jobs.
- Interaction with stakeholders and the private sector.
- Financing for, and investment in, the profitability and competitiveness of the forest sector.
- Structural developments in the forest sector and their policy impact and implications.
- Wood energy and its implications for renewable energy policies and land use.

- Role of biodiversity and wildlife in sustainable forest management.
- Adaptation of forests and the forest sector to climate change.

15. This programme area also addresses policy-related components of priority activities identified in the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy and attributed to the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section for the period 2014-2017.

16. Outputs include guidelines and recommendations in accordance with the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy, national forest policy dialogues and other policy dialogues and workshops for the ECE region. An important component will also be the next round of Forest Sector Outlook Studies and the policy-related parts of relevant ECE and FAO studies such as reports on the status and trends in forests and sustainable forest management, and relevant reviews.

WA 3: Communication and outreach

17. This is an essential part of the Integrated Programme of Work. Improving the ability of the forest and forest products sector to communicate effectively, within and outside the sector, is essential to promote sustainable forest management. Enhancing the efforts of the Committee and the Commission to reach out to relevant constituencies, and to increase the dissemination of the information and tools produced, at the national, regional and global levels will make an important contribution to this end. This will be achieved through:

- Providing a platform for international interaction and cooperation in forest related communication.
- Events and campaigns in support of sustainable forest management and forest products and services (e.g. the International Day of Forests, the European Forest Week, the Forest Information Week).
- Dissemination of information produced under the Integrated Programme of Work via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies, whenever results are available and new information released.
- Improved website maintenance and design including the use of social media/networks and videos.
- Contribution to the organization of relevant events in member countries and dissemination of their announcements (e.g. National Forest Policy Dialogues, capacity building workshops, special public relations events) in cooperation with all stakeholders.
- Outreach activities beyond the forest sector for disseminating information that highlights the relevance of forests and forest products and services to other sectors (e.g. energy events, biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and building).

18. This programme area also addresses communications and outreach components of priority activities identified in the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy and attributed to the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section for the period 2014-2017.

WA 4: Capacity-building

19. While all countries benefit from international cooperation through the Integrated Programme of Work, special attention is paid to countries in Eastern Europe, Southeast Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. This work focus on capacity-building to encourage sustainable forest management, data collection, monitoring and analysis as well as

promoting the engagement of national experts from the region in international activities, covering the following:

- Forest policies development, governance and institutions.
- National systems for forest monitoring and statistical reporting.
- Forest products markets and forest resources.
- Forest related communication.
- Wood energy, including the collection of wood energy data.
- The contribution of the forest sector to a green economy.

20. This work area relies mainly on extrabudgetary support. This area also addresses capacity-building components of priority activities identified in the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy and attributed to the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section for the period 2014 - 2017.

21. This work area also benefits from the implementation of the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project on “Sustainable Forest Management for Greener Economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia (2013-15)”. Additional sources of funding for capacity building will be sought with the European Union, and development banks and national development agencies.

E. Principles guiding implementation

22. Implementation should be guided by the following principles:

- **Partnership:** There will be a strong focus on working in partnerships with international and regional actors, as the most effective way of minimizing overlap and optimizing benefits. The Committee and the Commission will seek and welcome cooperation for any of the relevant outputs under the four work areas.
- **Outreach to other constituencies:** The Committee and the Commission will look beyond the traditional forest constituency to make sure the relevance of the forest sector and its contribution to other sectors is well recognized and understood and will coordinate relevant actions with, for example, the environment, biodiversity, energy, water, construction and building sectors.
- **Expert advice:** The work of the Teams of Specialists will be fully aligned with the Integrated Programme of Work and its objectives, and will support the related areas of work.
- **Involvement of the private sector.** The Integrated Programme of Work recognizes the private sector as a key actor for developing sustainable forest management, sustainable forest products and services and the transition towards a green economy. The participation of the private sector in the work of the Committee and the Commission will be actively sought.

F. Support to the Integrated Programme of Work and related resources

23. As per current practice, specific activities in support of the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work will be agreed on annually. The list will be based on proposals by member States, the joint Bureaux²¹ and the joint secretariat and reflect the activities set out in the current multi-year Programme of Work. Implementation will depend on regular programme funding levels and to a large extent on extrabudgetary resources made available. The member States and other donors are encouraged to support such activities in kind and/or with the necessary level of financial resources. The annual list of activities will show clearly the areas of work (e.g. capacity-building) or activities where extrabudgetary funding will be needed.

24. A broader participation and more strategic engagement by member States and stakeholders should be sought. In particular, resources should be identified to finance the participation of delegates from countries with economies in transitions.

G. Governance

25. Formal governance is undertaken by the two parent bodies, the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission, which have the ultimate responsibility for the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work. The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry meets annually, while the European Forestry Commission meets every second year. The two bodies are encouraged to continue holding joint meetings in line with established practice and with the aim to further strengthen cooperation and exploit synergies. During joint meetings, matters of relevance to COFFI or EFC only are dealt separately and under specific agenda items during these meetings. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management meets annually.

