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Economic Commission for Europe

Timber Committee

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Antalya, 10-14 October 2011
Item 9 (d) of the provisional agenda
Joint Committee/Commission matters

Review of activities and the programme of work for 2011

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This document briefly lists the activities undertaken in 2010-2011 to implement the programme of work. Outputs are presented by programme element of the Strategic Plan 2008-2013 and according to the ECE programme planning classification. This document also provides an indicative list of outputs for 2011-2012 for review and approval by the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission.

I. Activities for 2010-2011

A. Forest resources

- 1. Publications and Research:
 - Main report on the State of Europe's Forests 2011(SoEF 2011), jointly with Forest Europe and FAO
 - Key Messages for the State of Europe's Forests 2011(SoEF 2011) report
 - Refined version of the European Forest Types classification
 - Publication on Private Forest Ownership
 - Chapter on pilot implementation of European Forest Types for SoEF 2011.
- 2. Data collection and management:
 - Contribution to FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010
 - SoEF 2011 output and analysis tables with quantitative data, with FAO
 - Collection and validation of 35 national reports on quantitative indicators SoEF 2011
 - Interactive Database for SoEF 2011 quantitative data, with Forest Europe and UNECE Statistical Division (in progress)
 - Collection and evaluation of 28 separate reports with data according to the new European Forest Types.

3. Guidance:

- Guidance/Background documents on reporting on quantitative indicators for use by national respondents
- Set of guidelines for SoEF 2011 writing, for use by authors
- Guidance/Background documents on reporting using the European Forest Types.
- 4. Meetings and events:
 - Two meetings of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management
 - Two meetings of the Advisory Group on SoEF 2011 reporting
 - Meeting of the SoEF 2011 authors
 - Meeting of the SoEF 2011 reviewers for quantitative indicators
 - Workshop on implementation of European Forest Types
 - Seminar on State of Forests in UNECE Region (March 2011)

B. Forest policies and institutions

- 5. Publications and Research:
 - Discussion paper on 'The Forest Sector in the Green Economy'
 - Draft Action Plan on the Forest Sector in a Green Economy
 - Finding forests: a sourcebook on international institutions and policy tools addressing the European forest sector.
- 6. Data collection and management:
 - Collection of data on developments in forest policies, legislation and institutions, including national forest programmes (for SoEF 2011)
- 7. Meetings and events:
 - Five meetings of the TC and EFC bureaux
 - Seminar on developing an international legal instrument learning from the experience of the ECE Conventions and beyond
 - Stakeholder meeting to develop the Action Plan on 'The Forest Sector in a Green Economy'
 - Orman 2011: Forests in a Green Economy (ECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission joint session).

8. Other:

- Contributions to the International Year of the Forest Campaign (including exhibits, events and media) that opened in January 2011
- ECE/FAO Sustainable Forest Management Thesis Award
- Participation in relevant Forest Europe meetings.

C. Markets and statistics

- 9. Publications and Research:
 - Forest Products Annual Market Review 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 publication
 - · TC Market Statement 2010 and 2011
 - Two discussion papers on 'The importance of China's forest products markets to the UNECE region' and on 'Forest product conversion factors for the UNECE region'
 - Draft discussion paper on 'Wood Energy in the UNECE region'
 - Publication of forest products data 2005-2009, including secondary products
 - Publication of forest products data 2009-2010, including secondary products
 - Timber Committee market forecasts for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 tables
 - Timber Committee market forecasts for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 market discussion graphs.

10. Data collection and management:

- Collection and validation of 2008-2009 data on the trade, consumption, production of forest products (for UNECE and other databases, e.g. FAOSTAT)
- Collection and validation of 2009 data on wood energy sources and uses in the UNECE region (Joint Wood Energy Enquiry)
- Maintenance of price statistics on-line.

11. Meetings and events:

- UNECE Timber Committee 2010
- UNECE/FAO/WTO Workshop on Emerging Trade Measures in Timber Markets
- Meetings of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Marketing (Japan, Republic of Korea and Switzerland, 2010), (United States, 2011)
- Workshop on Corporate Social Responsibility in the forest sector in south east Europe (Serbia, 2010)
- · Meeting of Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics
- Contribution to workshop on Illegal Logging (Belgium, 2010)
- Two annual sessions of the FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (WPFES) in 2010.

D. Capacity building activities carried out under all work areas

12. Meetings and events:

- Meeting of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Turkey, 2010)
- Workshop on Improving forest products marketing to help drive sustainable rural economic development in southeast Europe (Macedonia, 2010)
- Workshop on Policy Options for Wood Energy in CIS countries (Belarus, 2010)
- Workshop on strengthening forest products marketing between environmental constraints and society needs in south east Europe (Slovenia, 2011).

