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Item 4(c) of the provisional agenda

ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry matters**Draft programme of work of the Forestry and timber
subprogramme for 2014-2015****Note by the Secretariat****Introduction**

1. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the Forestry and timber subprogramme (“the subprogramme”) for 2014–2015 as part of the Integrated Programme of Work 2014-2017 of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) European Forestry Commission (EFC). The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (“the Committee”) is invited to consider the programme and subsequently adopt it at its 71st session. It will then be submitted to the ECE Executive Committee for formal approval. The Committee will have the opportunity to adjust its programme of work during the course of the biennium and such adjustments will be reflected in a separate document.

2. The draft programme of work applies a results-based approach. It comprises, for each cluster of activities an expected accomplishment and a list of outputs/activities proposed to be carried out in 2014–2015. The delivery of these outputs/activities is expected to contribute to achieving the expected results.

3. The grouping of activities into clusters is exactly the same as used by the Committee for the biennial evaluation of its subprogramme performance.

4. Furthermore, the outputs/activities listed in this document correspond with the ECE proposed programme budget for 2014–2015 and are complemented by additional items to reflect the more recent developments and needs of ECE member States. For easy reference, such new outputs/activities have been clearly indicated as “additional”.

5. The outputs/activities have been listed under the cluster of activities to which they belong according to the following main categories: (a) meetings and related parliamentary documentation; (b) publications and other information material; and (c) technical cooperation, including, seminars, workshops, training sessions, advisory services.

6. The relevant indicators of achievement, together with baseline and target data, against which performance will be measured, are presented in a separate document ECE/TIM/2013/9–FO:EFC/2013/9 in order to facilitate the task of the Committee to assess whether all outputs which are necessary to achieve the expected result have been included in the plan.

7. Finally, Annex I to the present document lists the ECE overall legislative mandates and those specific for the subprogramme.

I. Objective and strategy

8. The objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen the forest sector and its contribution to sustainable development throughout the ECE region.

9. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Trade and Sustainable Land Management Division. The subprogramme will aim to: develop and apply analytical and monitoring tools for use both on policy issues and on developments on the ground; collect, validate and disseminate information and analysis; and stimulate the exchange of experience, best practices and joint efforts to measure progress. In addition, the subprogramme will provide a platform for topical discussions, taking into account the changing policy environment, notably as regards climate change and bioenergy. It will promote the role of forests in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

10. The subprogramme will promote the sustainable management of forests and the sound and legal use of forest products, for raw material and energy as well as forest services, based on appropriate policies and institutions. Priorities for 2014-2015 will be guided by: (a) the outcomes of work of ECE Committee on Forests and Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission; (b) relevant outcomes of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, which took place in June 2011; (c) continued efforts to address climate change and the transition to a green economy; and (d) the results of the strategic review conducted in 2012-2013.

11. While all ECE countries benefit from international cooperation through the subprogramme, special attention will be paid to the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Mediterranean region to implement sustainable forest management through capacity-building activities, and by promoting their involvement in international activities in the region.

12. As part of the strategy to implement the subprogramme, ECE will carry out its work in cooperation with FAO and the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Forest Europe), and provide regional input to the United Nations Forum on Forests and, through it support to the EFC, to the FAO Committee on Forestry.

13. To support forest management, including the use of wood and forest products that is ecologically, economically and socially sustainable, it is necessary: (a) to maintain a good balance among these factors, based on a strong consensus among all stakeholders about goals and methods; and (b) to ensure that the strategy is well integrated into the policy framework of other sectors through a cross-sectoral approach. Achieving sustainable forest management is primarily a sovereign national responsibility. However, regional international cooperation and interregional cooperation, through the forestry and timber subprogramme and its partners, will contribute by developing and disseminating concepts

and information, through the communication, sharing of experiences and definition of standard measurement tools (criteria and indicators) for sustainable forest management. At the same time, the changing needs of society and the impact of global developments will be guiding factors at the regional level.