26. The AFWC/EFC/NEFRC²² Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions (*Silva Mediterranea*), a forestry statutory body of FAO, is invited to coordinate its activities with this Integrated Programme of Work.

27. The EFC Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds reports on its work to, and seek guidance from, the EFC. The Commission shall ensure that the Working Party coordinates its activities with this Integrated Programme of Work, where appropriate.

28. The Bureau of the COFFI and the Executive Committee of the EFC are entrusted with overseeing the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work and with providing guidance as needed. They have the authority to take decisions to support the implementation of the Programme of Work between sessions of the parent bodies. They should meet at least twice annually.

H. Expert support

29. Teams of Specialists (ToS), composed of experts in particular fields, contribute advice or undertake activities that support the implementation of the Integrated Programme

²¹ Joint meetings of the COFFI Bureau and the EFC Executive Committee.

²² AFWC: African Forestry and Wildlife Commission; EFC: European Forestry Commission; NEFRC: Near East Forestry and Range Commission.

of Work. Teams may also provide guidance to the joint secretariat on their work areas, and help with outreach activities to country-level experts, as well as have team-specific outputs in support of the Integrated Programme of Work. Teams of Specialists are mandated by the Committee and Commission, which approve their terms of reference. They report annually to the Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management. This reporting set up is to be assessed after the next two sessions of the Working Party.

30. Guidelines for the Teams of Specialists clarifying the Teams' mandates and procedures, and the role and responsibilities of Team Leaders, and Deputy Leaders, Team Members and secretariat can be found in Annex V.

II. Recommendations in support of the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work

31. The following recommendations for the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work were adopted by the Committee and the Commission at "Metsä2013":

Institutional structure

32. Foster stronger cooperation between the European Forestry Commission and the North American Forestry Commission (NAFC).

33. Bring the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the European Forestry Commission as close together as possible and organize joint meetings according to established practice. Joint meetings should have the same name for each session – "forest" in the language of the country hosting the meeting and then the year of the meeting.

34. Continue and maintain the tradition of joint meetings, the Integrated Programme of Work, the joint secretariat, joint Bureaux, joint publications and a joint profile.

35. Encourage countries to strengthen coordination between the Committee and Commission delegates at the national level by e.g. appointing the same Head of Delegation for both.

36. Engage Committee and Commission members in linking the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section's work to work at the national level in order to ensure feedback on the Integrated Programme of Work.

37. Strengthen the collaboration with the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds and *Silva Mediterranea*.

38. Establish the following Teams of Specialists for the period 2014-2017:

Name of the Team	Contribution to the Programme of Work
ToS on Sustainable Forest Products	WA1: to focus on forest products and markets, market statements and support to the Committee
ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)	WA1: to focus on SFM monitoring for different ECE and FAO studies and reviews, SFM assessment and work on criteria and indicators
ToS on Forest Policy	WA2 and WA4: to focus on the development of forest policies in the region and provide capacity building
ToS on the Forest Sector Outlook	WA1 and WA2: to support the development of Outlook Studies
ToS on Forest Communication - Forest Communicators Network	WA3: to provide advice to the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section in support of relevant events, campaigns and public relations efforts, support the dissemination of results of other ToS
ToS on Green Jobs - Joint ILO/ECE/FAO Expert Network	WA4: the previous joint ToS to be refocused on green jobs and capacity-building activities in support of SFM
ToS on Wood Energy	WA1 and WA2: to support the development of data and relevant policy advice on wood energy in the region.
ToS on Forest Products Statistics	WA 1 and WA4: to support the work on statistics in the Working Party, in order for the Working Party to focus on its coordinating function for Teams of Specialists and work area review.
ToS on Forest Fires	WA2: to support international cooperation in fire management. The Team will complete its mandate by July 2014

39. The Terms of Reference of, and the Guidelines for, the Teams of Specialists are contained in Annex V. The Guidelines are in line with, and complementary to, the guidelines for the establishment and functioning of Teams of Specialists within ECE (ECE/EX/2/Rev.1).

Data management

40. Data on forest and forest management are collected through regular and ad hoc processes. They are often collected, stored and disseminated separately, through different means and formats. Taking into account relatively long data collection cycles, this situation hampers seriously continuity, inter-connectivity, planning for data collection and its management. This also limits the availability and usability of information collected.

41. It is recommended that the organization and structure of data on forests, their management, their functions and services be analyzed. While avoiding any duplication with existing similar repositories, the results of this analysis would provide the basis for the establishment of an electronic repository, enhancing the efficiency of data collection, management and dissemination.

Private sector

42. The involvement of the private sector, given its relevance to the work undertaken by the Committee and the Commission, should be increased, including through considering the establishment of a regional working group under the FAO Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industry, which could provide advice to the joint Bureaux and other meetings.

Funding

43. The final list of activities prepared every year should contain a related budget (costing of activities) to help member States recognize funding needs and understand the feasibility of activities. The first of such lists should be prepared for the year 2014 and submitted to Metsä2013 for consideration (and should include both human and financial resource needs).

