UNECE/FAO Teams of Specialists Reporting 2015 - Sustainable Forest Products -

Items for regular reporting to the JWPFSEM (length max two pages)

1. Name :

UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

2. Period covered:

June 2014 – March 2015

3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:

Leader: Eoin O'Driscoll
Deputies: Jeremy Wall
Secretary: Branko Glavonjic

4. Members: (Number only)

48

5. Countries: (List separated by comma)

26 (Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America and Uzbekistan)

Membership also includes trade & industrial associations including CEI-Bois, EPF and CEPPI.

6. Meetings held:

Co-ordination meetings Kazan, Russian Federation, 20 November 2014 and Luxembourg, Luxembourg 26 February 2015

7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

Contributions to and additional editing of the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2014-2014.

8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:

- Capacity building workshop to be held in Montenegro, June 2015;
- Continue ongoing work with the Secretariat to contribute to, edit and improve the UNECE/FAO Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR);
- Work to improve forest-based industries attendance at Silva 2015;
- Work to improve the involvement of the forest-based industries within the UNECE process.

9. Issues for the attention of the Secretariat and the Working Party:

- Improve forest-based industries attendance at Silva 2015;
- To this end, a minimum of one full day's market discussion would give a strong centre-piece with which to attract industrial participants;
- This point was raised in November 2014 at the Seventy-second session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, held in Kazan, Russian Federation.

10. Comments, lessons learned:

In recent years, attendance by the forest-based industries at UNECE meetings has
declined. To improve attendance, the UNECE should consider holding joint meetings
with such trade bodies. In addition, we should avoid holding UNECE meetings on
dates which conflict with key industry conferences, in particular such as the Softwood
Conference and/or the Hardwood Conference and major trade fairs.

Eoin O'Driscoll

Date: 4/03/2015