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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

TIMBER COMMITTEE

Sixtieth session

24-27 September 2002

**COMMEMORATION OF THE SIXTIETH SESSION OF THE TIMBER COMMITTEE: SEMINAR AND  
VISIT ON THE THEME ‘INNOVATIVE USES OF WOOD’**

(Item 4 of the provisional agenda)

Note by the secretariat

This document presents the programme of the commemorative events organized on the occasion of the sixtieth session of the Timber Committee

- A formal commemoration during the session
- An optional mini-seminar and excursion to the Swiss national exhibition on the theme “Innovative uses of wood”

## **BACKGROUND**

1. The 2002 session will be the sixtieth session since the foundation of the Timber Committee in 1948. The bureau has agreed that the anniversary should be marked in two ways: a formal agenda item during the Committee session and an optional mini-seminar and excursion to the Swiss national exhibition Expo.02 on the theme “innovative uses of wood”.
2. This document sets out the arrangements for these two events

## **FORMAL COMMEMORATION**

3. An hour of the session, from 17.00 to 18.00 on Tuesday 24 September, should be devoted to a formal commemoration of the Committee’s achievements. This would include (provisional arrangements, to be confirmed):
  - An address by the Executive Secretary of ECE, Mrs. Brigita Schmögnerová;
  - A presentation on the achievements of the Committee since its foundation;
  - Interventions by delegations and partner organisations;
  - Presentation of commemorative certificates to former bureau members and long serving former delegates.
4. It is suggested that delegations consider arranging for the presence at the session of former bureau members and long-serving former delegates. The secretariat will contact heads of delegations to ascertain whether any former bureau members or long serving former delegates will be able to attend and receive their certificates in person. Otherwise, heads of delegation will be requested to transmit the certificates to them after the session.

## **OPTIONAL MINI-SEMINAR AND EXCURSION**

5. The bureau has agreed that the sixtieth session should be commemorated by an excursion, arranged jointly with the Forum forestier lémanique (FFL), which is an informal group of forest sector specialists in the Lac Léman region, from local (Swiss and French) and international agencies, which meets about twice a year for visits and exchange of opinions between experts (see website at <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/ffl/>). This joint approach gives the opportunity for enriching “global-local” exchanges.
6. In 2002, Switzerland is organising a national exhibition “Expo.02”, with a strong environmental theme, giving a good visibility to the use of wood. In particular one of the major exhibition spaces is in a highly innovative wood construction called the “Palais de l’Equilibre”. It is proposed that the main event to mark the sixtieth session should be an optional one-day excursion to Neuchatel for a seminar on “Innovative uses of wood”, jointly with the FFL, to include a guided visit of the Neuchatel exhibition site (known as an “arteplage”), and especially of the Palais de l’Equilibre.
7. The themes of innovative use of wood and the importance of promotion have constantly recurred at Committee sessions, and the Swiss have some very interesting achievements to display. The optional mini-seminar should be based on presentations by two leading experts, Prof. Jean-Luc Sandoz and Dr. Al Schuler (USA). The Swiss government has agreed to contribute to the costs of organising such an excursion. A tentative programme is given below.

## **TENTATIVE PROGRAMME**

**Innovative Uses of Wood (Thursday 26 September 2002)**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Programme</b>
08.15	Leave Geneva by coach
10.00	Arrival in Neuchâtel
	Innovative Uses of Wood (Seminar)
10.30	<u>Opening</u>
11.00	<u>Presentations</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Jean-Luc Sandoz (Switzerland)</li> <li>• Dr. Al Schuler (USA)</li> </ul>
12.00	<u>Discussions</u>
12.45	Lunch at the University of Neuchâtel
<b>14.00</b>	<b>FFL ANNUAL SESSION (free time for Timber Committee delegates)</b>
	<b>AFTERNOON VISIT (Palais de l'Equilibre/Expo 02)</b>
14.30	<u>Presentation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Palais de l'Equilibre</li> <li>– wood promotion in Switzerland</li> </ul>
15.00	Closing ceremony and aperitif at the Pavillon neuchatelois (formation of groups for the visit)
15.30	<u>Visit</u> (arteplage de Neuchâtel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– guided visit of the Palais de l'Equilibre</li> <li>– unguided visit of the Neuchâtel « Arteplage »</li> </ul>
17.45	Departure for Geneva by coach
19.30	Arrival in Geneva

**INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION**

8. Those intending to participate are requested to return the attached registration form to Mrs. Isabelle Hay, Timber Branch, Trade Development and Timber Division, Palais des Nations (Tel. 00 41-22 917 1172, Fax. 0041-22 917 0041, E-mail. [isabelle.hay@unece.org](mailto:isabelle.hay@unece.org)), before **15 September**.

9. Participants will be requested to contribute to the cost of their lunch and transport. The exact sum will be made known later, but will be kept to the minimum.

## REGISTRATION FORM

### Mini-Seminar and Excursion to Swiss National Exhibition

#### Theme "Innovative uses of wood"

I will be participating in the mini-seminar and excursion to the Swiss national exhibition on the theme "Innovative uses of wood", **Thursday 26 September 2002.**

(Please fill in using CAPITAL LETTERS)

First name \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname \_\_\_\_\_  
Organisation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Participants will be requested to contribute to the cost of their lunch and transport. The exact sum will be known later, but will be kept to the minimum.

**Please return to (before 15 September):**

Isabelle Hay  
Timber Branch, Trade Development and Timber Division, Palais des Nations  
Fax. 0041-22 917 0041  
E-mail. [isabelle.hay@unece.org](mailto:isabelle.hay@unece.org))