Outreach

44. More attention should be paid to communication activities that shall be implemented with due regard to keeping a balance between official languages of COFFI and EFC in order to increase the impact and visibility of work. This might include a high level segment in key meetings, which would bring together ministers and chief executive officers of private companies, and heads of other organizations.

45. The Integrated Programme of Work should also allow addressing new and emerging issues of high political value and interest or influence to forestry and forest industry.

Partnerships

46. Partnerships should be established with other sectors, including through the cooperation with other ECE Committees. This should serve to demonstrate the value of forests and forest products for other sectors (energy, environment, housing, employment, climate change, etc.).

47. Good examples of cross-sectoral cooperation should be highlighted and showcased whenever possible.

Name of the Section

48. Following the change of name to Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, ECE and FAO are invited to consider adjusting the name of the joint secretariat accordingly. Such an invitation does not imply any intention by member States to change the current duties of the joint Section.

Outlook

49. The next round of outlook studies in North America, Europe and the Russian Federation should be based on common methodologies and approaches, and developed in cooperation with relevant partners. Member States and other relevant parties are encouraged to support the outlook work by designating national correspondents to the Team of Specialists, sharing data and modelling results of national outlook studies.

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Annex V

Mandate of the FAO European Forestry Commission, Terms of Reference of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, the ECE/FAO Joint Working Party and the ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists

This annex contains the Terms of Reference required for supporting the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work, as well as Guidelines for the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists. For ease of reference, the Terms of Reference of ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the Mandate of the FAO European Commission, which remain unchanged, are included at the end of this annex.

I. Terms of Reference of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management

1. The Working Party is a subsidiary body of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) and contributes to the implementation of the integrated programme of work of those two bodies. It does so by coordinating the Teams of Specialists and the activities of the Integrated Programme of Work as well as providing technical advice. It takes instructions from the Committee and the Commission and meets annually to:

- (a) Provide guidance on the implementation of all areas of the programme of work;
- (b) Supervise the work of Teams of Specialists and facilitate the exchange of information on their work;
- (c) Identify priorities for action and relevant emerging issues; and transmit suggested priorities and specific recommendations to the Committee and the Commission for consideration.

2. The Working Party shall, for each work area, on the basis of a report from the secretariat, review and comment on the activities undertaken during the past year and the plans for the forthcoming year.

3. The Working Party shall review, on an ongoing basis, the work of the Teams of Specialists and their contribution to the work areas as well as work between the Teams of Specialists to ensure the most effective and efficient implementation of their activities. It will:

- (a) Receive and discuss the reports from the Teams of Specialists in order to enhance the understanding of their activities and assess their work plans; when needed, the Working Party may review and recommend updated mandates for endorsement by the parent bodies;
- (b) Identify possible synergies; and facilitate the exchange of experiences between Teams of Specialists and delegations from member States;

- (c) Increase the visibility and impact of the work of Teams of Specialists among Member States and within the relevant bodies in the United Nations.
4. The Working Party, as part of its work for the Committee and Commission, shall:
 - (a) Propose priorities for activities in the work areas and on relevant emerging issues;
 - (b) Develop, upon request from the parent bodies, methodologies for use in economic analysis of the sector, as well as techniques for collecting, validating, analysing and disseminating information and statistics;
 - (c) Undertake, upon request from the parent bodies, ad hoc projects in economics and statistics related to forestry, forest products and forest policies and institutions;
 - (d) Contribute and provide technical advice to the Committee and the Commission on issues under consideration by those bodies, including the preparation of studies on the status and future of forests and on the forest industry such as the Outlooks and the Forest Products Annual Market Reviews;
 - (e) Reach out to other sectors to discuss issues related to forest information and management matters of common interest, including best practices in sustainable forestry management and their impact on the overall sustainability of forests, natural resources management, and other issues such as biodiversity and climate change;
 - (f) Work together with other international bodies, including Forest Europe, Eurostat, the International Tropical Timber Organization and the Conference of European Statisticians, with a view to coordinating activities and avoiding any duplication of effort.
5. The work of this working party will be assessed after the next two sessions of this body.

II. Terms of Reference of the ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists

In order to support the implementation of the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work, the following Teams of Specialists (ToS) are established:

- (a) ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management;
- (b) ToS on Sustainable Forest Products;
- (c) ToS on Forest Products Statistics;
- (d) ToS on Wood Energy;
- (e) ToS on the Forest Sector Outlook;
- (f) ToS on Forest Policy;
- (g) ToS on Forest Fires (until June 2014);
- (h) ToS on Forest Communication - Forest Communicators Network;
- (i) ToS on Green Jobs - Joint ILO/ECE/FAO Expert Network.

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 1, “Data, monitoring and assessment”

A. Objectives

1. Strengthen the work on: (i) forest reporting, (ii) assessing the state of forests and sustainability of forest management and (iii) monitoring the role of the forest sector in the green economy in the ECE region;
2. Advise the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section on the implementation of activities in Work Area 1 “Data, monitoring and assessment”, with regard to the collection, review, analysis and dissemination of quantitative information on forests and sustainable forest management (SFM) in the ECE region.

