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Seminar on

STRATEGIES FOR THE SOUND USE OF WOOD

**Poiana Brasov, Romania
24-27 March 2003**

Second announcement

Programme and registration

PARTICIPATION

This document is being circulated to stimulate interest in the Seminar. Experts intending to attend the Seminar are invited to fill in the registration form in Annex II and send it to both: Ms. Helena Simkova (helena.simkova@unece.org), UNECE Trade Development and Timber Division, Timber Branch, and Mr. Florian Borlea (aicas@mail.dnttm.ro), Romanian Forest Research & Management Institute – ICAS - Timisoara.

SEMINAR INFORMATION

Further information on the Seminar and summaries of the papers to be presented at the Seminar will be made available at the Timber Committee's website:

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/>

Background

Wood is used for a broad range of end products as well as for energy generation throughout the world. Wood has been in constant competition with other materials and products such as synthetics, concrete, steel, ceramics, glass and fossil fuels. The decisions on utilisation of a raw material or energy source are taken within a technical, financial, regulatory and cultural framework. Therefore, it is important to understand the factors influencing the choice and to compare the performances of wood and its substitutes when using them in different applications (building, manufacturing of products, energy generation, etc.).

The revival of a wood-using culture in Europe, with the focus on wood as a renewable material and energy source contributing to sustainable practices, requires stimulating demand. This is essentially about education focused on wood's functionality, performance, natural qualities, energy potential and fitness for sustainable consumption. Implicit in achieving this is the involvement of governments, industry, consumers, communities, opinion leaders, NGOs and other stakeholders.

Although wood is generally recognised by the public as an environment friendly material, it is less known that a balanced consumption of wood is a necessary part of sustainable forest management and important for the forests' welfare. There is a long and unfortunate history of gaps of understanding between the forestry sector and the key parties, whereas value resides in closing these gaps by widespread exchange of information on wood promotion.

Objectives of the Seminar

So far, the international dialogue on forest has focused on the "upstream" aspects of sustainable forest management, although many major policy statements, including the Rio "Forest principles", the IPF/IFF proposals for Action and Lisbon resolution L1, have also mentioned downstream issues linked with markets, consumption and trade. They have stressed the importance of sound and sustainable consumption patterns as an integral and necessary part of the sustainable development of the sector as a whole.

The objective of the Seminar is to place sound use of wood and sustainable patterns of consumption in the wider context of sustainable development, and explore possible policy options, for governments and other stakeholders. It will also address, from the sustainability perspective, certain complex issues related to consumption and markets, including life cycle analysis, promotion of wood, certification and chain-of-custody, communication with, and education of, the public, trade and environment issues.

The Seminar objectives are in line with the scope of work and recommendations of various international organizations including:

- Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe,
- United Nations Forum on Forests,
- World Summit on Sustainable Development.

The Seminar outline is based on the comparative advantage of the UNECE/FAO integrated programme, one of the few international programmes to combine upstream and downstream issues in a single framework.

The Seminar is intended for policy makers and analysts, and a wide range of stakeholders and researchers, as well as trade and industry associations and environmental NGOs, etc.

Rationale

Romania invited the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission to hold the seminar at the occasion of their joint session in 2000. Several reasons support the idea for holding the seminar on sound use of wood in Romania. First, its national forestry policy and strategy foresee the development of the Romanian forestry sector based on the sustainable management of forests, improving efficiency of exploitation and development of high value-added products. Romanian forestry industry has therefore a good potential to transform its consumption patterns. Second, Romania has large forest resources constituting habitats for several endangered species and representing a great biological diversity. Third, Romania has considerable experience with transition from the central planned to the market economy presenting similar problems to other CEECs countries. These characteristics are very suitable for bringing together experts from the whole UNECE region to study and discuss the challenges of the sound use of wood. This is why the UNECE and the FAO welcome the generous hospitality of Romania to host the Seminar.

Date and venue of the Seminar

The Seminar will be held from **24 to 27 March 2003 in Poiana Brasov, Romania**. Poiana Brasov is a modern mountain resort built in the late 1960s. It offers excellent conditions both for winter sports and relaxation throughout the entire year. Poiana Brasov is located 180 km North from Bucharest at 1023 m altitude, only 13 km from the town of Brasov which is the second main Romanian city with around 500 000 inhabitants.



Seminar organization

The Seminar is being organized under the auspices of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission and in co-operation with the Romanian National Forest Administration.

