



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

Mid-day meeting 1:45 – 2.55 PM
Tuesday, 5 November 2019, room 15, Palais des Nations, Geneva Switzerland

Report of the meeting

The Team Leader, Eoin O’Driscoll, welcomed the Team and asked them all to introduce themselves.

1. The Agenda¹ was adopted.

2. Discussion on a proposed wooden construction workshop. Although this document was not provided in time for the meeting, it was agreed that it would be circulated soon afterwards and team members would be free to give their written feed-back². The Team leader provided the current status for the proposed workshop, as yet un-named. Its aim is to increase the awareness and knowledge of the benefits of using forest-based materials, products and systems in construction projects. The topic was discussed at length with the Team for their thoughts and feedback on the proposal. A brief summary is listed below:

- April is a good month for the meeting. However, the UNECE Forestry WG (i.e. 23/3-25/3/2020) and Easter (Easter Sunday is 12/4/2020) should best be avoided. Noting that there are also a number of public holidays in May – and in any case, Team members were invited to inform the Secretariat of known events in the late spring of 2020, so that possible date clashes could be avoided.
- The target audience for this Workshop should include: architects, specifiers, policymakers building developers and other relevant actors (consumers would be good but difficult to reach).
- We should also involve the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)³, who have hosted a previous team event. It was thought that we should place an emphasis on multi-storey wooden buildings but that we should not neglect single family dwellings, large public buildings and infrastructures.
- Modular construction is a potential topic as are building renovation and extension (e.g. “timber on top”).
- One aim of the Workshop should be to transfer knowledge on wood construction so that zoning and building regulations are performance-based rather than prescriptive (e.g. zoning should not specify materials only performance expectations).

3. Discussion on the Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR). There was a brief discussion on the production of the FPAMR (2019). Most of the Team liked the concept of an electronic version of the publication but they also want a paper version as well. It was mentioned by the Secretariat that we could include a special chapter *if* a topic is relevant *and* we can find a suitable

¹ <https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2019/20191104/2019-11-05-ToSSFP-Agenda.pdf>

² <https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2019/20191104/Spring2020HousingWorkshopConceptNote.pdf>

³ <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en>

author. Please contact the Secretariat by mid January 2020 if you have any ideas regarding FPAMR (2020).

4. Future Team Meetings. The Team leader indicated that (in order to minimise the cost of attending meetings) that the Team will continue to hold meetings on the margins of COFFI and Working Party meetings unless there is a consensus that this practice should be changed. Smaller groups of Team members can continue to meet in the margins of other events and, as appropriate, report to the Secretariat. The next plenary Team meeting will likely be held in the margins of the Working Party meeting in late March 2020.

5. Other events for Team members to attend/meet at/report on. Meeting in Brussels, “EU Forest-based Industries; the Track to 2050”⁴ . as held in Brussels on 18/11/2019.

6. Thanks to all the members of the ToS who attended our meeting and who contributed to the success of same. We value your input and we look forward to meeting you again in Geneva in March. We wish all of you and your families a very Festive Season.

7. List of attendees

Mr. Orifjon Abidov, European Panel Federation, Bruxelles, Belgium
Prof. Eduard Akim, Higher School of Technology and Energy, Saint Petersburg State University of Industrial Technologies and Design, St.Petersburg, Russian Federation
Mr. Delton Alderman, USDA Forest Service, Princeton, West Virginia, United States of America
Ms. Aleksandra Danilov, Vaagen Timbers, Colville, Washington, United States of America
Prof. Ivan Eastin, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States of America
Dr. Silvia Ferlazzo, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies, Rome, Italy
Mr. Matthew Fonseca, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, Geneva, Switzerland
Dr. Branko Glavonjic, Belgrade State University, Belgrade, Serbia
Dr. Hüseyin Güler, Kastamonu Entegre, Istanbul, Turkey
Mr. Pierre Hermans, SYLVA NOVA, Liege, Belgium
Ms. Annika Hyytiä, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
Mr. Alex Mccusker, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, Geneva, Switzerland
Mrs. Silvia Melegari, European Organization of the Sawmill Industry, Brussels, Belgium
Mr. Igor Novoselov, WhatWood, Timber Industry Research & Analytics Agency (Russia), Mozhga, Udmurtia, Russian Federation
Mr. Eoin O'Driscoll, Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine, Dublin, Ireland
Mr. Aleksandr Pekaretc, Forest Technology Company, Irkutsk, Russian Federation
Dr. Ed Pepke, Dovetail Partners, Gex, France
Prof. Ewa Ratajczak, Łukasiewicz Research Network - Wood Technology Institute, Poznań, Poland
Mr. Florian Steierer, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, Geneva, Switzerland
Mr. Richard Steindl, Stora Enso Timber Deutschland GmbH, Pfarrkirchen, Germany
Mr. Reima Sutinen, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, Helsinki, Finland
Mr. Russel Vaagen, Vaagen Timbers, Colville, Washington, United States of America
Mr. Jeremy Wall, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium

⁴ www.eurawmaterialsweek.eu/event/pages/eu-forest-based-industries-the-track-to-2050