B. Activities

1. Provide contributions to the global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire 2015: support the data collection process, analysis of the situation and trends, and drafting of the final report;
2. Assist in the process for the preparation of the report: State of Europe’s Forests 2015: contribute to the reporting on quantitative indicators, analysis of information, coordination of inputs, authors’ contributions and dissemination of results;
3. Contribute to the pilot project on assessing the sustainability of forest management;
4. Contribute to the work on criteria and indicators (C&I) for SFM by Forest Europe and the Montréal Process;
5. Contribute to the preparation of a report on forest ownership in the ECE region: development of concept, contribution to data collection, analysis of information and dissemination of results;
6. Contribute to the preparation of a report on the role of the forest sector in a green economy: development of concept, contribution to data collection, analysis of information and dissemination of results;
7. Contribute to the development of the concept and modalities for a statistical data management system on forest resources, functions and services and SFM;
8. Support other work areas and ToS on issues relevant to data, monitoring and assessment, including related capacity building;
9. Support international work and cooperation on monitoring of forest resources and sustainable forest management (SFM), including the European Union and other organizations in this area;
10. Support communication and dissemination, including by contributing to the forest information billboard.

C. Expected major outputs

1. Review of, and input to documents, reports, and meetings related to global reporting framework – in cooperation with the FAO FRA Team;

2. Review of, and input to documents, reports, and meetings; involvement in the organisation of the workshop for authors and National Correspondents in the ECE region; review of and, whenever possible, involvement in writing, the final report on state of Europe's forests; involvement in dissemination of results;
3. Consultation and advice on the pilot project on assessing the sustainability of forest management;
4. Consultation and advice on issues relevant to the C&I processes in the ECE region – if requested;
5. Consultation and advice on the underlying analytical concepts, and survey as well as the review of the draft report on forest ownership in the ECE region;
6. Consultation and advice on the underlying analytical concepts, and the survey as well as the review of the draft report on the role of the forest sector in a green economy – in cooperation with other ToS;
7. Consultation and advice on designing an improved statistical data management system on forest resources, their functions and services, and forest management;
8. Consultation and advice on the data-related work within Work Areas 1, 2, 3 and 4 – if requested;
9. Advice on communication activities, dissemination of information in countries/organisations and participation (sharing of information) through the forest information billboard.

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, 2013.
Duration:	From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable
Methods of work:	Regular ToS meetings (including steering group and thematic sub-groups meetings); Workshops with participation of the ToS members and the FRA national correspondents; Direct and indirect (electronic) reviews and consultations; Review and, if feasible, preparation of background materials, discussion papers, enquiries. Other forms of work can be determined by the ToS, if needed.
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first team meeting

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 1, “Data, monitoring and assessment”

A. Objectives

1. To advise and support work on the sustainable development of forest products markets and related policies in the ECE region through a network that provides expertise and advice, including on priorities.
2. To carry the message that sustainable forest products can play an important role in greening economies and in providing sustainable products and livelihoods.

B. Activities

1. Provide guidance and referral to the best available experts and/or sources of information for the organization of:
 - Market Discussions during the meeting of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry;
 - workshop(s) on all topics related to forest products including the role of forest products in a green economy, the use of wood for “green buildings”, innovative wood products and other topics, in line with the work programme.
2. Provide expertise and outreach to experts for drafting market-related publications and products, including the technical reviews contained in and the production of the Forest Products Annual Market Review.
3. Propose and assist in conducting capacity building workshops in order to further the development of sustainable forest product manufacturing and use.
4. Guide the secretariat in the organization of meetings related to the sustainable use of forest products.
5. Advise the secretariat on strategies to carry out the Programme of Work in the forest products marketing work area.

C. Expected major outputs

1. Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry market discussions (one each in 2014 and 2015) which cover forest product market topics that are current and relevant to the region.
2. Yearly meeting to discuss a list of recommendations on how to improve the content, structure and focus of the forest products marketing work area in general and the Forest Products Annual Market Review in particular. (typically during the team meeting that is held at the time of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry meeting).
3. Two capacity-building workshops for countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (one each in 2014 and 2015)

D. Background

**Established/
Approved by:** The ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the
FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland,
2013.

Duration: From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable

Methods of work:	Annual meeting. Other methods to be determined by the Team.
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader²³:	Leader: Eoin O’Driscoll (Ireland). Deputy Leaders: Jeremy Wall (European Commission), Branko Glavonjic (Serbia)
Communication:	The Team Leader and secretary should ensure close communication and collaboration with the Teams of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics and Wood Energy

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 1, “Data, monitoring and assessment”

A. Objectives

1. Advise and support work on forest products statistics, including data coverage and collection, validation and classifications used in the ECE region;
2. Suggest and support proposals for increasing the reliability and visibility of forest products statistics;
3. Advise on implementation of activities in Work Area 1 relating to forest products statistics.

B. Activities

1. Review materials such as questionnaires and procedures circulated by the secretariat and Team members;
2. Contact national data users for input;
3. Raise issues of concern related to forest products statistics;
4. Disseminate information on forest products statistics further through the ToS network.
5. Coordinate issues with other members of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics.

