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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
European Forestry Commission

JOINT FAO/ECE 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

Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda

**Guidance of work area 2:
Forest Resources Assessment and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management in the Region**

Note by the Secretariat

The present document contains the overview of the activities in work area 2, and highlights issues to be addressed at the current Working Party session.

The topics for the Working Party's consideration include:

- regional Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) related work in the global context;
- regional contribution to the global FRA 2005;
- planning of the UNECE/FAO contribution to countries' reporting on C&I for SFM within MCPFE and Montreal processes, and to further global FRA work;
- questions of future regional FRA- and C&I- related work: organization and direction.

The Working Party is invited to provide guidance for current and future activities in work area 2.

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

Introduction

1. The activities in work area 2 during the reporting year (April 2004 – March 2005) were mainly focused on the regional contribution to the implementation of the global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA 2005). Preparation for reporting to MCPFE Conference in Warsaw 2007/2008 was addressed as well. The work in this area has been carried out in accordance with the guidance provided by the Working Party in 2004.

Regional contribution to the Global FRA: developments in 2004-2005

A. Contribution to the implementation of the Global FRA 2005

2. During the reporting period, the UNECE/FAO regional contribution to the implementation of the FRA 2005 was provided in different forms, including the following:

- Communication with countries of the region (FRA national correspondents and contact points), and mobilising them for the FRA 2005 implementation; a number of new National Correspondents (NCs) and Focal Points were engaged for providing data/ information, i.e. FRA 2005 Country Reports;
- Permanent engagement and stimulation of the countries' timely submission of FRA 2005 Reports;
- Arrangements for the translation of main FRA 2005 documents, namely the FRA 2005 Guidelines and National Reporting Tables, into Russian (engagement of translators, organization of this work, monitoring the implementation, etc) within a very tight timetable; the documents had been timely disseminated to national correspondents;
- Organization and running of the two sub-regional FRA 2005 workshops (*Budapest - Hungary, Wyszkiow - Poland*), in October and December 2004;
- Review and analysis of drafts of the FRA 2005 Country Reports from countries of the region, active communication with FRA National Correspondents and Contact Points at this stage;
- Engaging the consultant (from METLA, Finland) to assist in reviewing and analysis of the FRA 2005 country reports, for 3 months (1 month in Rome, and 2 months in Geneva), etc.

3. The regional UNECE/FAO work on Forest Resources Assessment have been adjusted in the light of the current global FRA approaches and requirements of C&I for SFM reporting at the regional level. As of the end-January 2005, a total of 34 FRA 2005 country reports have been prepared. The majority of reports were received from countries (national correspondents) of the region, some other were prepared by the secretariats as "desk-top" documents, on the basis of the available information, mainly from TBFA-2000.

4. The national correspondents are working now in close collaboration with UNECE and FAO secretariats to finalise the country reports. The remaining reports, mainly from CIS and Balkan region countries are expected by the end-January – the beginning of February. The secretariats are in regular contact with national correspondents to assist with technical issues. An electronic discussion forum and a list of frequently asked questions have been established on the FAO FRA 2005 web site: << www.fao.org/forestry/site/fra2005/en>>.

5. Two sub-regional workshops were organized in 2004, one for national correspondents and focal points from south-eastern European countries, and the second one - for the Russian-speaking national correspondents. The main objectives of the workshops were to review draft country reports, and to assist national correspondents in providing the best possible and consistent information. The workshops served as an incentive to prepare the first draft reports well in advance (or in compliance)

with the deadline. They also provided an excellent opportunity for countries to share experiences and to address specific questions and issues related to data availability and interpretation.

6. The review of draft country reports is being done at the FAO and UNECE secretariats, and a number of them have already been posted on the web as final drafts. The FRA 2005 team in FAO is working also on the seven thematic studies for FRA 2005.

7. The FRA 2005 is a challenging task for a number of countries, but it is clear already now that its implementation will contribute to the development of the global FRA methodology. The FRA 2005 experience will help to increase the accuracy, reliability and comparability of data/ information, which is being provided by countries, as well as the transparency of the reporting format. The feasibility of including new variables (parameters) into the future global FRA will also be tested.

8. The FAO requirements to report a large number of new parameters at the global level (see FRA 2005 reporting tables) creates an obvious burden to national correspondents. At the same time, the regional experience with the previous assessments shows that involvement of countries in the process results in a) increased responsibility and feeling of “ownership” of information provided by countries, b) opportunity to get additional information on a large number of forest-related variables, c) better estimates, based on local knowledge and d) improved national capacities for data collection, analysis and reporting.

