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**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations****Economic Commission for Europe****Food and Agriculture Organization**

Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

European Forestry Commission

**Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics,
Economics and Management****Forty-second session**

Geneva, 22-24 March 2021

Item 5 (a) of the Provisional Agenda

Guidance on Work Areas**Work Area 1: Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

In accordance with its mandate, the Working Party is expected to provide guidance on Work Area 1: Data, Monitoring, Reporting and Assessment. This document provides information about activities in this work area since the Working Party's last session in March 2019, as well as plans for 2020, drawing the Working Party's attention to any specific issues where guidance is needed.

I. Forest Resources**A. Data collection****1. Global Reporting on Forests and Sustainable Forest Management**

1. The Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section (Joint Section) continued supporting the implementation and reporting on: (i) the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development¹, (ii) the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution E/2015/33² "International arrangement on forests beyond 2015" and (iii) the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030³.

2. Global Core Set of forest related indicators

2. The core set of global forest-related indicators was agreed at the 13th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) in May 2018. The set consists of 21 indicators,

¹ http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E.

² <http://undocs.org/E/RES/2015/33>.

³ http://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/UNSPF_AdvUnedited.pdf.

including all forest-related SDG indicators and sub-indicators. The set refers to other forest-related targets and SDGs, the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) and other forest-related global processes. The UNFF at its 14th Session welcomed progress on the global core set of forest-related indicators and invited the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) to continue developing the second and third tier indicators. These indicators require further work before being applied, including the elaboration of definitions. Pilot studies should be considered before implementation of these indicators.

3. The Joint Section supported the UNFF Secretariat in the organization of “Monitoring, assessment and reporting” roundtable at the 14th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests in May 2019. Further support was provided to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPFs) capacity building workshop on the “Global Core Set of Forest-related Indicators to Support the Implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (Rome, Italy, October 2019⁴). In particular, the Joint Section assisted with reporting on wood-based energy. The Joint Section served as a co-organiser and moderator of both events.

3. Reporting on implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests

4. The UNFF at its 13th Session invited its Members to submit national reports on progress made towards implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) 2017 and the United Nations Forest Instrument (UNFI). The UNFF Secretariat extended this invitation to the regional and sub-regional entities. In response to this invitation, the Joint Section prepared the report on the activities related to the implementation of the UNSPF 2017 – 2030 and the UNSPF in the ECE region, completed through the Joint Integrated Programme of Work.

5. The Joint Section would like to acknowledge the cooperation with the UNFF Secretariat and the FAO Forestry Division in the implementation of the UNSPF and the UNFI at the global level as well as in the ECE region.

4. Global Forest Resource Assessment / Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire

6. The 2020 Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) reporting cycle was launched at “FRA 2020 Technical meeting of National Correspondents and Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ) partners”, in March 2018 in Toluca de Lerdo, Mexico. The FAO FRA Secretariat, Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava and the Joint Section organized support and assisted national correspondents in the ECE region in preparing their national submissions to the FRA 2020.

7. The process was completed in mid-2019 and resulted in 50 out of 56 ECE countries providing reports (highest response rate ever). As a comparison, 42 countries reported for the previous 2015 reporting cycle. The secretariats prepared desk studies to cover the countries that had not reported.

8. It is envisaged that all FRA 2020 data will be made available through the FRA platform. The Joint Section supported the FAO secretariat in FRA related work, as well as other outputs, including participation in the FRA 2020 Advisory Group.

5. Joint Forest Europe/UNECE/FAO pan-European reporting on Sustainable Forest Management

9. The 2020 pan-European data collection uses two questionnaires – quantitative and qualitative indicators. The Joint Section, Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava, and the FAO FRA secretariat, assisted national correspondents in charge of the quantitative questionnaires. The Liaison Unit led the collection process of qualitative data. The review of quantitative reports for the Global and Pan-European reporting was done by the same international expert.

10. In addition to supporting national reporting, the Joint Section provided data for four indicators: 3.2 quantity and market value of roundwood; 6.7 consumption per head of wood

⁴ www.cpfweb.org/96871.

and products derived from wood; 6.8 imports and exports of wood and products derived from wood; 6.9 share of wood energy in total primary energy supply, classified by origin of wood.

