



**Economic and Social  
Council**

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

TIMBER COMMITTEE

Sixty-first session

7-10 October 2003

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTY-FIRST SESSION**

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva  
starting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 7 October 2003

Opening of the meeting

- |    |  |                |
|----|--|----------------|
| 1. | Adoption of the agenda   | ECE/TIM/2003/1 |
| 2. | Policy forum: forest, wood and energy  | TIM/2003/1     |
| 3. | Market developments in 2003 and prospects for 2004   | TIM/2003/2     |
| 4. | Policy implications of EFSOS, European Forest Sector Outlook Study   | TIM/2003/3     |
| 5. | Matters arising from the fifty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe of relevance to the Committee                      | TIM/2003/4     |
| 6. | International dialogue on forests, support to the global and regional processes  | TIM/2003/5     |
| 7. | Review of activities since the sixtieth session and programme of work for 2004 to 2007   | TIM/2003/6     |
| 8. | Preparations for the strategic review of the integrated programme of work of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission | TIM/2003/7     |

Note - Timber Committee 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 Committee's website: <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber>

9. Election of officers
10. Any other business
11. Date and place of next session
12. Adoption of the report

### TENTATIVE TIMETABLE

	Agenda item	Morning session	Agenda item	Afternoon session
Tuesday 7 October	1.  2.	Opening of the meeting  Adoption of the agenda  Policy forum: forest, wood and energy	2.  3.	Policy forum (continued)  Market developments in 2003 and prospects for 2004
Wednesday 8 October	3. (cont.)	Market developments in 2003 and prospects for 2004 (all day)		
Thursday 9 October	4.	Policy implications of EFSOS, European Forest Sector Outlook Study	5.  6.  7.	Matters arising from the 58th session of ECE  International dialogue on forests, support to the global and regional processes  Review of activities and programme of work for 2004-2007
Friday 10 October	0900hrs  8.	Drafting Committee (no interpretation)  Preparations for the Strategic review of the integrated programme of work	9.  10.  11.  12.	Election of officers  Any other business  Date and place of next session  Adoption of the report

A briefing for Missions in Geneva will be organised at 1400 hours on Tuesday (no interpretation).

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### Opening of the meeting

Mrs. B. Schmögnerova, Executive Secretary of ECE, or her representative will open the sixty-first session of the Timber Committee.

### Item 1. Adoption of the agenda (ECE/TIM/2003/1)

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the adoption of the agenda is the first item of the agenda.

### Item 2. Policy forum: forest, wood and energy (TIM/2003/1)

In accordance with the ECE's vocation to act as a forum for policy discussion and to build on its multi-sectoral structure, exploiting cross-sectoral synergies, the bureau decided, in the light of the animated discussion in 2002, that the interactions between policies for the forest and forest products sector and the energy sector should be the special topic for the sixty-first session. A discussion will be held based on presentation by invited speakers from the forest and energy sectors, chosen to express diverging opinions. This discussion will partially overlap with the discussion of wood energy markets under item 3.

### Item 3. Market developments in 2003 and prospects for 2004 (TIM/2003/2)

Delegations will be invited to review developments in 2003 and prospects for 2004 on the basis of the *Forest Products Annual Market Analysis 2002-2004 (Timber Bulletin, ECE/TIM/BULL/55/3)*, countries' written statements and forecasts. An agreed statement synthesizing the discussions and forecasts will be prepared during the session and published. A note by the secretariat will provide further information for the market discussion and country market statements.

#### Market discussions

The market discussion will include the following topics:

- Market effects of wood energy policies (2003 theme);
- General economic overview;
- Value added wood products;
- Sawn softwoods;
- Sawn hardwoods, temperate and tropical;
- Market issues arising from measures to combat illegal logging (introduced as a result of recommendations of the team specialists)
- Certified forest products;
- Wood-based panels: particle board, plywood and fibreboard, OSB, MDF;
- Wood raw materials (featuring wood fuel markets).

- Market statements (printed and *electronic format*)

Delegations are reminded that their country market statements in English, French or Russian, are expected to reach the secretariat<sup>1</sup> by 24 September 2003. In preparing statements, please refer to specific instructions in the session announcement letter or on the website. Reports are requested in both printed and electronic format. The printed report (120 copies) will be distributed on the first day of the session, and an electronic copy for pre-distribution on the Timber Committee website.