9. The FRA 2005 implementation has also shown that the process is time- and resources-consuming, and much more significant time would be necessary for a more careful preparation of reporting, and analysis of the reported data. This lesson should be learned when preparing and launching the reporting process at the regional level for MCPFE 2007/2008, and at the global level, for the global FRA 2010.

10. The technical compatibility of the two (global FRA and MCPFE) processes (classifications, terms and definitions, etc) should be carefully addressed in the future work. The FRA Team of Specialists, at its final meeting held in September 2004 in Washington DC (USA), provided practical recommendations on how to proceed with the FRA 2005 implementation, and reviewed the FRA-related activities.

11. The Joint Session of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission (Geneva, October 2004) recommended to “*continue to strengthen coordination and communication between the global and regional levels, notably through the regional forestry commissions*”. The close coordination of the regional and global FRA- and C&I- related work is indispensable for the implementation of the UNECE/FAO integrated programme of work (WA2), including its key programme elements: 2.1 Indicators of sustainable forest management in the region; 2.2 Regional contribution to global FRA; 2.3 Support to development of national systems for forest monitoring.

12. *The Working Party is invited:*

- *to take note of the current global and regional FRA and C&I-related work, organisational and methodological aspects of carrying out the global FRA 2005, and the regional UNECE/FAO contribution to the project;*
- *to comment/ discuss the lessons learned from the planning and timetable of the global FRA 2005, and modalities of its implementation;*
- *to advise how more resources might be made available for the implementation of projects of such magnitude as FRA 2005.*

B. Meeting of the Advisory Group to the global FRA, January 2005, Rome

13. The 4th meeting of the global FRA advisory group (AG) was held on 14-15 January 2005 at the FAO headquarters. The main objectives of the AG meeting were to review progress and aspects of the FRA 2005 implementation (regional workshops, country reports, analysis of data), to provide guidance on issues related to the publication of the main FRA 2005 report (discussion on the focus and outline of the report), and to provide guidance on post FRA 2005 activities.

14. The advisory group addressed also the links with other reporting processes and initiatives, including Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 2010 targets, Cooperative Partnerships for Forests (CPF) Information frameworks, criteria and indicators' reporting, joint questionnaire on forest products, national forest programmes).

14. With regard to the Main FRA 2005 report, it was suggested that the Report would contain following key elements: a) Global tables focusing on trends, b) Analysis of tables by sub-region and thematic element, c) Analysis of progress towards SFM.

15. The advisory group discussed and made some suggestions concerning the evaluation of the FRA 2005 process and preparations for the next round of the global FRA (FRA 2010). The advisory group recommended that the network of FRA national correspondents should remain operational, and possibly evolve, taking into consideration other reporting processes, including the MCPFE C&I reporting.

16. Among the organisational and technical issues addressed by the Advisory Group were the timing and resources for the FRA implementation, quality of FRA-related reports, better integration of the remote sensing into the FRA process, web-based questionnaire, institutional support to FRA national correspondents, collaboration of different agencies at the national and regional levels, adding value to the FRA information, outlook for the next global FRA consultation ("Kotka-V"), etc.

17. The necessity of maximum possible transparency of the global FRA process, as well as the modalities of maximising synergies between FRA and C&I- related activities at the regional and global levels were considered by the AG members as an important feature of the cooperation in this area. Close regional-global cooperation would also contribute to reducing the reporting burden on countries.

C. Expert meeting on Harmonizing Forest-related Definitions, January 2005, Rome

18. The 3rd Expert Meeting on *Harmonizing Forest-related Definitions for Use by Various Stakeholders* was hosted by FAO on 18-20 January 2005, with the participation of a wide range of organisations and experts from individual countries. This process will have a long-term impact on the UNECE/FAO activities in WA 2. The interests of such stakeholders as forest managers, forest inventory and assessment specialists, biodiversity, climate change and combating desertification communities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector were represented at the meeting. Among the participating organisations there were UNFF, IPCC, ITTO, CIFOR, UNEP, UNECE, IIASA, MCPFE, IUFRO, and others.

19. The main focus of the meeting was on the analysis of definitions relating to "Forest Origin and Composition" and on "Managed and Unmanaged Forests". The detailed comparative analysis was done in working groups on the related terms and definitions, including natural forests, planted forests, forest plantations, trees outside forests, and managed forests. The multilingual aspects of forest terms and definitions were considered specifically.