11. The Joint Section, the FAO FRA secretariat and the Liaison Unit, continued the integration of forest data platforms, held by partner organizations. The global and regional data should be available this year from a dedicated webpage. The website would significantly streamline the storage and dissemination. It will be a key step towards integrating the collection of global and regional forest information.

12. The Joint Section would like to express its appreciation to the FAO FRA secretariat and the Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava for their cooperation on the joint reporting at both global and regional levels. The Joint Section is grateful to the experts (national and international) involved in the process and to the Russian Federation and Switzerland for their financial support.

B. Assessment and Reporting

1. State of Forests of Caucasus and Central Asia

13. The “State of Forests of Caucasus and Central Asia” is the first overview that covers all eight countries of the region. The study was developed in close cooperation with forestry experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. It includes information on forest resources, the forest sector, trends and pressures on the forest, policies and institutions, major challenges and policy responses.

14. The English version of the study was launched at the UN Forum on Forests during its 14th session, from 6 to 10 May 2019 in New York, and the Russian version is in print. A beneficial offshoot of the study was a series of bilingual (English and Russian) overviews of forests and forest management in eight countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia. The overviews support forest sectors in the respective countries and seeks to form a connection between policy makers, society and the international community.

15. The Joint Section would like to express its appreciation to the main author, national and international experts involved in the study, and the Government of Switzerland for providing financial support to its production.

2. Forest ownership in the ECE region

16. The Joint Section published the study “State of Forest Ownership in the ECE Region”, prepared in close cooperation with the COST Action project “Forest Land Ownership Changes in Europe - Significance for Management and Policy” (FACESMAP). The underlying data on forest ownership in the UNECE region is available through the interactive database (in English and Russian) at: <https://w3.unece.org/PXWeb/en>. The publication is now available at <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=53984>.

17. The Joint Section is grateful to COST Action, the lead author and all authors and experts involved in the production of the study. The Joint Section would also like to acknowledge the Russian Federation and the European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR) for their financial support.

C. Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management

18. The ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring SFM continued its work related to the ongoing global and regional reporting on forests and forest management. The third meeting of the Team of Specialists was held from 3 to 4 December 2019 at the European Environment Agency in Copenhagen, Denmark.

19. In 2019, the Team developed an international forest damage/disturbance assessment, based on the results of a questionnaire dedicated to this purpose. At the meeting in Copenhagen, the Team analysed the results of the questionnaires and established a sub-group to study new means and formats for forest damage reporting.

20. The Team analysed the results of forest ownership reporting, including review of the questionnaires. Members of the Team discussed options for dissemination of information related to forest monitoring and assessment, including the creation of a repository of national forest data sources. More information about the work of the Team, reports from the meeting, background documents and presentations can be found at: <http://www.unece.org/forests/fr/msfm>.

21. The meeting at the European Environment Agency provided an opportunity for cooperation between the staff of the Agency and members of the Team of Specialists, which covered dissemination platforms as well as forest related reports published. The Team of Specialists and the Joint Section express their gratitude to the European Environment Agency for hosting the meeting.

D. Key questions for guidance and discussion

22. See ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2021/3.

II. Forest Products' production, trade and consumption

A. Data collection and assessment

23. Website analysis continue to show that data and statistics are the leading reason for visiting the Joint Section's website. The most downloaded files are all related to price statistics.

1. Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire

24. In 2019, 44 questionnaires (containing some data) were received. These data were published in the *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2018-2019* (FPAMR) in the related statistical annex and through FAOSTAT (all currently available).

25. Species trade and secondary products data for 2018 have not yet been published. Price statistics were updated during the summer 2019. Price statistics continue to attract a high level of interest on the Joint Section's website. Trade flow data for eight product groups were published, showing trade by value between countries and regions. A flat file containing production and trade statistics for primary forest products was published and updated in 2019.

26. The Joint Section is tentatively planning to organize a capacity-building workshop on forest products statistics later in 2020. Further details will be discussed at the Joint Working Party meeting.

2. Timber Forecast Questionnaire

27. The Joint Section published forecasts and made them available at the meeting of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, incorporated them into the Market Statement, and subsequently published them online in 2019 in Excel and PDF format.

