



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
23 July 2012

Original: English

---

## Economic Commission for Europe

### Timber Committee

#### Seventieth session

Geneva, 16–19 October 2012

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda

### Annotated provisional agenda for the seventieth session<sup>1</sup>

Session to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Tuesday 16 October 2012, starting at 10 a.m.

#### I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. ‘The green life of wood: assessing wood’s environmental impact from cradle to cradle’: report of the workshop and recommendations.
3. The contribution of forests to economic development.
4. Market developments in 2012 and prospects for 2013:
  - (a) Market discussions;
  - (b) Country market statements;
  - (c) Country market forecasts;
  - (d) Market statement.
5. Review of activities since the sixty-ninth session and activities for 2013.
6. Communications and outreach.
7. Outcome of the ECE review process.
8. 2013 Strategic Review of the ECE/FAO Joint Programme of Work.

---

<sup>1</sup> Documents available for all sessions, and more information, including the registration form, at: [www.unece.org/forests/tc2012](http://www.unece.org/forests/tc2012).

9. Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy.
10. Outcome of Rio+20 and implications for the work of ECE/FAO.
11. Draft ECE/FAO Joint Programme of Work 2014-2017.
12. Biennial evaluation report for 2010-2011 and the draft Strategic Framework for 2014-2015.
13. Election of officers.
14. Any other business.
15. Date and place of next session.
16. Adoption of the report.

## **II. Annotations to the Provisional Agenda**

### **Opening of the meeting**

1. Mr. Sven Alkalaj, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), or his representative, will open the seventieth session of the Timber Committee.

#### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/1

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

#### **2. 'The green life of wood: assessing wood's environmental impact from cradle to cradle': report of the workshop and recommendations report**

3. A workshop on 'The green life of wood: assessing wood's environmental impact from cradle to cradle' will be held on Monday, 15 October 2012, in advance of the Timber Committee official session. This workshop is organized to learn more about the life cycle of wood products and gather scientific evidence on the sustainability of the material. This agenda item summarizes the workshop's outcome and considers the recommendations of the workshop to the Committee.

#### **3. The contribution of forests to economic development**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/2

4. The Committee will hear two presentations on the subject, to cover in particular:

(a) The state of the green economy, an update of the overall situation in different sectors and the status of implementation of green economy related actions and the impact they are having on economic development;

(b) Forests and economic development. This presentation will summarize the outcome of a study on the subject (ECE/TIM/2012/2), whose outline was discussed at the Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management in March 2012.

5. The above paper on ‘forests and economic development’ is meant to be a synthesis of the work of the TC and EFC and an important contribution to the discussions at the global level on this subject, which will take place during the 10<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Forum on Forests to be held in Istanbul in April 2013.

6. The Committee is expected to comment on the paper. A revised version of the paper, taking into consideration the discussions at the Committee session, will be submitted to the attention of the United Nations Forum on Forests at its 10<sup>th</sup> session.

#### **4. Market developments in 2012 and prospects for 2013**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/3

7. The Committee will review developments in 2012 and prospects for 2013 on the basis of: the *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2011-2012 (Geneva Timber and Forest Study Paper, ECE/TIM/SP/30)*, countries’ written statements, countries’ market forecasts and expert presentations.

8. The main Market Discussions will take place on Tuesday, 16 October, beginning with an overview of the Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR), a keynote address and three to four presentations on topical subjects.

9. Delegations will be invited to review and discuss developments in 2011 and 2012 as well as prospects for 2013 based on the FPAMR 2011-2012, countries’ market statements and forecasts. A statement summarizing the discussions and forecasts will be prepared, approved by the Committee and published afterwards as a press release.

##### **(a) Market discussions**

10. This session will cover the broad market and policy developments related to innovative and sustainable forest products as well as how they support a more environmentally friendly and stronger economy.

##### **(b) Country market statements**

11. Delegations are invited to submit country market statements based on a suggested outline that will be issued as a secretariat request to heads of delegation. Country reports are in electronic format only and will be posted in advance on the Timber Committee website. Timber Committee delegations are reminded that their country market statements in English, French or Russian should be received by the secretariat not later than 10 September 2012.

##### **(c) Country market forecasts**

12. Country market forecasts for 2012 and 2013 are prepared on the basis of a questionnaire to be sent out by the secretariat before the end of July 2012. Replies should be submitted to the secretariat not later than 10 September. Supplementary copies of the questionnaire may be obtained from the secretariat on request, or from the website.

##### **(d) Market Statement**

13. A draft Market Statement based on agenda items 4a through 4c will be made available before the session on the morning of 16 October. Together with the presentations from the session on 16 October, this will form the basis for the market statement. An informal drafting session (open to all) on the 17<sup>th</sup> will be followed by a review of the Statement. Discussion should centre on the broad messages for inclusion in the press release and less on detailed wording. The final version will be approved as part of the report

on Friday, October 19 under agenda item 15. The secretariat will distribute the final version of the agreed Market Statement via a press release and on the internet the following week.

## **5. Review of activities since the sixty-ninth session and activities for 2013**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/4

14. The Committee will be informed of activities since the sixty-ninth session held jointly with the thirty-sixth session of the European Forestry Commission in Antalya, Turkey, in October 2011. The Committee will be also presented with a list of proposed activities and outputs for 2013, based on the existing programme of work (ECE/TIM/2008/7 – FO:EFC/08/7) and will be invited to consider and endorse them.

## **6. Communications and outreach**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/5

15. The Committee will be presented with a short note on current and future communications and outreach activities, including activities undertaken in support of the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All, an educational tool on European forests and a proposal for a 2013 European Forest Week.