20. The FRA and C&I for SFM community contributed significantly to the discussion, also by presenting a number of well elaborated definitions, which might potentially serve as the basis of their further harmonization. The experience with countries' reporting according to the FRA definitions was an important argument in the discussion.

Former UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Resources Assessment

21. The final meeting of the regional UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on the Forest Resources Assessment was held in Washington DC (USA) from 15 to 17 September 2004. The meeting focused on the FRA-related global and regional developments, which had provided the background for discussion of the current and future regional FRA activities. The Team of Specialists noted specifically the fruitful and mutually beneficial co-operation between the regional FRA-related work and MCPFE process, as well as the regional contribution to the global FRA 2005 process. The co-operation in reporting on C&I for SFM within the Montreal Process was one of the key issues discussed during the ToS meeting.

22. Two *ad hoc* working groups (WGs) were set up by the Team of Specialists to review and analyse specific indicators in the MCPFE and Montreal processes, and accompanying (relevant) terms and definitions in C&I reporting. The working groups addressed the issue of differences in the national, regional and global FRA definitions, aiming to come up with suggestions (conclusions) on how this problem could be solved. The report of the meeting is available for reference at <<www.unece.org/trade/timber/docs/fra-tos/2004/tos-fra-04.htm>>, and will be distributed as a hard copy during the Working Party session.

23. Both Working Groups, working on the basis of technical comparison of proposals for the global FRA-2005, FRA 2000 and the MCPFE criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, discovered significant differences in the background and frameworks of the two processes, their structures, as well as in the practical details in individual Criteria and Indicators for reporting to MCPFE and Montreal processes. Especially this was concerned the two sets of Terms and Definitions, also in comparison with the requested reporting to the global FRA 2005 update.

24. The working groups formulated their views on possibilities of harmonisation and streamlining the countries' reporting on specific indicators, and suggested some future reporting approaches on the most "difficult" variables in the C&I processes. The outcome of the WGs might help in answering the question: how to overcome differences in the national, regional and global FRA definitions background documents (mainly the regional MCPFE C&I for SFM and global FRA 2005), and to contribute to formulating proposals for the future UNECE regional FRA-related work.

25. The ToS recommended that the MCPFE countries should be informed about the background, scope and format of the required reporting on C&I for SFM well in advance of the reporting itself, so that to prepare NFI and national forest resources assessment structures. The contents, scope & definitions for the next MCPFE C&I reporting should be compatible to the extent possible with the global FRA reporting, in order not to duplicate the work of National Correspondents in providing data.

26. It was advised that the UNECE/FAO Secretariat and MCPFE Liaison Unit Warsaw should be supported in the preparation and implementation of this work by sufficient resources, and the new Team of Specialists on "*Monitoring Forest Resources for Sustainable Forest Management in the UNECE region*" should play an important role in the process.

27. The ToS came up with a number of practical recommendations for improvements in the global FRA 2005 country reports. The team also expressed its opinion that the regional FRA-related work had to go beyond the contribution to the global FRA 2005, i.e. noted a strong need for specific regional FRA activities. This work has to be done in addition to the global Forest Resource Assessment 2005, and in co-operation with the MCPFE and Montreal processes, EU, EUROSTAT, ENFIN (a newly approved initiative on European National Forest Inventory Network - / COST Action E43), other current and potential partners in the region, which need comprehensive and reliable FRA data and structures.

28. The participants confirmed the desirability of a closer involvement of the "Montreal process" countries in the UNECE/FAO regional FRA work. The current ToS activities in this particular area

should be intensified, focusing on its contribution to the co-ordination of reporting on C&I for SFM within MCPFE and Montreal processes. Such coordination will be one of the key issues on the agenda of the next ToS meeting.

29. *The Working Party is invited:*

- *to thank the outgoing ToS on the Forest Resources Assessment for its work;*
- *to endorse the Team of Specialists' reported recommendations, and acknowledge its contribution to the process of the preparation and implementation of the global FRA 2005;*
- *to support the ToS proposals with regard to the future regional FRA- and C&I-related work, including C&I reporting aspects, and the co-ordination between MCPFE and Montreal processes in this area.*

New UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on “Monitoring forest resources for sustainable forest management in UNECE Region”

30. The Working Party noted the important role, which had been played by the former UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Resources Assessment, and expressed its support to the continuation of these activities. The Strategic Review process recommended that a new team be convened, formulated its objectives, and proposed draft terms of reference. The Bureaux, and later on, the Joint Session of the Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, endorsed the proposals coming from the Strategic Review. The new UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on “Monitoring forest resources for sustainable forest management in the UNECE Region”, its objectives, mandate and terms of reference, were approved.