C. Expected major outputs

1. Recommendations for revisions to the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire and Timber Forecast Questionnaire;
2. Proposed improvements for national and international practices in data validation and, if required, a working paper describing best practices;
3. A recommended procedure for estimating wood balance, including the desirable level of detail to include and conversion factors to use.

²³ Eoin O’Driscoll, Team Leader, and Jeremy Wall and Branko Glavonjic, Deputy Team Leaders were recently elected at the last meeting of the Team in October 2012.

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	The ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, 2013.
Duration:	From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable
Methods of work:	Annual meeting. Further methods to be determined by the Team
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first Team meeting
Communication:	The Team Leader and secretariat should ensure close cooperation with the Teams of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products and the Team of Specialists on Wood Energy.

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 1, “Data, monitoring and assessment” and Work Area 2, “Policy dialogue and advice”

A. Objectives

1. Advise and support the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section activities in Work Areas 1 and 2 on the methodology for, the implementation of and the follow-up on the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry and specific studies related to wood energy;
2. Contribute to a better understanding of wood energy statistics as a basis for sound policy making.

B. Activities

1. Monitor and analyse the policy aspects of the use of wood for energy generation and the implications for the forest sector;
2. Provide guidance on the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE) data collection and analysis process including on indicators, the structure of the JWEE questionnaire, and the review of wood energy parameters (such as heating values and conversion factors);
3. Build the capacity of ECE member states to develop reliable statistics on wood energy sources and uses;
4. Disseminate information on wood energy and liaise with relevant ToS and other organizations concerned with wood energy statistics.

C. Expected major outputs

1. List of recommendations on the methods for, analysis and conduct of the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry;
2. Suggestions on the focus of work on wood energy-related publications and products;
3. Improved quality and quantity of replies to the JWEE.

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	The ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, 2013.
Duration:	From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable
Methods of work:	Annual meeting. Other methods to be determined by the Team.
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first Team meeting
Communication:	The Team Leader and secretariat should ensure close cooperation with the Teams of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products and the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics.

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 1, “Data, monitoring and assessment” and Work Area 2, “Policy dialogue and advice”

A. Objectives

1. Advise and support the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section on the methodology, implementation and follow-up of outlook studies.

B. Activities

1. Review lessons learned from the EFSOS (European Forest Sector Outlook Study), NAFSOS (North American Forest Sector Outlook Study) and RFFSOS (Russian Federation Forest Sector Outlook Study) processes and explore the feasibility and scope of forthcoming joint studies.
2. Improve the methodology for outlook studies in collaboration/harmonisation with other stakeholders e.g. COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) Actions.
3. Improve involvement of national experts throughout the process, from scenario elaboration to analysis of projections.
4. Disseminate information on the forest sector outlook studies.

C. Expected major outputs

1. Guidance on methods, analysis and conduct of forest sector outlook studies.
2. Identification of scenarios based on: structural developments in the forest sector; long-term supply and demand of wood and other goods and services; as well as policy impacts and implications.
3. Timeline for new outlook studies and identification of contributors and donors.
4. Research in support of forest sector outlook studies and other relevant support to policy making.

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	The ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, 2013.
Duration:	From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable
Methods of work:	Annual meeting. Other methods to be determined by the Team.
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first team meeting

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Policy

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 2 “Policy dialogue and advice” and Work Area 4 “Capacity-building”

A. Objectives

1. To contribute to the development of tools and capacity-building to support sound policy making for the Forest Sector in the ECE Region in particular in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.
2. To advise the secretariat on implementation of Work Areas 2 and 4 of the Joint Programme of Work.

B. Activities

1. Advise and support the secretariat on:
 - a. The collection, review, analysis and dissemination of qualitative information on forest policies, institutions and instruments in the ECE region;
 - b. The organization of policy dialogues at the regional and national level (including National Forest Policy Dialogues);
2. Contribute to:
 - a. The development of policy tools such as guidelines and recommendations and strengthen policy-related components of ECE and FAO studies (SoEF, FPAMR, Outlook studies, etc.);
 - b. Capacity-building activities (work area 4) that are related to forest policy development, institutions and green economy measures. While all countries of the ECE region should benefit from capacity-building activities, special attention will be paid to the needs of the countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.
3. Provide advice and support to the follow-up on the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy
4. Development of guidance for policy makers to foster sustainable wildlife management in the framework of sustainable forest management, also in view of

avoiding conflict over different types of land use and/or damage caused by wildlife.

C. Expected major outputs

1. Contribution to a framework for collecting and analysing information on forest policies, institutions and instruments (to be developed in close cooperation with the ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management) with a view to:
 - a. Producing a publication (an overview and analysis of existing forest policy and institution models and main trends);
 - b. Contributing to the forest policy part of the FAO country profiles for the ECE region;
2. Support to the organization of regional policy dialogues (themes, speakers...) and provide recommendations on further development of the national forest policy dialogues (contents, methods...);
3. Support to the drafting and review of the policy outputs in the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work in order to tailor their messages to country needs and/or target groups;
4. Dissemination of policy related work of the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section at national and sub-national levels;
5. Provision of national experts and case studies, trainers and content for capacity building activities;
6. Policy brief on the interface and possible synergies between forest and wildlife management.