## **7. Outcome of the ECE review process**

16. The Committee will receive a report on the ECE review process involving all ECE subprogrammes which was taking place during 2011 and 2012.

**NB: FAO European Forestry Commission delegates are officially invited to join discussions under agenda items 8, 9, 10 and 11, given their relevance to the work of the Commission and the joint TC-EFC programme of work.**

## **8. 2013 Strategic Review of the ECE/FAO Joint Programme of Work**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/6; ECE/TIM/2012/7; ECE/TIM/2012/8; ECE/TIM/2012/9

17. At their last joint session, the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission agreed to a timetable for the 2013 Strategic Review. This review was to assess the work of the two bodies, related subsidiary bodies, the Secretariat, and to evaluate their current the programme of work in order to develop a new 2014-17 Joint Programme of Work. The 2013 Strategic Review consisted of a series of exercises to assess all different aspects of the work (see document ECE/TIM/2011/9–FO:EFC/2011/9 for more details on the timetable and the activities). The Committee will be briefed on the results and, in particular, on:

(a) The results of the self-assessment of the Teams of Specialists and discussions at the last session of the Working Party on Forests Statistics, Economics and Management on the same subject (see also ECE/TIM/2012/6);

(b) The results of the general survey, covering the whole spectrum of activities of the programme of work as well as all relevant ECE and FAO bodies (see also ECE/TIM/2012/7);

(b) The Secretariat's assessment of outputs (see also ECE/TIM/2012/8).

18. In addition, the Committee will be presented with a short note on the TC and EFC bureaux' input to the review, based on a retreat the two bureaux had in April 2012 in Geneva and the meeting in June 2012 (see also ECE/TIM/2012/9).

19. The Committee is invited to take note of this information and provide further comments and feedback during the session on the work and the operations of the relevant ECE and FAO bodies.

## **9. Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/10

20. An Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy has been developed under the aegis of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission over the last two years. The Plan is the outcome of thorough and open consultations with stakeholders, through submissions and meetings. The latest version of the Action Plan is submitted to the Committee for its review. The final version of the Action Plan will be submitted to the joint TC and EFC session in Finland in 2013 for endorsement.

21. The Committee is expected to review the Action Plan, as contained in document (ECE/TIM/2012/11), and provide additional elements for its improvement as well as guidance on further related work.

## **10. Outcome of Rio+20 and implications for the work of ECE/FAO**

22. The Committee will be briefed about events that took place in Rio during the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 that involved the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission. Information on forest-related decisions of the Conference that might be of relevance to the work of the TC and the EFC will also be shared with the Committee.

## **11. Draft ECE/FAO Joint Programme of Work 2014-2017**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/11

23. The Committee will be presented with a document containing the first elements of the 2014-17 Joint Programme of Work as developed by the bureaux of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission.

24. The Committee is expected to review the draft and provide additional elements for further development of the programme of work.

## **12. Biennial evaluation report for 2010-2011 and the draft Strategic Framework for the period 2014-2015**

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2012/12; ECE/TIM/2012/13

25. The biennial evaluation report for 2010-2011 will be presented to the Committee for endorsement. The secretariat will also present to the delegations the draft Strategic Framework for the period 2014-2015 for information.

### **13. Election of officers**

26. In accordance with the amended Rules of Procedure decided at its sixty-ninth meeting and established practice, the Committee is expected to elect a Chairperson and three Vice-Chairpersons, who will hold office until the end of the seventy-first session. At the sixty-ninth session, Ms. Linda Langner (USA) was elected chairperson, and Mr. Christoph Duerr (Switzerland), Mr Heikki Granholm (Finland) and Mr. Branko Glavonjic (Serbia), were elected Vice-Chairpersons, to hold office until the end of the seventieth session.

### **14. Any other business**

27. At the time of writing, no points had been proposed under this item.

### **15. Date and place of next session**

28. As announced at its previous session at the kind invitation of the Government of Finland, it is proposed that the seventy-first session of the Timber Committee be held jointly with the thirty-seventh European Forestry Commission session, in Finland, in December 2013.

### **16. Adoption of the report**

29. The Committee will be invited to adopt its report on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. This will also include the approval of the latest version of the market statement.

### III. Tentative timetable

---

*UNECE Timber Committee, seventeenth session*

---

#### **Tuesday, 16 October 2012**

- 10:00            Opening of session and welcome remarks
- 10:15-13:00    Item 1. Adoption of the agenda  
                   Item 2. Report of the workshops and recommendations  
                   Item 3. The contribution of forest to economic development  
                   Item 4. Market developments
- 15:00-18:00    Item 4. Market developments (continued)

#### **Wednesday, 17 October 2012**

- 08:30-09:30    Informal drafting committee of Market Statement
- 10:00-13:00    Item 4. Market Developments (continued) and issuing of Market Statement  
                   Item 5. Review of activities  
                   Item 6. Communications and outreach
- 15:00-18:00    Item 7. Outcome of the ECE review process  
                   Item 8. 2013 Strategic Review

#### **Thursday, 18 October 2012**

- 10.00-13:00    Item 9. Action Plan
- 15:00-18:00    Item 9. Action Plan (continued)  
                   Item 10. Outcome of Rio+20  
                   Item 11. Draft ECE/FAO Joint Programme of Work 2014-2017

#### **Friday, 19 October 2012**

- 10:00-13:00    Item 11. Draft ECE/FAO Joint Programme of Work 2014-17 (continued)  
                   Item 12. Biennial evaluation report 2010-2011 and the draft Strategic Framework 2014-2015
- 15:00-18:00    Item 13. Election of officers  
                   Item 14. Any other business  
                   Item 15. Date and place of next session  
                   Item 16. Adoption of the report
-