Participation

Experts from the UNECE member states and other UN countries may attend the Seminar.

Study visits and cultural programme

A study visit will be organized on the first day of the Seminar. A cultural programme for Seminar participants will be prepared.

An exhibition for forestry companies will be organised in the same period as the Seminar in Brasov.

Details will be announced shortly before the Seminar.

Programme overview

| <i>Session</i> | Monday 24 March 2002 | Tuesday 25 March 2002 | Wednesday 26 March 2002 | Thursday 27 March 2002 |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Morning</i> | | | | |
| 8h30 – 10h30 | Study visit: Sustainable management of forests and wood industry in Romania | Introduction (1) Introduction speeches | Session III: New markets and consumption patterns | Presentation of working groups' results |
| 11h00 – 12h30 | | Introduction (2) Roundtable discussion | Session IV: Strategies for the sound use of wood in central and eastern Europe | Conclusions and recommendations |
| | | | | |
| <i>Afternoon</i> | | | | |
| 13h30 – 15h30 | Study visit | Session I: What is sound use of wood? | Session V: Trade and environment | Departure |
| | | | | |
| 16h00 – 18h00 | Opening Session: National forest policy and strategy in Romania | Session II: How to stimulate sound use of wood? | Working groups | |
| 18h00 – 19h00 | | Poster session | Chairs working groups meeting | |

Languages

The Conference will be held in the three official languages of the UNECE: English, French and Russian. Interpretation into and from the above languages will be available at the working sessions. For the Opening Session interpretation into Romanian will also be provided.

Registration

Participants intending to attend the Seminar are invited to fill in the registration form set out in Annex II by **15 February 2003**. The registration form must be completed and submitted to the host country Romania and the UNECE secretariat. Participants should indicate on the registration form if they are travelling alone or accompanied.

Addresses for submission of registration form:

Mr. Gheorghe Florian BORLEA
Forest Research & Management Institute – ICAS - Timisoara
Padurea Verde Nr. 1
RO-1900 Timisoara, Romania
Phone: +40 256-220085
Fax: +40 256-220085
E-mail: aicas@mail.dnttm.ro

Ms. Helena SIMKOVA
UNECE Trade Development and Timber Division, Timber Branch
Palais des Nations, room 376
CH-1211 Genève 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22-9173922
Fax: +41 22-9170041
E-mail: helena.simkova@unece.org

Preparation of papers

Presentations will address the problems highlighted in the Seminar programme (see Annex I). Abstracts of invited papers must be transmitted in electronic format to the UNECE secretariat (helena.simkova@unece.org) by **20 December 2002**, the full papers by **10 February 2003**.

Detailed agenda and summaries of the papers to be presented at the Seminar will be posted at the Timber Committee's website by January 2003:

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/>

All participants should bring their own copies of documents with them to the Seminar. Only a limited number of copies will be made available at the Seminar place. Participants that have difficulties to download the documents from the Internet are invited to contact the UNECE secretariat, which will send them the documents by post mail.

Presentation of papers

The following audio-visual aids will be available: computer for Power Point presentations, video system (VHS), slide projector and overhead projector.

Participants wishing to show videos or films are requested to give the necessary information on their registration form (title, length of projection time, format, etc.).

Communication

Access to the Internet will be available at the Seminar place.

Accommodation and other information (visas, weather, etc.)

Participants will be accommodated at the Hotel SPORT (***) in which the Seminar will be held.

Address:

Hotel Sport

2209 Poiana Brasov,

Judetul Brasov

Romania

Phone: +40 268 407330

Fax: +40 268 407334

e-mail: office@anahotels.ro; marketing@anahotels.ro

The hotel price is: €45 (including breakfast) per night for single room and €60 for double room. All meal (lunch, dinner and 2 coffees) costs will be covered by a daily fee of €30 per person.

Participants are invited to send the hotel reservation form (Annex III) to the Hotel Sport fax number: **+40 268 407334**, by **15 February 2003**.

Participants are expected to arrive on **23 March 2003** at and to leave on **27 March 2003** from the International Airport of Bucharest. Transfer will be provided from the Airport to the Hotel and vice versa. Participants who wish to make other arrangements are invited to contact Romanian organisers (Mr. Florian Borlea).

Passports and visas

All participants should have a valid passport and, if required, an entry visa, which can be obtained from the Romania Embassy or Consulate in their own country. Visa applications should be made as early as possible.