31. The Geneva secretariat has sent out the requests to countries and organisations to nominate members of the team, as well as the direct invitation to individual experts, in January 2005. The first (inaugural) meeting of the ToS on “Monitoring forest resources for sustainable forest management in the UNECE Region” will be held in Geneva for 25-27 April 2005.

32. The provisional agenda and programme of the first ToS meeting has not yet been agreed by the time of writing this document, but the suggestions and proposals coming from the final meeting of the previous team, as well as the current developments in the global FRA, MCPFE, Montreal and other processes, will be addressed by the Team of Specialists. In particular, (1) preparation for the countries' C&I reporting to MCPFE 2007/08, (2) aspects of reviewing Indicators for SFM within the Montreal Process, (3) developments in the FRA 2005 implementation, and (4) issues of monitoring and assessment of the socio-economic (legal-institutional) aspects in forestry. The team's agenda will be distributed for comments to Working Party delegations.

33. The modalities of the future team's work, as well as its main focus, should be flexibly and periodically adjusted according to latest developments in FRA and C&I for SFM. The expected output of the new team, additionally to its contribution in the elaboration of the “Enquiry for Country reporting on the pan-European Criteria and Indicators for SFM”, should include its contribution/advice to the ongoing “Process of reviewing the Montreal Process Indicators for SFM”, and to the review of the forest-related requirements and ways in which to reduce the reporting burden within the UNECE region.

34. *The Working Party is invited:*

- *to endorse the initial planning of the new Team of Specialists activities, and provide guidance for its future work in the global FRA and MCPFE 2007/08 contexts;*
- *to provide guidance on the follow-up work to the recommendations of the former regional ToS on Forest Resources Assessment;*

- *to suggest any additional relevant issues to be addressed by the Team of Specialists in general, and during its first meeting, specifically;*
- *to recommend specific issues to be included on the agenda of the first meeting of the new Team of Specialists, and provide advice on the resource/ financial support of the ToS activities.*

Cooperation with the MCPFE and Montreal processes

35. The Working Party guidance to reinforce the FRA- related work at the regional level “especially in the area of the countries’ reporting to regional fora on C&I for SFM within the MCPFE and possibly the Montreal processes...” was well taken during the reporting year. The outgoing ToS proposed a number of steps in this direction.

36. Among the specific ToS recommendations were the following:

- The UNECE regional FRA should play an important role in the preparation for the countries’ C&I reporting to the pan-European Ministerial Conference 2007/08. The UNECE/FAO in close cooperation with the MCPFE Liaison Unit Warsaw, and with the support from the new Team of Specialists on “*Monitoring Forest Resources for Sustainable Forest Management in the UNECE region*” should be the key partners in the preparation of the MCPFE 2007/08 Report on C&I for SFM;
- The newly approved (2003) set of the MCPFE indicators for SFM (*indicators, specifications, terms and definitions, etc*) should be used as the basis for the C&I for SFM Report to the Warsaw Ministerial Conference, with possible “incorporation” of FRA 2005 structures (*classifications, definitions, reporting format*) into the current MCPFE C&I background to the extent possible;
- The preparation of the MCPFE Report on (tentatively) “*State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007/08*” should be supported by sufficient financial and man-power resources, and implemented in coordination with the global FRA Programme, EU “Forest Focus” Regulation, and other related processes. Funding of the MCPFE Report preparation and publishing shall be provided from a wide range of sources.

37. The participants of the last ToS meeting considered it helpful to set up an *ad hoc* MCPFE Advisory/ Contact Group for the preparation and implementation of the MCPFE C&I reporting (limited number of participants, also contributing to the formulation of political MCPFE decisions, some of them supposed to be the core group of the new ToS and potential authors of corresponding Chapters of the MCPFE 2007/ 08 Report).

38. The ToS recommended to the UNECE/FAO secretariat to elaborate together with the MCPFE Liaison Unit Warsaw a “*Road Map*” (including a detailed timetable) for the preparation of the MCPFE Report “*State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007/08*”, taking into account the specifics of the global FRA update 2005. The draft “*Road Map*”, elaborated by the secretariat, is attached to this document (Annex I).