3. International issues

28. Cooperation between the four organizations (the International Tropical Timber Organization, Eurostat, the FAO and the ECE) that collect data through the JFSQ is conducted through the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (IWG). The organizations met in January 2020 in Geneva.

B. Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics

29. The Team met once (26 March 2019). The report of the meeting is available at <https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2019/20190326/notes-tos-fps-2019-web.pdf>. The Team is scheduled to meet the day before the forty-second session and is

planning to report to the Working Party during its session. The agenda of this meeting is available at <https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2020/20200326/agenda-tos-fps-2020-revised0312.pdf>. The annual report of the Team is annexed to this document. The mandate of the Team runs from 2020 to 2021 and was renewed by the ECE Executive Committee.

C. Key questions on data collection for guidance and discussion

31. See ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2021/3.

D. Forest products market assessment

1. The Forest Products Annual Market Review

32. The *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2018-2019* was completed on 16 August 2019. The English version in interactive PDF was made available on the Joint Section's website on 31 October 2019, and the printed version in late November 2019. The Russian language version is expected to be made available by May 2020. As it has been the case for several years now, the French version of the 2019 FPAMR is not likely to be available until late 2020.

33. The FPAMR 2019 was made possible by funding from Finland, with significant in-kind contributions from many authors and organizations, and assistance from three interns/junior consultants from the University of Helsinki, the University of British Columbia and the University of Missouri. Its production was managed by the Joint Section. Statistical input was received from over 100 national statistical correspondents and contributors.

34. Many authors and reviewers for the publication are members of the ECE/FAO ToS on Sustainable Forest Products. In addition, the ToS provided authors and expertise for the production of the *Review* and the Team Leader provided substantial support in reviewing and proofreading of the final version.

35. At the November 2019 meeting of the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products (Geneva), the Team expressed appreciation of the new electronic version. The Team, however, was unanimous in their opinion that a printed version be continued. There was a general consensus that the *Review* was used predominantly as a reference, thus was easier to access as a printed copy.

36. In addition to the standard interactive PDF, the FPAMR was produced in three different e-publication variants, compatible with Android, Apple and Kindle e-reader. Despite the attractiveness and usability of the e-pubs, there have been very few downloads when compared to the PDF version (despite a promotional campaign). The Joint Working Party will be supplied with the most recent statistics on downloads during the Work Area 1 presentation. The e-publications, available since late October, came with an increased cost of \$6,500 of extrabudgetary funds.

37. For the FPAMR 2020, the Joint Section has no funds available to hire authors. Contingency plans for the upcoming *Review* are to produce a reduced version.

2. Market Statements

38. The Joint Section invited member States to prepare country market statements as background for the COFFI annual meeting. Fifteen countries submitted statements which are available on the website (<http://www.unece.org/forests/market-statements-2019>). These provide an excellent level of country-specific detail on forest products markets, and the economic and policy contexts affecting them.

39. The 2019 Market Discussions in Geneva included expert presentations and focused on current forest products trends such as wood construction with mass timber. In addition to discussion of market trends, the discussion was primarily focussed on forest products market

developments in the Russian Federation as well as the prospects for cross-laminated timber production and application in both Europe and North America.

40. The drafting committee developed the market statement for COFFI 2019, putting into one document the information provided by member States from the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire, Timber Forecast Questionnaire, Country Market Statements and Market Discussions. The market statement can be found in the annex of the COFFI 2019 meeting report (ECE/TIM/2019/2). Some of the main points of the market statement were also used for a press release with the title: “Forest Market discussions show how wildfires can spark innovation in forest management”, which highlighted the fact that not only can salvaged beetle-killed, blow-down, or burned timber be utilized to make forest products, but harvest can also help to make forests more resilient to such disturbances.

E. Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

41. The ToS was instrumental in the preparation and review of the FPAMR 2018-2019, providing authors, market intelligence and critical review. The ToS on Sustainable Forest Products met on 5 November 2018.

42. The FAO, ITTO and UNECE are finalizing a study on forest products conversion factors, which updates and elaborates upon the 2010 conversion factors study on ECE region countries. The new study provides conversion factors on major forest products from across the globe. The report has been made available from the FAO website (<http://www.fao.org/forestry/publications/en>/FAO Rome) and hard copies will be available from FAO Rome.