- Country forecasts for 2003 and 2004 (prepared on the basis of a questionnaire to be sent out by the secretariat in July 2003) should be submitted not later than 24 September 2003. Supplementary copies of the questionnaire may be obtained from the secretariat on request, or from the Committee's website.

- Drafting Committee. It is proposed that the Drafting Committee meet at 09:00 hours on Friday, 10 October to consider the draft of the report concerning market developments and prospects, which will be approved by the Committee under item 12 of the provisional agenda.

#### **Item 4. Policy implications of EFSOS, European Forest Sector Outlook Study (TIM/2003/3)**

A draft of the EFSOS main report will be made available two weeks before the session. The Committee will be informed of the analytical outcomes and policy-relevant conclusions of the study, and invited to comment on them, as well as on how they could be implemented and should be taken into account in the strategic review (see item 8).

#### **Item 5. Matters arising from the fifty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe of relevance to the Committee (TIM/2003/4)**

The Committee will be informed of the decisions adopted by the Commission at its fifty-eighth session, held in March 2003, which have a bearing on the work of the Committee. The Committee will be invited to take these decisions into account when adopting its programme of work under provisional agenda item 7.

#### **Item 6. International dialogue on forests, support to the global and regional processes (TIM/2003/5)**

The Committee will be informed of, and invited to agree on the general direction of ECE/FAO's activities in support of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and the international dialogue on forests and to the global and regional processes. In particular relation with the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) and the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) and the FAO Committee on Forests (COFO) will be discussed.

#### **Item 7. Review of activities since the sixtieth session and programme of work for 2004 to 2007 (TIM/2003/6)**

Document TIM/2003/6 will review the Committee's activities since the sixtieth session. The Committee will be invited to adopt its programme of work, on the basis of the document which will draw decision items to the attention of the Committee and present a draft programme of work.

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**Item 8. Preparations for the strategic review of the integrated programme of work of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission (TIM/2003/7)**

It has been agreed that the ECE/FAO integrated programme of work should be the subject of a strategic review every four years. The bureau discussed arrangements for this review and propose that it should take place in 2003/2004, for formal approval at the joint session with the FAO European Forestry Commission in autumn 2004. The secretariat will propose, for the Committee's comment and approval, methods and a timetable for the strategic review process.

**Item 9. Election of officers**

In accordance with its Rules of Procedure and established practice, the Committee is expected to elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, who will hold office until the end of the sixty-second session. At the sixtieth session, Mr. Gheorghe Florian Borlea (Romania), Chairman, and Messrs. Jeff Serveau (Canada) and Heikki Pajuoja (Finland) Vice-Chairmen, were elected to hold office until the end of the sixty-first session.

**Item 10. Any other business**

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item. However, a briefing for Missions in Geneva will be organised at 14:00 hrs on Tuesday, 7 October (no interpretation).

**Item 11. Date and place of next session**

Provided that conference services are available, the week of 27 September to 1 October 2004 has been provisionally reserved for the sixty-second session of the Committee to be held in Geneva, in joint session with the thirty-second session of the FAO European Forestry Commission.

**Item 12. Adoption of the report**

The Committee will be invited to adopt its report on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. According to the ECE Plan of Action, the report will be short and decision oriented. However, the Committee will be invited to approve formally the market statement based on the discussions under item 3, and approved by the Drafting Committee on Friday morning.

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# UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

## Conference Registration Form

*Please Print and send by fax to 0041-22-917 0041*

Title of the Conference

Date \_\_\_\_\_

61<sup>st</sup> Session of the TIMBER COMMITTEE, 7 -10 October 2003

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organization or Agency

Mr.

Participant's Family Name/Surname

First Name

Mrs.

Ms.

Do you intend to take part in the Reception scheduled on Thursday 9 October 2003?

Yes

No

Participation Category

Head of Delegation

Delegation Member

Observer Country

...

Are you based in Geneva as a  
representative of your permanent  
mission ?

YES NO

*(delete non applicable)*

Observer Organization

NGO (ECOSOC Accred.)

Other (Please Specify Below)

Participating From / Until

From

Until

Document Language Preference

English

French

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Official Occupation (in own country)

Passport or ID Number

Valid Until

Official Telephone N°.

Fax N°.

E-mail Address

Permanent Official Address

Address in Geneva

Accompanied by Spouse

Yes

No

Family Name (Spouse)

First Name (Spouse)

On Issue of ID Card

Participant signature

Spouse signature

Date

Security Use Only

Card N°. Issued

Initials, UN Official