39. A further initial orientation of the direction of work on the preparation of the reporting on the status of forest management in Europe (C&I country reporting) was provided by the MCPFE Expert Level Meeting (ELM), which took place in October 2004 in Warsaw, Poland. The MCPFE General Coordinating Council had suggested that the Liaison Unit Warsaw would perform the reporting for the Warsaw Conference in co-operation with the UNECE/FAO secretariat, and supported by the Team of Specialists on “*Monitoring Forest Resources for SFM in the UNECE region*”. This work should be done according to the set of the MCPFE Indicators for SFM endorsed in Vienna in 2003.

40. The ELM (i.e. experts/ representatives from countries of the region) agreed that both qualitative and quantitative indicators should be taken into account when preparing the report on SFM for

Warsaw Conference. The ELM also noted that the reporting should be harmonized with relevant international processes (to the extent possible). In order to have this report completed on time and to be able to make the best use of existing networks and expertise “involved partners should be working together in a rather informal and flexible way”.

41. The FAO global FRA support to (and participating in) the regional FRA- and C&I-related activities (EU Forest Focus, MCPFE, EEA,...) is needed in this context, i.e. additionally to the support in the areas where work directly contributes to global FRA programmes. It would mean a more wide use of the Geneva resources, and practical help in maintaining and developing these resources (also beyond the global FRA work).

42. It is expected in particular that FAO FRA programme would support the preparation of the regional C&I for SFM reporting to the MCPFE 2007/2008 (methodologically and financially), also providing a positive cooperation in the process of the preparation of the Enquiry for the MCPFE reporting.

43. Some practical steps have already been done at present on the preparation of the C&I for SFM reporting to the next MCPFE conference. Among them are:

- “*Analysis of Scope, Coverage and Methodological Approaches for the Regional UNECE/FAO Work on Forest Resources Assessment in the Global FRA Context*” (Dr. Ewald Ramentsteiner, Austria <<www.unece.org/trade/timber/docs/fra-tos/2004/tos-fra-04.htm>>);
- Launching the preparation of the detailed enquiry (questionnaire) for country reporting on the pan-European Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management.

44. The detailed questionnaire (enquiry) is expected to be the main tool for country reporting on SFM in the region. The enquiry should invite from countries the reliable, comparable and comprehensive information, responding to the set of the pan-European of C&I for SFM (including the quantitative and qualitative indicators). The structure and scope of the European C&I Enquiry, should allow receiving the necessary (and the best available) data/ information for the future analysis of the “*State of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe*”.

45. The Enquiry should be based on the improved set of pan-European indicators for SFM, the TBFRA 2000 and global FRA 2000 experience and results, and it should take into account the compatible structures from the global FRA 2005 update. The Enquiry should also include besides the detailed questionnaire, the set of corresponding terms and definitions, and to define the core partners in the MCPFE C&I reporting.

46. The first draft (outline) of the Enquiry is planned to be discussed at the first meeting of the newly established Team of Specialists, finalised on the basis of the ToS recommendations and presented for approval to the UNECE/FAO parent bodies, and MCPFE governing structures.

47. ***The Working Party is invited:***

- ***to take note of general direction of the work area 2, and indicate whether it endorses the modalities of the regional FRA- and C&I- related work;***
- ***to take note of the well established coordination between regional and global FRA, and between UNECE/FAO and MCPFE activities;***
- ***to endorse the initial planning of the preparation for the countries’ reporting on C&I for SFM to the next Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, to be held in Warsaw in the year 2007 (or 2008);***
- ***to discuss, comment and suggest on modalities of work of the MCPFE Advisory Group for the preparation and implementation of the MCPFE C&I reporting;***

- *to discuss proposals for the elaboration of the questionnaire (enquiry) for countries' reporting on SFM, including the issue of reconciling the (existing) current MCPFE and FRA 2005 classifications, terms and definitions;*
- *to provide practical guidance with regard the time-table for preparation of the MCPFE reporting, and resources (financial) support availability for the preparation of the Report on "State of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007/2008";*
- *to recommend corresponding WA 2 activities on the harmonisation of countries' reporting on C&I for SFM within the MCPFE and Montreal processes (workshops, meetings, also in conjunction with relating events, e.g. the forthcoming IUFRO Congress in Australia);*
- *to provide guidance on the organization and direction of future regional FRA-and C&I-related work;*
- *to confirm the necessity to maintain strong regional activities in this area in order to satisfy specific regional needs (reporting on C&I for SFM, etc), and for mobilising regional expertise for the future global FRA rounds.*

Annex 1

“Road Map” for the preparation of the MCPFE Report
“State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007/08”
 (UNECE/ FAO and LUW tentative outline of steps for the MCPFE C&I for SFM reporting)

1. Political decision on the background for the MCPFE C&I reporting - Two options/ approaches are to be considered (by ELM and/or GCC, LUW and UNECE / FAO), and the both are to be applied in the preparation of the Report, namely:
 - Newly approved (2003) set of the MCPFE C&I for SFM (*indicators, specifications, terms and definitions, etc*);
 - Possible “incorporation” of FRA 2005 structures (*classifications, definitions, reporting format*) into the current MCPFE C&I background (*to the extent possible ...*).
2. Preparation of ToR for a consultancy work on the elaboration of a detailed enquiry / questionnaire for the country reporting on the C&I implementation and status of SFM (*reporting tables, classifications, terms & definitions, reporting requirements, time-tables, technicalities, etc*) - November-December 2004.
3. Securing (earmarking) financial resources for the preparation of the MCPFE C&I for SFM reporting (MCPFE / GCC, EU, FAO, UNECE/FAO, LUW ...)
4. Engagement of consultant(s) for the implementation of the above work – December 2004-January 2005.
5. Setting up the new UNECE/FAO ToS on “*Monitoring Forest Resources for Sustainable Forest Management in the UNECE region*” – January 2005.
6. Setting up an *ad hoc* MCPFE Advisory/ Contact Group (AG) for the preparation and implementation of the MCPFE C&I reporting (limited number of participants, supposed to be the core group of the new ToS, and potential authors of corresponding Chapters of the MCPFE 2007/ 08 Report) – March-April 2005.
7. Draft enquiry/ questionnaire (with the explanatory notes and guidelines for country reporting) to be ready by April 2005; review of the draft by the above *ad hoc* AG meeting, and by other experts.
8. Review of the draft Enquiry at the first (inaugural) meeting of the new UNECE/ FAO Team of Specialists (April – May 2005).
9. Reviewing the draft Enquiry with the wide range of stakeholders, finalising the Enquiry, including the proposed Contents/ Structure/ Format of the MCPFE C&I for SFM Report 2007/ 08 (by September-October 2005).
10. Approval of the Enquiry and the MCPFE C&I for SFM reporting format by the UNECE Timber Committee, GCC and Expert-Level Meeting.
11. Dispatch of the final reporting format (Enquiry, Reporting tables, Guidelines, Time-table, etc) to countries (end-2005 or the beginning of 2006).
12. Communication with countries (FRA NCs and focal points) and their “coaching” in the process of the collection and processing national data, and preparing the country replies to the Enquiry.

13. Deadline for country replies (National Reports) by mid-2006.
14. Checking, processing, validation and compilation of data (2nd half of 2006).
15. Analysis of data and preparing/ writing Chapters (sections) of the MCPFE Report ‘*State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007/08*’
16. Preparation of the MCPFE C&I for SFM Report 2007/ 08 for the publication (starting at the end-2006 – the beginning of 2007) – arrangements for the preparation of the Report are to be elaborated specifically ...
17. Publication of the MCPFE C&I for SFM Report 2007/ 08 (time-table to be adjusted according to the final decision on the date of the Warsaw Conference)

Mandate on the preparation of the MCPFE Report “*State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007/08*” is given by the ELM meeting (Warsaw, October 2004):

- MCPFE Liaison Unit Warsaw would perform the reporting for the Warsaw Conference in “co-operation with the UNECE/FAO secretariat, and supported by the Team of Specialists on *Monitoring Forest Resources for SFM in the UNECE region*. This work should be done according to the set of the MCPFE Indicators for SFM endorsed in Vienna in 2003”;
- reporting should be harmonized (to the extent possible) with relevant international processes. In order to have the report completed on time and to be able to make the best use of existing networks and expertise “involved partners should be working together in a rather informal and flexible way”.

Resources required

- Payment for the consultancy work for the elaboration of the detailed MCPFE Enquiry (*reporting tables, classifications, T&D, reporting requirements, time-tables, technicalities, etc*);
- Payment for the analysis of country data, required consultancy work, and writing the chapters (sections) of the MCPFE Report “*State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007/08*”;
- Expenditures for the running the MCPFE Advisory/ Contact Group meetings, to cover the participation of some experts in the ToS meetings, participation of the countries’ national correspondents in the meetings, for the preparation of the publication, etc

Note:

The “*Road Map*” for the preparation of the MCPFE Report “*State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007/08*” is to be approved by the UNECE/FAO parent bodies, and the MCPFE ELM (GCC).