43. The annual report of the Team is annexed to this document. The mandate of the Team runs from 2020-2021 and was renewed by the ECE Executive Committee at the request of the joint COFFI/EFC.

F. Key questions on data assessment for guidance and discussion

44. See ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2021/3.

III. Wood Energy

A. Data collection

45. In 2019, the Joint Section collected the initial replies to the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry for the reference year 2017 (JWEE2017) and presented it at the 2019 Working Party meeting. Thirty-one replies were received (similar to JWEE2015). These replies have been reviewed. Follow-up questions have been provided to correspondents and replies to these are currently being received. The Joint Section will finalize the data and will present the results to the Working Party. The Joint Section will upload country overviews to the website prior to the meeting.

46. The Team of Specialists on Wood Energy discussed the JWEE during its sixth meeting. The Team suggested providing conversion factors for lower heating value in addition to the higher heating value before the next round of the JWEE. This would be to better harmonize JWEE data with energy statistics, which generally measure energy in lower heating value. Conversion factors for lower heating value would have to account for the national average water content in wood fuels, the share of coniferous and non-coniferous wood as well as the average density of wood.

47. The Joint Working Party, during its thirty-first session, asked the Joint Section to conduct the data collection on wood energy on a two-year cycle (ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2009/10). The Joint Section will therefore start preparing the data collection process on wood energy supply and consumption for the reference year 2019 (JWEE2019) and proposes to launch the JWEE2019 in November 2020.

48. The Joint Section believes that the structure of the enquiry is quite mature and could be used with minor changes in the next round of the data collection. The Joint Section only proposes two amendments to the JWEE:

(a) Amend the enquiry structure to allow reporting of wood energy consumption by sector in energy units (mirror table IV). This will allow for better coordination between energy and forestry sector at national level;

(b) Include an automatic calculation of “*Wood-based energy share of total final energy consumption*” (see explanation heading “B” below).

B. Data assessment

49. The information provided by member States on wood energy is published but not further analysed by the Joint Section. However, the Joint Section would like to inform the Joint Working Party that different actors use the structure of the JWEE or the data for further assessment and comparison, namely with other sources of energy.

50. Wood energy, as the world’s most important single source of renewable energy and is equally important for SDG 7 (Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all) and SDG 15.2 (By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally). SDG 7.2 aims for the following: “*By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix*” (measured by Indicator 7.2.1 “*Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption*”). The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) decided that any change in wood used for energy has the potential to significantly spill over to SDG 15.2 (“*By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally*”) and decided to include the share of wood derived energy in final energy consumption as indicator 10 of the Global Core Set of Forest Indicators.

51. The Joint Section attended the Expert Workshop in support of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Joint Initiative on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting (see ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/5). The objective of the event was to strengthen the Global Core

Set of Forest Indicators to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030 (www.cpfweb.org/96871). The Joint Section presented the experiences from the ECE region with the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry and actively contributed to the development of indicator 10 of the Global Core Set of forest indicators. The methodological approach is fully compatible with the one in place for SDG indicator 7.2.1.

52. To improve indicator 10, member States acknowledged the need for closer collaboration between forest product and energy statistics. Better collaboration will improve data availability and allow for sustainability assessment of wood energy use which is currently not covered in indicator 10. The JWEE was seen as an good example providing very detailed wood energy data.

53. The working group on indicator 10 proposed to further improve collaboration across relevant actors, such as forestry, energy and statistical offices, ministries, industry associations and academia to improve data availability and quality related to indicator 10 and on wood energy in general.

54. The working group on indicator 10 recommended to initiate a task force as a forum on wood energy data comprised of e.g., representatives from the FAO, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, International Energy Organizations, relevant biomass industry associations (e.g. World Bioenergy Association) and other international organizations (e.g. WHO).

55. EU regulation 2018/1999, Annex IX requires EU member states to report detailed data on forest biomass used for energy generation. The JWEE can provide detailed wood energy data for some EU member states. Relevant information about the JWEE was provided to the Concerted Action Renewable Energy Source Directive (CA-RES), Core Theme 4: Biomass mobilization and sustainability explaining how JWEE can provide required data.