E. Outlook studies and cross-sectoral component

13. Publications and Research:

- UNECE/FAO European Forest Sector Outlook Study II
- Discussion Paper on "Payments for Ecosystem services (PES): What role for a green economy?"

• Contribution to UNECE report on "MDGs in Central Asia: Achievements, Challenges and the Way ahead"¹.

14. Meetings and events:

- Two Annual Meetings of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists Forest Communicators Network (Sweden, 2010, Hungary 2011)
- UNECE/FAO Forest and Water Week, 4-8 July 2011 including a workshop on Payments for Ecosystem services (PES): What role for a green economy
- Meetings of: UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook; Core Group of Experts on Forest Sector Outlook; Forest Communicators Network; Joint ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network to Implement Sustainable Forest Management; Team of Specialists on Forest Fire
- Contribution to the 3rd International Conference of Forestry Training Centres organized by the ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network (Austria, 2011).

15. Guidance:

 Good Practice Guidance on the Sustainable Mobilization of Wood in Europe publication with FAO, Forest Europe and the European Commission.

16. Other:

• Forest-related media event for World Environment Day.

II. Indicative list of activities for 2011-2012

A. Forest resources

- 17. Publications and Research:
 - Contribution to the strategy of FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (GFRA)
 - · Contribution to the draft enquiry for GFRA 2015
 - Contribution to the electronic format of the FRA report
 - Web-based information Platform for SoEF 2011, jointly with Forest Europe (planned for 2011)
 - Educational material for students based on State of Europe's Forests 2011 report
 - Discussion paper on European Forest Types
 - Brochure on European Forest Types (planned, autumn 2011)
 - Design (with Forest Europe and EFI) of the process on the review of the pan-European Criteria and Indicators on SFM (tentative, depending on future decisions)

¹ http://www.unece.org/commission/MDGs/2010_MDG_Optimized.pdf

- Development of the concept of the pan-European reporting 2015 (tentative, depending on future decisions)
- Process of refinement of SFM advancement (together with the European Forest Institute and Forest Europe); including the development of a method for assessment of Sustainable Forest Management advancement
- Contribution to the EFI project on SFM application on a national level (participation in organisation of the series of sub-regional workshops)
- Contribution to the global initiative on Criteria and Indicator refinement (together with Forest Europe and the Montreal Process).

18. Meetings and events:

- Meeting of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management
- Last meeting of the Advisory Group on SoEF 2011 reporting.

B. Forest policies and institutions

- 19. Meetings and events:
 - Preparing and servicing the meetings of the intergovernmental negotiating Committee (INC) to prepare a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe (LBA), including organization and servicing of INC bureau meetings (together with other partners)
 - Meeting(s) to further refine the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy.

C. Markets and statistics

- 20. Publications and Research:
 - Publication of 2009 data on wood energy scheduled end of 2011 or early 2012
 - Forest Products Annual Market Review 2011-12
 - TC Market Statement 2012
 - Improve wood pellets production and trade statistics
 - Collection and validation of 2010-2011 data on the trade, consumption, production of forest products (for UNECE and other databases, e.g. FAOSTAT)
 - Publication of forest products data 2007-2011, including secondary products.
 - Timber Committee market forecasts for 2012-2013 tables
 - Timber Committee market forecasts for 2012-2013 market discussion graphs
 - Maintenance of price statistics on-line.
- 21. Meetings and events:

- FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (WPFES) 2012
- Annual session of the UNECE Timber Committee 2012
- Meeting of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Marketing
- Meeting of Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics
- Initiation of 2011 data collection on wood energy sources and uses in the UNECE region (Joint Wood Energy Enquiry).

D. Capacity building activities carried out under all work areas

- 22. Meetings and events:
 - Workshop on mobilizing "green" resources the sustainable approach in Romania (planned for end of 2011)
 - UNECE/FAO Workshop on: "Improving wood energy data in international statistics based on the experiences from the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry"
 - Workshop of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists for Forest Policy in Easter Europe and Central Asia (to be planned in 2012).

E. Outlook studies and cross-sectoral component

- 23. Meetings and events:
 - Workshop on the impact of climate change on forestry work, organized by the ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network on implementing sustainable forest management
 - · Conference on forest fires
 - Meetings of: UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook; Core Group of Experts on Forest Sector Outlook; Forest Communicators Network; Joint ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network to Implement Sustainable Forest Management; Team of Specialists on Forest Fire
 - Participation in and organization of various events for dissemination of SoEF 2011 and EFSOS II results.