Weather

Daytime temperature in Poiana Brasov in March varies very much (between 15° to -15° C) and the weather is generally typical for end winter period. Participants are invited to take with them warm clothes for wintertime.

Money exchange

Money can be exchanged at banks and money exchange offices. Preferred currencies are both Euro and US dollar.

Annex I

PROGRAMME OF THE SEMINAR

(As of 3 February 2003, final programme can be slightly different)

Monday, 24 March 2003

- Study visit - Sustainable management of forests and wood industry in Romania

Plenary session – Opening

- Welcome

Mr. Christopher Prins, Chief, Timber Branch, UNECE Trade Development and Timber Branch

- National forest policy and strategy in Romania

Mr. Ovidiu Ionescu, State Secretary for Forests, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests, Romania

Mr. Filip Georgescu, General Director, National Forest Administration, Romania

Tuesday, 25 March 2003

Plenary session

Introduction - The place of the sound use of wood and other forest products in strategies for sustainable development

- Linking sustainable forest management to timber sourcing decisions and policies

Mr. David Bills, Director General, UK Forestry Commission, the United Kingdom

- Forest products utilization and sustainable development

Mr. Wulf Killmann, Director, Forest Products Division, paper presented by Mr. Jacques Lahaussais, Forestry Officer, Forestry Department, FAO

- *Mr. Jeremy Wall, Principal Administrator, Unit – Forest Based Industries, DG Enterprise, European Commission*

- What the international dialogue on forests has changed in the role of production in promoting SFM?

Mr. Gerard Buttoud, professor of forest policy, French Institute of Forestry, Agricultural and Environmental Engineering (ENGREF), France

- From good forest management to the sound use of wood: an NGO view

Mr. Duncan Pollard, Head of European Forest Programme, WWF International, Switzerland

Round table discussion of stakeholders (NGOs, wood industry, forest owners)

Facilitated by *Mr. Michael Buckley*:

- *Mr. Ovidiu Ionescu, State Secretary for Forests, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests, Romania*
- *Mr. Bernard De Galembert, Forest Director, Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI), Belgium*
- *Mrs. Natalie Hufnagl, Secretary General, Confédération Européenne des Propriétaires Forestiers (CEPF), Belgium*
- *Mrs. Beatrix Richards, European Forest Policy Officer, WWF International*
- *Mr. Thomas Harttung, President, Pro Silva Europe, Denmark*

Session I: What is sound use of wood?

1.1 Life cycle analysis

- Comparison of wood products and major substitutes with respect to environmental and energy balances

Mr. Arno F. Frühwald, Bundesforschungsanstalt für Forst- und Holzwirtschaft Hamburg, Germany

1.2 Competitiveness of wood – Is wood losing market share?

- The competitive climate for wood products and paper packaging; the factors causing substitution with emphasis on environmental promotion

Mr. Jan Hagstedt, Senior Advisor, Nordic Timber Council AB, Sweden

- What are the potentials of European woodworking industries?

Mr. Jeremy Wall, Principal Administrator, European Commission, DG Enterprise, Unit – Forest Based Industries

1.3 Is increased consumption of wood sustainable?

- Outlook for long-term supply of and demand for forest products on the European Forest Sector Outlook Studies (EFSOS)

Mr. Anders Baudin, School of Industrial Engineering, Växjö University, Sweden, and Mr. Kari Kangas, UNFF, New York,

- Wood supply for the growing European pulp and paper industry

Mr. Bernard De Galembert, Forest Director, Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI)

- Impacts of the EU energy policy on the woodworking industries – the sound use of wood from an industries perspective

Mr. Chris Van Riet, Technical and Environmental Adviser, European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-Bois)

Session II: How to stimulate sound use of wood?