C. Cross-sectoral cooperation

56. The Joint Section contributed to a publication by the Sustainable Energy Division of the ECE on “Towards sustainable renewable energy investment and deployment - Trade-offs and opportunities with water resources and the environment”, ECE ENERGY SERIES No.63 (in print). The input by the Joint Section focused on the important role of wood energy among other renewable energy sources and possible impacts on the forest resources if not used sustainably.

57. The Joint Section would like to highlight again the success of the video on “More heat with less wood”. This film on the efficient use of wood for heating in private households was launched on 23 March 2016, during the thirty-eighth session of the Working Party and has now become the most viewed video on ECE’s Youtube account with more than 129,000 views as of early March 2020.

D. Team of Specialists on Wood Energy

58. The Team met from 3 to 4 June 2019 in Umea, Sweden. The Team elected a new Leader, Mr. Francisco Aguilar and confirmed the three co-leaders: Mr. Dinko Vusic, Mr. Matthias Dees and Ms. Karen Abt. The outcome of the meeting and highlights of the work of the Team are provided in detail in the meeting report and the presentations, all available on the meeting website: <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=51250>.

59. The annual report of the Team is annexed to this document. The ToS highlighted some points for the Working Party’s direction. Delegates are invited to take these into consideration while considering the ToS’ work. The mandate of the Team runs from 2020 to 2021 and was renewed by the ECE Executive Committee at the request of the joint COFFI/EFC session in November 2019.

E. Key questions on wood energy data assessment for guidance and discussion

60. See ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2021/3.

Annex

A. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Management

Items for regular reporting to the Joint Working Party Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWPFSEM)

1. Name:

Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management
Team website: <https://www.unece.org/forests/fr/msfm.html>

2. Period covered:

April 2019 – March 2020

3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:

Leader: Mr. Adrian Lanz, Switzerland

Deputy: Ms. Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, EEA; Mr. Kari T. Korhonen, Finland;
Ms. Stefanie Linser, BOKU

Secretary: Mr. Roman Michalak

4. Members:

53 (as of 19 February 2020)

5. Countries:

21 countries: (as of 19 February 2020) Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United States of America

6. Meetings held:

Third (28th) meeting of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, European Environment Agency, Copenhagen, Denmark, 3-4 December 2019 (<https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=53042>)

7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- Provided input to the reporting of the FAO Global Forest Resources (FRA) 2020 and the Joint UNECE/FAO/FOREST EUROPE pan-European reporting; provided feedback on the completed national data collection; provided advice to Secretariats regarding the final outputs (including studies) and the dissemination process; discussed the final formats for presentation of national data reported through these two reporting processes, suggested possible developments and recommended the joint data platform as the main means for this purpose.
- Discussed the results and reviewed the process of the reporting on forest ownership in the UNECE region; considering that possible next reporting on this topic is

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envisaged for around 2025 the Team carried out an initial review the national questionnaire on forest ownership in the UNECE region.

- Discussed the initial results of the FRA and pan-European reporting on forest damage in the context of formats and relevance to the needs. Carried out enquiry on national forest damage reporting; on the basis of its results initiated the work on the improvement of consistency, quality and relevance of the future international reporting on forest damages; decided to initiate work on the study dedicated to forest damage in the UNECE region, including developing related international reporting formats and definitions. The Team established a sub-group on this topic (led by Michael Koehl).
- The Forest Databanks Network (an informal sub-group of ToS experts in the field of forest data banks, led by Andrzej Talarczyk), initiated its work by developing a questionnaire to identify relevant national level data banks on forests in the UNECE region. In addition, the Network provided advice to the UNECE, FAO and Forest Europe Secretariats in terms of developing global and regional data portals.
- Furthermore, Team Members provided direct contribution to the pan-European and global reporting systems, and related outputs as well as to the capacity building activities led by the Joint Section, in particular related to the implementation of the UNDA/UNECE/FAO project “Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia”.

8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:

- Support to the presentation and dissemination of the results of the Global and Pan-European 2020 reporting.
- Improved information on status and trends, and definitions, related guidelines and reporting formats for international forest damage reporting, based on the results of the questionnaire survey on current methods and thematic study. Possible organization of the thematic conference on this topic.
- Repository on national forest data banks; support and advice to the development of the pan-European forest information platform (linked to the FRA one) and the UNECE/FAO forest sector information website.
- Advice to the capacity building work led by the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, related to strengthening capacities of countries in the field of forest monitoring.
- The next meeting of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring SFM is planned for September 2020.