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	The ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, December 2013.
Duration:	From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable
Methods of work:	Annual meeting. Other methods to be determined by the Team
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first Team meeting

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 2, "Policy dialogue and advice"

A. Objectives

1. To promote a continuous exchange of (new) knowledge on and practices in fire management through the organization of meetings on Fire Management issues in the ECE region;
2. To provide guidance to ECE member states on forest fire management and forest fire policies, including on bilateral / international cooperation, in close cooperation

and coordination with the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group / Global Wildland Fire Network, FAO, UNISDR, Council of Europe and other partners;

3. To organise regional seminars and training workshops in fire management;

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

B. Activities

1. Development of policy recommendations for fire management in the UNECE region to be summarized in a “White Paper on the State of Wildfires and Fire Management in Forests and other Vegetation Resources in the UNECE Region”.

C. Expected major outputs

1. A Regional Forum on Cross-boundary Fire.
2. A Resolution of the Forum on a proposal for a voluntary or legal protocol on cross-boundary cooperation in fire management.
3. White Paper on the State of Wildfires and Fire Management in Forests and other Vegetation Resources in the UNECE Region”.

D. Background

**Established/
Approved by:** Joint session of the ECE Timber Committee and FAO
European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008

Duration: January 2014 – July 2014

Methods of work: To be determined by the Team

Reporting: Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest
Statistics, Economics and Management

Team leader: Leader:
Johann G. Goldammer (Germany)

Deputy Leaders:
Andrey Eritsov (Russian Federation)
Professor Nikola Nikolov (FYR Macedonia)

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Communication (Forest Communicators’ Network)

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 3, “Communication and outreach”

A. Objectives

To improve the ability of the forest sector to communicate effectively within and outside the sector, by:

1. Providing a forum for international interaction and cooperation in forest related communications;
2. Strengthening the ability of the Committee, the Commission and the Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management to reach out to relevant constituencies, within and outside the forest sector, including through cooperation with other Teams of Specialists;
3. Developing the professionalism of forest communicators by introducing and encouraging state of the art and innovative communication approaches, strengthening networking and supporting capacities in the region.

B. Activities

The ToS provides advice in the communication field to benefit of the forest community by:

1. Supporting COFFI and EFC in reaching out to relevant constituencies, within and outside the forest sector;
2. Developing a revised version of the Strategic Framework for Forest Communication in Europe that addresses current trends and the latest developments in the forest scene;
3. Developing a fact sheet or leaflet on the role of forests and forests products in contributing to a green economy – These materials could be used to support future forest-related awareness campaigns (i.e. International Day of Forests, European Forest Week, and other related events);
4. Advising FAO on the establishment of forest communicators networks in other world regions as well as sharing information and experience with such networks;
5. Developing a set of recommendations for promoting the educational tool on the state of forests in Europe and relevant publications or material on forest pedagogics. Involve the Forest Pedagogics Group in disseminating the tool and identifying relevant stakeholders to further develop the tool and/or translate it into other languages;
6. Cooperating with the Forest Europe Liaison Unit and other relevant institutions, organisations, processes and initiatives, on matters relevant to forest communication;
7. Identifying other communication work of relevance to forests as well as information-sharing platforms developed by civil society;
8. Developing a concept and seeking funding for a possible second (follow-up) survey on the public perception of forests and the forest sector in Europe,
9. Contributing to capacity-building activities for forest communication.

C. Expected major outputs

1. Revised version of the Strategic Framework for Forest Communication in Europe by the end of 2015;
2. Fact sheet or leaflet with key messages on the role of forests, forest products and their role in a green economy by the end of 2014;
3. Information note on the development of other regional forest communicators networks – to be included in the annual team activities' annual report;
4. Draft set of recommendations for the promotion of forest education and pedagogics by the end of 2014.

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	The ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, 2013.
Duration:	From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable
Methods of work:	Networking, meetings, workshops, advice on forest communication related issues, including for awareness campaigns.
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first Team meeting

**ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector (ILO/ECE/FAO
Joint Expert Network)**

Reference to Integrated Work Programme:

Work Area 4, “Capacity-building”

A. Objectives

1. Advise and support the secretariat on the implementation of the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme on employment-related issues such as: jobs, needed competencies, education and training for the forest sector in the context of a green economy

B. Activities

1. Contribute to, and support the secretariat in, the implementation of activities in the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy under Pillar C (decent green jobs) by:
 - a. Contributing to improving the monitoring and analysis of the forest sector workforce (including occupational health and safety),
 - b. Reviewing forest sector workforce issues at all levels (policy, management, operations...) and discussing the main threats to the sustainability of the workforce,
 - c. Providing recommendations for the consideration of parent bodies to develop preventive and remedial actions, including ways to attract young people to work in the forest sector.
2. Assess and disseminate existing tools and, when appropriate, contribute to developing new tools to train the existing and future forest workforce and certify competencies in the forest sector;
3. Advise and support the secretariat on the organization of meetings related to forest competencies and training;

4. In collaboration with IUFRO and IFSA, map and describe forestry education curricula and identify present and future skill requirements for forestry professionals in the region;
5. Contribute to the capacity building activities (work area 4) that are related to forest competences and training;
6. Disseminate information on the network's activities and results.