II. Outputs/activities to be delivered in the 2014–2015 biennium

Cluster 1 Data, monitoring and assessment

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Increased ability of ECE member States to measure and report on forest resources as the underlying basis for sustainable forest management.

Outputs/activities

- (a) *Meetings and related parliamentary documentation*
- 1.1 Annual sessions of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management¹ (10 half-days)
 - 1.2 Reports of the annual sessions of the Joint Working Party (2)
- (b) *Publications and other information material*
- 1.3 Forest Products Annual Market Review (2)
 - 1.4 Outlook for forest products markets by the Timber Committee (2)
 - 1.5 Maintenance of database on forest resources (2)
 - 1.6 Maintenance of database on forest products production, consumption and trade, including prices (2)
 - 1.7 Maintenance of database on wood energy (2)
 - 1.8 Substantive reports for the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, including on forest resource information, markets/statistics, and on sector outlook studies (6)
 - 1.9 Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers on topics to be identified (1)
 - 1.10 Geneva Timber and Forest Discussion Papers on topics to be identified (2)
 - 1.11 Seminars/workshops on sector issues to be determined by the Committee on Forests and Forest Industry (1)
 - 1.12 Workshops/seminars organised jointly with FAO and the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe (3)

¹ Former name: Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics

Cluster 2 Policy dialogue and advice

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Increased ability of ECE member States to monitor forest policies and institutions, in view of strengthening the institutional and legal framework.

Outputs/activities

- (a) *Meetings and related parliamentary documentation*
- 2.1 Annual sessions of the Committee on Forests and Forest Industry (14 half-days)
 - 2.2 FAO European Forestry Commission (10 half-days)
 - 2.3 Joint Meetings of the Bureaux of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the European Forestry Commission (12 half-days)
 - 2.4 Reports of the annual sessions of the Committee (2)
 - 2.5 Documents for the annual sessions of the Committee, including reports on market conditions for forest products and on support for the international forest dialogue (10)
 - 2.6 Contribution to substantive reports for the FAO European Forestry Commission (4)
- (b) *Publications and other information material*
- 2.7 Maintenance of database on forest policies and institutions (2)
 - 2.8 Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers on topics to be identified (1)
 - 2.9 Geneva Timber and Forest Discussion Papers on topics to be identified (4)
 - 2.10 Seminars/workshops on sector issues to be determined by the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (1)
 - 2.11 Workshops/seminars organised jointly with FAO and the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe (1)

Cluster 3

Communication and outreach

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Increased visibility of the forest sector within ECE member States leading to sound use of wood, policies to promote it and increased ability to monitor it.

Outputs/activities

- (a) *Publications and other information material*
- 3.1 Information brochure on forestry and timber (1)
 - 3.2 Maintenance of a website providing meeting documents, excerpts of publications and information on activities related to the subprogramme (2)
 - 3.3 Annual sets of press releases to be issued on the occasion of meetings, forums and the issuance of publications (2)

Cluster 4

Capacity-building

<i>Description of cluster (optional)</i>	<i>Expected accomplishments from this cluster</i>
	Increased capacity of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-East Europe to achieve sustainable forest management at the national level.

Outputs/activities

- (a) *Publications and other information material*
- 4.1 Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers on topics to be identified (1)
- (b) *Technical cooperation*
- 4.2 Workshops on sector issues, including capacity building, marketing, resources, policies and institutions, with emphasis on transition issues (4)

Annex I

Legislative mandates

A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
60/1	2005 World Summit Outcome
61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
64/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
64/236	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference for the Commission
2009/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals
2009/29	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant general Assembly resolution including resolution 61/16

3. Other

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
E/ECE/1468	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE
A(65)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe

B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
54/218	Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly
61/193	International Year of Forests, 2011
62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
66/288	The Future We Want
67/200	International Day of Forests

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

<i>Res No.</i>	<i>Title</i>
2006/49	Outcome of the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests
2007/40	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests