



Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

European Forestry Commission

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics

Minutes of the First Meeting

The first meeting of the Team of Specialist on Forest Products Statistics took place on 16 June 2014 in Geneva. 24 participants attended the meeting.

Mr Anvar Nigmatov (Secretary of the Team) welcomed participants.

Ms Paola Deda (Chief of the joint UNECE/FAO Section on Forestry / Secretary of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry) also welcomed participants and emphasized the role of the Team.

Mr Holger Weimar (Germany) chaired the meeting.

The agenda was adopted with one minor change (an item – Forest Economic Statistics - was added).

All participants introduced themselves.

Mr Nigmatov explained the structure of governing and advisory bodies, and the mandate of the Team.

Mr Florian Steierer (Secretariat) delivered a presentation on a tool to check Round Wood Balance.

Mr Matt Fonseca (Secretariat) gave a presentation on conversion factors explaining the need for further work in this area.

Mr Nigmatov discussed with participants the JQ3 sheet of the Joint Forecast Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ). Participants noted that completing the JQ3 sheet didn't result in any reporting burden and some participants underlined that their data are more accurate than data from UN Comtrade.

Participants had several questions on the Eurostat proposals to modify JFSQ, and concluded that the discussion of the proposals should take place in the presence of a Eurostat representative.

Ms Yanshu Li (FAO) briefed participants on the Harmonized System of 2017.

Mr Stefan Karlson (Sweden) delivered a short presentation on Forest Economic Statistics highlighting the limited availability of international data in this area and proposing this topic for future consideration by the Team.



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Participants, based on the presentations and discussions, brainstormed about the future activities for the Team and agreed to work on the following:

1. JFSQ modifications

2. Capacity building

3. Conversion factors

4. Round Wood Balance

5. Forest Economic Statistics

6. Data confidentiality issues (requested by the Working Party on 17 June 2014, therefore added after the meeting. See sub-item Forest Products Statistics of Work Area 1 in the Working Party Report at: <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/20140617/WP2014ReportD.pdf>)

Participants elected Mr Branko Glavonjic (Serbia) as Team Leader and Ms Sheila Ward (United Kingdom) as Deputy Team Leader.

Participants asked to avoid having future Team meetings in parallel with other Team of Specialists meetings. There was a general agreement to meet once per year. The Leader will arrange the next meeting and inform the Team of the place and date in due course. Prior to the meeting, communication will be maintained through emails.

The Secretary and the Leader summarized the discussions and the Chair closed the first meeting.