2.1 Strategies and policy instruments

- Wood promotion in Germany - a joint initiative of forestry and wood based industry since 1990
Mr. Johann Georg Dengg, Ass. Head of Division on Timber Markets, Sales Promotion, Wood Use, Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture, Germany
- Governments' role in wood promotion
Mr. Ingwald Gschwandtl, Director, Forest Policy and Forest Information Division, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria
- Policy for wood consumption in Romania
Mrs. Constanta Istratescu, Scientific Research Secretary, and Mr. Dan Dumitru Copacean, National Institute of Wood, Romania

2.2 Wood promotion campaigns, communication and education

- Promoting wood construction in the EU
Ms. Aila Janatuinen, Finnish Forest Industries Federation
- Promotion of wood and forest products in New Zealand
Mr. Shaun Killerby, Market Analyst, Strategic Market Intelligence Group, Forest Research, New Zealand

Poster session

A. Wood promotion, education (case studies)

- Swiss wood promotional programs
Mr. Marco Zanetti, BUWAL, Switzerland
- Learning about Forests - programme aiming to support forest education through an international network with themes
Mr. Robert Lorenz, Danish Outdoor Council - Learning about Forests, Germany
- The FAO-ECE Forest Communicators Network
Mr. Ingwald Gschwandtl, Director, Forest Policy and Forest Information Division, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria

B. Innovative uses, new markets

- Energy Wood and Wood Energy
Mr. Christof Hugentobler, Switzerland
- European Awards for the Environment
DDB Focus Europe on behalf of the European Commission, DG Environment, Belgium
- Wood and wood-based panel products
Mr. Chris Van Riet, Technical and Environmental Adviser, European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-Bois)

- A better use of growing stock and remaining trees by means of market-oriented instruments
Poster by Mr. Marian Dragoi Faculty of Forestry – University of Suceava, Romania

C. Trade and supply chain issues

- Providing municipal water, timber products, recreation, and other non timber forest products from a small watershed
Mr. Clifford Todd
- ECHAIINE, Energy Wood Production Chains in Europe
Mr. Bengt Hillring, Associated professor, Department of Bioenergy, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden
- The reservation price for auction – the first step towards a sound use of wood
Ms. Simona Dragoi, Senior Researcher, Forest Research and Management Institute, Romania

Wednesday, 26 March 2003

Plenary session

Session III: New markets and consumption patterns

3.1 Bioenergy

- Bavaria pushes for biomass use
Mr. Reinhold Erlbeck, Bavarian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Germany

3.2 Managing climate change risks

- Managing forests for adaptation to climate change
Mr. Zoltan Rakonczay, Forest and Climate Change Officer, WWF International, Hungary
- Afforestation of bad lands financed through Joint Implementation Projects
Mr. V. Blujdea, Forest Research and Management Institute, Mr. I. Abrudan, Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering, Transilvania University of Brasov, and Mr. C. Pahontu, National Forest Administration, Forest Regeneration Service, Romania

3.3 Innovative products and uses

- Modeling and forecasting the demand for sawnwood in western Europe from an end-use perspective
Mr. Anders Baudin, School of Industrial Engineering, Växjö University, Sweden
- The United Kingdom wood for good programme
Mr. David Bills, Director General, UK Forestry Commission, the United Kingdom

Session IV: Strategies for the sound use of wood in central and eastern Europe

- The wood market in central and eastern Europe
Messrs. Leonard Padureanu, Financial Manager, National Forest Administration, Gheorghe Florian Borlea, Forest Research & Management Institute, and Sabin Bratu, Head of the Commercial Office, National Forest Administration, Romania
- Improvement of the organization of forest use in Russia
Mr. Gourguen Goukasyan, the Union of Timber Manufacturers and Exporters of Russia, the Russian Federation
- The sound use of wood and other forest resources in Romania
Messrs. Gheorghe Dumitriu, Gheorghe Pirnuta, Iovu Biris and Gheorghe Florian Borlea, Forest Research and Management Institute-Bucharest, Romania
- Romanian and Bulgarian responsible timber trade - opportunity for the region
Mr. George Dinicu, Forest Officer, WWF Romania
- Working on strategies for the sound use of wood in Hungary
Mr. Zsolt Kovács, Professor of Wood Science, West-Hungarian University, Hungary

Session V: Trade and environment

5.1 Certification

- Forest certification - experiences with PEFC in Germany
Mr. Dirk Teegelbekkers, General Secretary, PEFC Germany
- FSC certification as a tool for socially and environmentally responsible trade
Ms. Gemma Boetekees, FSC Europe Director, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) International Centre, Germany
- Forest certification in Romania and the market perspective
Mr. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Lecturer, Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania
- Illegal logging in the context of the sound use of wood
Mr. Anssi Niskanen, European Forest Institute, Finland
- PEFC Council international perspectives
Mr. Jaroslav Tymrak, PEFC Council, Luxembourg

