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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
Timber Committee

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
European Forestry Commission

**JOINT FAO/UNECE WORKING PARTY ON FOREST ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS**  
Twenty-seventh session

to be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
22 - 24 March 2005, starting at 10.00 hrs on Tuesday 22 March

**Provisional agenda\***

(TIM/EFC/WP.2/2005/..series)

1.	Adoption of the agenda	1
2.	Matters referred to the Working Party by its parent bodies: strategic review and indicators of achievement	2
3.	Guidance of work area 1: Markets and statistics	3
4.	Guidance of work area 2: Forest resource assessment and indicators of sustainable forest management in the region	4
5.	Guidance of work area 3: Forest sector outlook studies	5
6.	Special topic: monitoring and analysis of wood energy developments: data quality and availability, inter-organisation cooperation, strengthening the EFSOS analysis	6
7.	Inter-organization co-operation on forest and forest products statistics	7
8.	Publications, website, databases: guidance by the Working Party	8
9.	Any other business	
10.	Election of officers	
11.	Adoption of the report	

Note – Working Party documents will be distributed to the official list as in previous years. However, the provisional agenda and other session documents will be available on the Timber Committee/European Forestry Commission's website: <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber>.

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\* This document was submitted late for documents processing as clearances from relevant parties were received late.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

### General

During the strategic review of the UNECE/FAO integrated programme of work in the field of forest and timber (see TIM/2001/2 and 8), it was agreed that the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics should provide guidance for work areas 1, 2 and 3 of the integrated programme, and act as an interface between the technical and the intergovernmental levels. The Working Party should henceforth meet annually.

The provisional agenda has been drawn up to allow the Working Party to concentrate on the guidance function and discussion of major topics, with formal parts of the agenda kept to a minimum.

Documents will be issued in advance to the regular mailing list, and will also be available for downloading from the Timber website (<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber>).

### Tentative Timetable

The secretariat proposes the following timetable:

Tuesday 22 March 2005

a.m.	Items 1-3
p.m.	Item 4

Wednesday 23 March 2005

a.m.	Item 5 (start)
p.m.	Item 5 (conclusion)

Thursday 24 March 2005

a.m.	Item 6
p.m.	Items 7-11

### Detailed Agenda

Item 1:        Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure and established practice, the first item on the agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

Item 2:        Matters referred to the Working Party by its parent bodies

Under this item the Working Party's attention will be drawn to questions referred to it by its parent bodies, excluding those questions which will be addressed under individual work areas. This will focus on the results of the strategic review and on how to monitor progress towards the indicators of achievement identified in the UN Programme Budget for 2006-2007.

Items 3-5: Guidance of work areas

For each of the work areas, the Working Party will be informed of activities, results and plans for the next two years, and invited to review and comment on these activities and plans, and to approve the detailed section of the integrated work programme referring to each work area. Decisions from the meetings of the respective Teams of Specialists will be reviewed. There will also be an area of special focus for each area:

Work Area 1: focus of TC Market Discussions: link policy/market analysis. Review of trade of secondary products and trade by species questionnaires and publications.

Work Area 2: regional contribution to the global FRA 2005 update and preparations for the MCPFE Conference in Warsaw 2007/2008.

Work Area 3: evaluation of EFSOS, follow-up strategy

Item 6: Monitoring and analysis of wood energy developments: data quality and availability, inter-organisation cooperation, strengthening the EFSOS analysis

The policy importance of wood energy questions and the unsatisfactory situation as regards information (of recent trends and of the outlook) have been widely recognised, by the Timber Committee, the Working Party and EFSOS. A special discussion will attempt to lay the broad lines of future action to improve this situation, with the participation of all relevant partners and stakeholders.

Item 7: Inter-organization co-operation on forest and forest products statistics

Delegates will be informed of the activities of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics

Item 8: Publications, website, databases: guidance by the Working Party

The Working Party will be invited to comment on how the outputs of the integrated programme are made available to specialists and the general public.

Item 9: Any other business

At the time of writing the secretariat has no matters for discussion under this item

Item 10: Election of officers

The Working Party is expected to elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen. At its twenty-sixth session, the Working Party elected Mr. M. Aarne (Finland) Chairman and Ms. S. Phelps (Canada) and Mr. M. Gecovic (Slovakia) Vice-Chairmen to hold office until the end of the twenty-sixth session.

Item 11: Adoption of the report

The Working Party will be invited to adopt the report of its session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. However, in order to use meeting time in the most efficient way possible, and in view of the detailed nature of some of the discussions which may take place, it may not be possible to present a full draft report at the end of the session, so that it may be necessary to for the Working Party bureau to finalise the report after the session.



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22 - 24 March 2005

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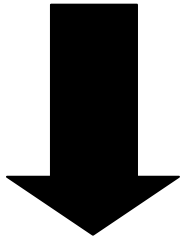
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