



**Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry
Economic Commission for Europe**



**European Forestry Commission
Food and Agricultural Organization**

TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON SUSTAINABLE FOREST PRODUCTS

Evening meeting 5:00-6:30

Monday, 5 November, Vancouver Convention Centre, (room 7), British Columbia, Canada

Meeting Report

Welcome and Opening Comments (Eoin O'Driscoll, Leader of the Team of Specialists).

1. The agenda was adopted. The Team Leader welcomed the participants, who were asked to briefly introduce themselves.
2. Regarding the ToS work for the 2018-2021 period – the Team Leader, Eoin O'Driscoll, said that there should be a strengthened effort to increase cooperation with both the housing section and sustainable energy division of the UNECE (Eoin and Matt will work at establishing these lines of cooperation). There was general consensus amongst the group that carbon efficiency of wood products should be the focus of the Team's work. For further direction, see the Terms of Reference for the period 2018-2021 contained in the Annex of this report.
3. The Team Leader and secretariat asked for feedback from the team regarding what could be improved with the Forest Products Annual Market Review. The following summarizes that discussion:
 - Included information on post-consumer wood/re-cycled wood fibre as a source of raw material.
 - More information on wood-based fabrics.
 - More on trade barriers, including the possibility of a dedicated chapter on same.
 - Innovation in construction (using wood).
 - Standardization, e.g., products specifications, construction techniques.

The discussion turned to pre-fabricated housing and modular homes, with the general consensus being that this is an important emerging trend regarding the use of wood products and thus needs to be monitored closely. Delton Alderman agreed to monitor this emerging trend and write about it in the housing chapter of the Market Review.

4. Election of Team Leaders.

Eoin O'Driscoll will continue as Team Leader, Jeremy Wall will continue as Deputy Leader; Delton Alderman will take over the role of Deputy Leader, which was formerly held by Branko Glavonjic.

We would like to thank Branko for his time as Deputy Leader and wish him and his family the best for the future.

5. Future Team Meetings. Tentatively scheduled for the margins of the Working Party (27-29 March), perhaps on 26 March 2019,

6. The following 20 participants attended the meeting: Francisco Aguilar(US), Delton Alderman (US), Diego Benedetti (EOS), Ivan Eastin (US), Matthew Fonseca (UNECE/FAO Geneva), Chris Gaston (Canada), Annika Hyttia (Finland), Erno Jarvinen (Finland), Susan Jones (US), Surendra Joshi (Sweden), Sylvain Labbe (Canada), Alex McCusker (UNECE/FAO Geneva), Paul Newman (Canada), Magnus Niklasson (Sweden), Eoin O’Driscoll (Ireland), Tomaz Remic (Slovenia), Achim Schäfer (Switzerland), Florian Steierer (UNECE/FAO Geneva), Andrej Talarczyk (Poland), Russ Taylor (Canada), Lukasz Wrobel (Poland).

Thanks to all who attended and participated at our ToS Meeting.

Annex: Terms of reference (2018-2021) of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products (taken from the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work 2017

ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

Reference to the Integrated Programme of Work: Work Area 1, “Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment” and Work Area 4, “Capacity-building”

A. Objectives

1. To advise and support work on the sustainable development of forest products markets and related policies in the region.
2. To raise awareness on the role that sustainable forest products can play in greening economies and in providing sustainable products and livelihoods.

B. Activities and functions

3. Provide guidance and referral to the best available experts and/or sources of information for the organization of:
 - Market Discussions;
 - Workshop(s) on all topics related to forest products including the role of forest products in a green economy, the use of wood for “green buildings”, innovative wood products and other topics in line with the work programme.
4. Provide expertise and outreach to experts for drafting market-related publications and products, including the technical reviews contained in, and the production of, the Forest Products Annual Market Review.
5. Advise the secretariat on the organization of meetings related to the sustainable use of forest products.
6. Advise the secretariat on strategies to carry out the Programme of Work in the forest products marketing area, in particular to assist in strengthening the focus on innovative forest products and on improving knowledge on wood sustainability credentials.
7. Build links with standard/certifying organizations, as well as forest products trade associations, to promote the use of forest products as a sustainable material for construction and other uses..

8. Build linkages with non-forest bodies within the UN, including with the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management.
9. Build links, both informal and formal, with other Teams of Specialists in areas where cross-cutting issues are shared and where assistance and coordination can be mutually beneficial.
10. Build upon the work of previous capacity building workshops and consider organizing similar events in association with regional bodies.
11. Organize an annual awareness raising workshop; subject to availability of funds.
12. Work with the secretariat to attract and enhance the involvement of the forest products industry, aiming at:
 - holding a full day session focusing on market/industry issues;
 - organizing industry visits;
 - organizing side events that involve the forest products industry sector.
13. Provide a network of expertise and advice, including on priorities.

C. Expected major outputs and contributions

14. Market Discussions covering forest product market topics that are current and relevant to the region and contribute to the Market Statement.
15. Bi-annual meetings to discuss a list of recommendations on how to improve the content, structure and focus of the forest products marketing work area in general and the Forest Products Annual Market Review in particular (typically during the ToS meeting that is held at the time of COFFI, EFC and Working Party meetings).

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint Sessions of ECE COFFI and FAO EFC, Warsaw, Poland, 2017.
Duration:	From January 2018 to December 2019. Renewable to 2021.
Methods of work:	Annual meeting. Other methods to be determined by the Team.
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first Team meeting
Communication:	The Team Leader and secretary should ensure close communication and collaboration with the Teams of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics and Wood Energy