C. Expected major outputs

1. Recommendations, developed in close cooperation with the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, on ways and means to improve data collection and analysis on jobs, health and safety in the forest sector in order to support better policy making (including for indicators 6.5 and 6.6 of the Pan-European Criteria and Indicators);
2. Assessment of the relevance of a recommendation on a framework for national action plans for decent green jobs in the forest sector (e.g. development and enforcement of occupational safety and health regulations, communication campaigns targeting potential candidates, training) with examples and case studies and, if appropriate, the development of this recommendation;
3. One meeting to review and formulate recommendations to address main forest sector workforce issues, including training, education and gender issues;
4. Assessment and dissemination of information on existing competency certification schemes such as ConCert (Certification of Competency for forestry entrepreneurs), ECC (European Chainsaw users' Certification), WETNet (Wood Energy Training Network) and other tools that could be developed by EFESC (European Forestry and Environmental Skills Council), while extending the competency approach to the whole ECE region;

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	The ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rovaniemi, Finland, December 2013.
Duration:	From January 2014 to December 2015. Renewable
Methods of work:	Annual meeting. Other methods to be determined by the Team
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first Team meeting

III. Guidelines for ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists

A. Introduction

1. These draft guidelines were adopted by "Metsä2013", the joint session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) held from 9 to 13 December 2013 in Rovaniemi, Finland. The

guidelines shall apply to the ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists (ToS), which contribute to the implementation of the integrated ECE/FAO Programme of Work.

2. These draft guidelines are in line with, and are complementary to, the guidelines for the establishment and functioning of Teams of Specialists within ECE as contained in document ECE/EX/2/Rev.1.

B. Role of the Teams of Specialists

3. The ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists are established by the COFFI and EFC for an initial period of two years, which can be extended, after review by the COFFI and EFC every two years, for as long as required. The COFFI and EFC also approve the Terms of Reference for all Teams of Specialists.

4. The primary role of the Teams of Specialists is to support the implementation of the ECE/FAO Programme of Work as expressed in their respective Terms of Reference. All Teams of Specialists report annually to the Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (WPFSEM), which gives them guidance and evaluates their work based on their Terms of Reference and Work Plan. In addition, the WPFSEM provides recommendations to the COFFI and the EFC for updating the Terms of Reference of the ToS and for their extension or discontinuation.

C. Membership and Officers

5. For each Team of Specialists, the secretariat circulates the Terms of Reference to ECE Member States and all relevant Stakeholders in the ECE region and asks them to nominate their official representative, should they wish to participate in the Team activities. Member States and Stakeholders are expected to nominate their representative to a Team based on their interest in the issues covered by this Team and their capacity to support the participation of their representative in the Team's work. On the basis of the answers received, the secretariat prepares a list of Team Members and establishes the Team. The request for nomination may be repeated at the end of the first two-year duration or at the beginning of the next joint Programme of Work, as appropriate. When Member States and stakeholders wish to nominate another or an additional representative to a Team, they notify this proposal to the secretariat which informs the Team at its next meeting.

6. Experts without official affiliation can also contribute to the Team work at the invitation of the Team Leader, in close consultation with the secretariat. To the extent possible, due consideration should be given to ensuring geographical and gender balance.

7. Each Team of Specialists appoints its officers for a duration of two years: a Leader and, if deemed necessary, one or two Deputy Leaders. After one term of two years, one of the Deputy Leaders is usually appointed Leader. When the Team appoints two Deputy Leaders, to ensure adequate continuity, the outgoing Leader is usually re-appointed as Deputy Leader. Under special circumstances (e.g. absence of candidates), Leader and Deputy Leaders can be re-appointed if the Team wishes to do so. Candidates for the office of Leader should obtain the relevant authorization and secure the necessary resources (time and funding), from their government or organization, to fulfil their responsibilities during their elected terms.

D. Role of the Team Leaders and Team Members

8. With the assistance of, and in close cooperation with, the secretariat, the Leader's responsibilities are to:

- (a) Conduct the Team meetings, ensure that the Team's Terms of Reference are applied and lead the Team;

- (b) Supervise the preparation of the work plan;
 - (c) Coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the work plan, including by raising funds, where appropriate;
 - (d) Prepare and present implementation reports at the WPFSEM: a one-year report at the end of the first year and a two-year report (“full report”) at the end of its term;
 - (e) Attend meetings of the Leaders of the Teams of Specialists.
9. When the Leader is not able to attend a Team meeting or to represent the Team at a parent body meeting, the Leader makes sure that one of the Deputy Leaders can replace him/her. In addition, Deputy Leaders may assist the Leader with certain tasks such as preparing the work plan or reports, making contacts or fund raising.
10. Team Members are expected to actively participate in the Team activities by:
- (a) Attending the Team meetings;
 - (b) Contributing to the work between the Team meetings;
 - (c) Answering enquiries from the Leader or the secretariat;
 - (d) Relaying information on the Team’s work at the national and subnational level.

E. Methods of Work

11. Under the guidance of the Leader and with the support of the secretariat, the Team prepares its work plan for a two year period defining, for each activity from its Terms of Reference, the time schedule and the resources needed, including those resulting from fund raising. Teams can create task-oriented groups for a limited period of time (e.g. to advise for the organization of an event or the preparation of a publication). Teams are expected to be self-sustaining and regular budget funds will not be available to support the Teams. Teams use the work plan format and the report template that are provided by the secretariat.
12. Team meetings are convened by the secretariat in Geneva or any other place where the meetings can be hosted by a Member State or a partner organization. It is suggested to utilize electronic means when appropriate. The working language of Teams of Specialists is English. In general, no interpretation will be provided. More detailed methods of work may be developed by the Team.
13. Teams are encouraged to seek assistance from other Teams of Specialists especially for cross-sectoral activities that are mentioned as in their Terms of Reference.

F. Role of the secretariat

14. In close cooperation with the Team Leader, the secretariat is responsible for:
- (a) Contacting Member States and other relevant Stakeholders, including for the nomination of Team Members, for updating of the lists of Team Members and issuing meeting invitations;
 - (b) Assisting in the scheduling of meetings and other activities, in consultation with the Team;
 - (c) Providing guidance in fulfilling the Terms of Reference;
 - (d) Facilitating the meetings, taking notes and disseminating information on the Team’s activities;

- (e) Cooperating with the Leader in preparing the reports on the Team's accomplishments;
- (f) Posting meeting reports and main outputs of the Team's work on the web.

IV. Terms of Reference of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (previously Timber Committee)

1. The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, as a Sectoral Committee of ECE, constitutes a forum for cooperation and consultation among its member countries. Its objective is to strengthen the forest sector and its contribution to sustainable development throughout the ECE region, through monitoring, analysis, capacity building and the provision of a forum for discussion, taking into account the changing policy environment, notably as regards climate change and bioenergy. The Committee focuses on the sound and legal use of forest products, for raw material or energy, and on forest services.

2. The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry shall, within the context of sustainable development, provide member countries with the information and services which they need for policy- and decision-making as regards their forest and forest industry sector ("the sector"), including the trade and use of forest products and, when appropriate, formulate recommendations addressed to member Governments and interested organizations. To this end, it shall:

- (a) With the active participation of member countries, undertake short-, medium- and long-term analyses of developments in, and having an impact on, the sector, including those offering possibilities for the facilitation of international trade and for enhancing the protection of the environment;
- (b) In support of these analyses, collect, store and disseminate statistics and other information relating to the sector, and carry out activities to improve their quality and comparability;
- (c) Provide a framework for cooperation, e.g. by organizing seminars, workshops and ad hoc meetings and setting up time-limited teams of specialists, for the exchange of economic, environmental and technical information between Governments and other institutions of member countries that is needed for the development and implementation of policies leading to the sustainable development of the sector and to the protection of the environment in their respective countries;
- (d) Carry out tasks identified by the ECE or the Committee as being of priority, including the facilitation of subregional cooperation and activities in support of the economies of eastern Europe, the Caucasus and central Asia and the Mediterranean region;
- (e) It should also keep under review its structure and priorities and cooperate with other international and intergovernmental organizations active in the sector, and in particular with the FAO and its European Forestry Commission (EFC), the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and with Forest Europe (the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe, previously MCPFE), in order to ensure complementarity and to avoid duplication, thereby optimizing the use of resources. Its work programme is fully integrated with that of the EFC.

3. The integrated work programme of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the European Forestry Commission has four work areas (WA):

- (a) WA 1: Data, monitoring and assessment;
- (b) WA 2: Policy dialogue and advice;
- (c) WA 3: Communication and outreach;
- (d) WA 4: Capacity-building.

V. Mandate of the FAO European Forestry Commission

Name	<u>European Forestry Commission (EFC)</u> (FO-726) (1) (Article VI-1 of the Constitution)		
Origin	Established by the Conference at its Third Session (1947) on the recommendation of the FAO Mariánské-Lázně (Czechoslovakia) Forestry Conference in 1947.		
Purpose	To advise on the formulation of forest policy and to review and coordinate its implementation at the regional level; to exchange information and, generally through special subsidiary bodies, advise on suitable practices and action with regard to technical and economic problems, and make appropriate recommendations in relation to the foregoing.		
First Session	July 1948		
Membership	Open to all Member Nations and Associate Members whose territories are situated wholly or in part in the European Region or who are responsible for the international relations of any non-self-governing territories in that region. Membership comprises such eligible Nations that have notified the Director-General of their desire to be considered as members.		
Present membership	Albania Austria Belarus Belgium Bulgaria Croatia Cyprus Czech Republic Denmark Estonia European Community Finland France Germany	Greece Hungary Iceland Ireland Israel Italy Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Netherlands Norway Poland Portugal Romania	Russian Federation Serbia Slovakia Slovenia Spain Sweden Switzerland The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Turkey Ukraine United Kingdom Uzbekistan