9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party:

- The completion of the study on forest ownership in the UNECE region marked a milestone in the work on this topic. The Team, recognising the results achieved, noted still insufficient availability of forest ownership related data and recommended continuing work that would support countries in this field.
- Results of the questionnaire on national forest damage assessment provided rich and valuable material on national work on this topic; in addition, they indicated the opportunity for extension of this work that would deepen analysis of forest damage in the UNECE region. The Team supported the idea of establishment of a project on the development of the study on this topic (based on existing information).

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- The launch of the periodic global and regional forest information is scheduled for 2020, which will renew the data of 2015. The Team noted that the launch provides an excellent opportunity for the sector to highlight the visibility of this information, and the sector in general, possibly through concerted actions among all stakeholders of this process, both countries and organizations, also from beyond the traditional extent of the sector. The potential of currently built/developed repositories, websites and data platforms (at all levels) should be used to maximum extent in this regard.
- The Team noted the excellent overall rate of national responses to the international 2020 forest reporting, regardless of this, the recent reporting revealed even deepening differences among capacities of countries in collecting and analysing forest information. Improving of this situation requires thorough work starting from the root level and efforts to even reporting capacities across the UNECE region and worldwide are still of highest priority and highly recognised by the Team (e.g. in the Caucasus and Central Asia regions).

10. Other comments:

None at the time of preparation of this report

B. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics

Items for regular reporting to the Joint Working Party Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWPFSEM)

1. Name:

Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics
Team website: <https://www.unece.org/forests/tosfps.html>

2. Period covered:

April 2019 – March 2020

3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:

Leader: Mr. Branko GLAVONJIĆ
Deputy: Ms. Graça LOURO
Secretary: Mr. Alex MCCUSKER

4. Members:

34 (as of 23 January 2020)

5. Countries:

(as of 23 January 2020) Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

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6. Meetings held:

None in the reporting period but one meeting was held prior to the last session of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on 26 March 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland and the next meeting is currently planned to be held on 17 June 2020, in Geneva, Switzerland.

7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- The main ToS outputs in the last year were:
- Collection of statistics and information within the:
- Production of JFSQ for 2018, covering the compilation on post-consumer recovered wood as a single item, as agreed by the team and discussed during 2019.
- Timber Forecast Questionnaire 2019
- Consolidation on the questionnaire for Engineered Wood Products (Glulam, CLT, LVL, I-beams, production and trade) which is being developed since 2017.
- Active participation of ToS members in the production of the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2018-2019 (FPAMR 2018-2019)
- Members of the ToS made significant contributions to the development of the upcoming Study on conversion factors.

8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:

- Work on roundwood removals methodology and information sources;
- Preparation of forecast data on forest products production and trade. Continuing work on the wood balance. The issue of double counting will also be pursued. Wood chips – what are requirements for “clean” chips used in pulping. Distinguish them from energy chips;
- Collection of historical data on forest products, species trade, and prices;
- Production of JFSQ for 2019;
- Timber Forecast Questionnaire 2020;
- Support to the FPAMR production;
- Preparation of data and the statistical annex for the FPAMR 2019-2020;
- Preparation of tables and graphs for the Market Forecasts 2020-2021;
- Improvement of the existing database and expansion of available information; Capacity building of statistical correspondents and improving statistical system for forest products in South East European countries in cooperation with FAO (workshops, trainings);
- Dissemination through FAOSTAT and ECE websites.

9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party:

- Supporting the participation in the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics and attendance at other international meetings;
- Supporting to the Harmonized System 2022 revision, review of international classifications;

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- Providing assistance to the initiatives for capacity building of statistical correspondents and improving the statistical system for forest products in countries in south eastern Europe. A 2020 capacity-building workshop could involve experts and non-experts with separate programmes. Serbia was identified as host country.

10. Other comments:

The continuation of discussion within ToS and between ToS and other international organizations and institutions concerning the upgrade of the statistical system for forest products.

C. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

Items for regular reporting to the Joint Working Party Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWPFSEM)

1. Name:

Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

2. Period covered:

April 2019 – March 2020

3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:

Leader: Mr. Eoin O’Driscoll

Deputies: Mr. Delton Alderman and Mr. Jeremy Wall

Secretary: Mr. Matthew Fonseca

4. Members:

Eighty-six (as of 21 January 2020)

5. Countries: (List separated by comma)

Thirty-four countries: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan. (as of 21 January 2020)

6. Meetings held:

- A meeting of the ToS was held on 5/11/2019 on the margins of the UNECE Forêt 2019
- A meeting of the ToS will be held on the margins of this Working Party meeting.

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7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- Assisted the Joint Section with the production of the UNECE FPAMR 2019/2020, authored chapters, supplied photos, proof-read the FPAMR
- Assisted the Joint Section with the organisation of the Market Discussions at Forêt 2019. This included speaker selection. An informal speaker meeting which was held over lunch prior to the market discussions was considered to be very helpful.

8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:

- Produce the FPAMR;
- Organise and run the Market Discussions at the UNECE Timber Committee Meeting 2020. The format for same to be similar to that introduced in 2019;
- Organise and run a workshop on the use of forest products in construction 19/5-20/5/2020;
- Organise and run a workshop at CoP26 in Glasgow in November 2020.

9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party: (if significant issues, how do we stimulate WP discussion

Securing adequate multi-annual funding for the production of the FPAMR.

10. Other comments: (e.g. collaboration with other ToS, justification for not holding a meeting, etc.)

We are in ongoing discussions with the secretariat of the UNECE Housing and Land Management regarding the organisation of joint meetings.

D. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy

Items for regular reporting to the Joint Working Party Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWPFSEM)

1. Name:

Team of Specialists on Wood Energy

Team website: <https://www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/forestswood-energy/team-of-specialists-on-wood-energy.html>

2. Period covered:

April 2019 – March 2020

3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:

Leader: Mr. Francisco AGUILAR

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Deputies: Ms. Karen ABT, Mr. Matthias DEES, Mr. Richard SIKKEMA, Mr. Dinko VUSIC

Secretary: Mr. Florian STEIERER

4. Members:

22 (as of 03 February 2020)

5. Countries:

(as of 03 February 2020) Austria, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Sweden, Serbia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

6. Meetings held:

Fifth Meeting of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy, 3 - 4 June 2019, Sweden, Umeå, hosted by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- The ToS contributed to the publication of Chapter 9 in the Forest Products Annual Market Review 'Wood Energy Markets'.
- ToS members worked together in the analysis of residential wood energy consumption data and publication of scientific manuscript:
- Glasenapp, S., Aguilar, F.X., Weimar, H., and U. Mantau. 2019. Assessment of residential wood energy consumption using German household-level data. *Biomass & Bioenergy*. 126: 117-129.
- It was followed by a popular science manuscript released in the German press:
- Glasenapp S, Aguilar FX, Mantau U, Weimar H (2019) Energetische Holzverwendung in Haushalten : Verbrauchsmusteranalyse gibt Einblicke in das Nutzungsverhalten der Privathaushalte in Deutschland. *Holz Zentralbl* 145(38): 814-815.
- The ToS has sought continued collaboration on energy statistics with the International Energy Agency, Eurostat. There is an outstanding need for standardized statistics.
- Some members of the ToS attended the Expert Workshop in support of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Joint Initiative on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting. The event was held at the FAO headquarter in Rome from 22 – 24 October 2019.

8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:

- The ToS will continue working on a better understanding and contribution to wood energy data in an upcoming report titled "Conversion factors for residential wood energy consumption prelude integration of forest products and energy statistics".
- The ToS will explore synergies between its mandate on Wood Energy and how its utilization relates to goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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- Another area of interest for the ToS is the linkage between wood energy production and potential air quality effects. We foresee synergies with other UN groups inclusive of the UNECE Air Convention, United Nations' Environment Program, the World Health Organization and others.
- A direct contribution of approaches to define the carbon neutrality of wood energy is another area of interest for the ToS Wood Energy and may bring synergies with UNFCCC.

9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party: (if significant issues, how do we stimulate WP discussion

Foreseeing opportunities for cooperation with other UN-bodies (UNECE Air Convention, UNEP, WHO) in the context of the UNECE Air Convention.

10. Other comments: (e.g. collaboration with other ToS, justification for not holding a meeting, etc.)