5.2 Supply chain issues: chain of custody, procurement, etc.

- Sound use of wood: new markets or new obstacles to trade?
Secretary to the UNECE Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies, UNECE, Geneva
- Sourcing timber from sustainably managed sources
Ms. Margaret Rainey, the Deputy Director with responsibility for the European Forest and Trade Networks, WWF International
- FSC certification and strengthening legal compliance in the forest products trade

Mr. Liviu Amariei, Head of the FSC Accreditation Business Unit, Forest Stewardship Council, Mexico

Working Groups' Session

Five working groups (WGs) focusing on the session themes

| Working group | WG chairs |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| I. What is sound use of wood? | <i>Mr. David Bills</i> |
| II. How to stimulate sound use of wood? | <i>Mr. Gerard Buttoud</i> |
| III. New markets and consumption patterns | <i>Mr. Sten Nilsson</i> |
| IV. Strategies for the sound use of wood in central and eastern Europe | <i>Mr. Leonard Padureanu</i> |
| V. Trade and environment | <i>Ms. Margaret Rainey</i> |

Meeting of the working group chairs

- Summary of the results of the working group discussions
- Preparation and drafting of the conclusions and recommendations from the seminar

Thursday, 27 March 2003

Plenary session

Presentation of working groups' results

Conclusions and recommendations

- Based on working groups outcomes
- Addressed to Timber Committee, European Forestry Commission, Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, governments and other stakeholders.

Annex II

REGISTRATION FORM

If you wish to attend the above seminar, please complete this form and send one copy to both the host country Romania, attn. Mr. Borlea, and the UNECE, attn. Ms. Simkova (see contact details on page 4) before 15 February 2003. (Please fill in using CAPITAL LETTERS)

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Country: | | |
| Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> | Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> | Last name: |
| (Please tick) | | First name: |
| Job title: | | |
| Organisation: | | |
| Address: | | |
| Telephone: | | |
| Fax: | | |
| E-mail: | | |
| Web Page: | | |

Do you wish to participate in the seminar **study visit** on Monday, 24 March 2003?

(Please tick)

Yes

No

In which **working group** would you prefer to participate? (Please tick)

- I. What is sound use of wood?
- II. How to stimulate sound use of wood?
- III. New markets and consumption patterns
- IV. Strategies for the sound use of wood in central and eastern Europe
- V. Trade and environment

Do you wish to present a **voluntary poster** at the conference?

(Please tick)

Yes

Preliminary
title: _____

Please provide below the names of any persons (partners, spouses, etc.) accompanying you to Poiana Brasov:

I wish to have all meals (lunch, dinner and 2 coffees for €30 per person and day) in the Hotel Sport for _____ day(s), starting with _____ (indicate lunch or dinner) on _____ March (indicate date) and finishing with _____ on _____ March 2003.

Annex III

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

Hotel Sport, Poiana Brasov, Romania

Participants in the "Strategies for the Sound Use of Wood" International Seminar are requested to arrange their accommodation directly with the venue hotel, the Hotel Sport, using this Hotel Reservation Form.

(Please fill in using CAPITAL LETTERS)

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|--|
| <i>Mr.[] Ms.[]</i> <i>(Please tick)</i> | <i>Last Name</i> | | <i>First Name</i> | |
| <i>Organisation</i> | | | | |
| <i>Address</i> | | | | |
| <i>Country</i> | | | | |
| <i>Phone</i> | | <i>Fax</i> | | |
| <i>E-mail</i> | | | | |

I wish to reserve a **single / double room** (*please underline the type of room required*) at the Hotel Sport for _____ **night(s), arriving on _____ March** (*indicate date*) **and departing on _____ March 2003.**

Price (including breakfast and tax): €45 per single room per night, €60 per double room per night. Accommodation is to be paid on departure. Bookings cancelled prior to arrival incur a cancellation fee equal to the cost of the intended first night stay. Early departures will also incur a cancellation fee equal to the cost of the first night missed.

Credit Cards are accepted

Please send your completed hotel reservation form **before 15 February directly to the Hotel Sport, Poiana Brasov, Romania (fax: +40 268 407334), quoting 'International Seminar' with all correspondence.** Accommodation cannot be guaranteed after the above deadline. The Hotel Sport will confirm all reservations in writing.

For your information, the Hotel Sport has a fully equipped leisure centre. For more information please see the hotel's website: http://www.ana.ro/hotelsby_en.html