

**Decisions submitted to silence procedure following formal meeting with remote participation of the 79<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI), including decisions taken during its joint session with the FAO European Forestry Commission at its 41<sup>st</sup> session, 22-25 November 2021**

Agenda item	Document (LINK)	Decision
1	<p>ECE/TIM/2021/1  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/agendas/annotated-provisional-agenda-joint-session-committee">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/agendas/annotated-provisional-agenda-joint-session-committee</a></p>	<p>The meeting adopted the provisional agenda.</p>
2	<p>No official documents for this agenda item.</p>	<p>The Committee and the Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Thanked the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and the many contributing experts and institutions involved for preparing the Forest Sector Outlook Study and its future-oriented, helpful findings as an important tool for further discussions and actions;</li> <li>(b) Thanked the expert speakers of the Future of Forests panel, which focused on themes ranging from the effects of climate change on forests, to innovative uses of forest resources to the latest developments in urban forestry, for their excellent presentations and commended the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section for its organization;</li> <li>(c) Requested the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section to continue discussions in collaboration with ECE, FAO and others including Forest Europe on follow-up activities;</li> <li>(d) Encouraged the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section to monitor the possible impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on forest products markets and future trends.</li> </ul>
3 (a)	<p>ECE/TIM/2021/3  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session-documents/progress-global-and-regional-forest-resources">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session-documents/progress-global-and-regional-forest-resources</a></p>	<p>The Committee and the Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Took note of the progress made, acknowledged with gratitude the added value of the new on-line FRA Platform and the work under way and provided guidance to the regional reporting work;</li> <li>(b) Congratulated FAO and ECE for the progress made in joint data collection;</li> <li>(c) Requested FAO and ECE to continue to work with Forest Europe on the joint ECE/FAO/Forest Europe data collection on forests and forest management and coordinate it with the global reporting to the extent possible;</li> </ul>

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		<p>(d) Encouraged member States to continue the collaboration with ECE, FAO and partner institutions to achieve synergies in data collection, analysis and management, and to reduce duplication of efforts and to support the implementation of the joint ECE/FAO/Forest Europe data collection on forests and forest management.</p>
3 (b)	No official documents for this agenda item.	<p>The Committee and Commission took note of the work underway and requested ECE and FAO (within their existing mandates) to:</p> <p>(a) Continue supporting member States in the implementation of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda as they relate to forests, and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030;</p> <p>(b) Update member States and other stakeholders on the forest-related global and regional policy developments, to contribute to the achievement of SDGs and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 implementation and review process;</p> <p>(c) Continue to cooperate with relevant regional bodies and processes.</p>
3 (c)	<p>ECE/TIM/2021/4  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/10/session-documents/market-statement-and-2021-country-market">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/10/session-documents/market-statement-and-2021-country-market</a></p>	<p>The Committee and the Commission:</p> <p>(a) Took note of the forest products' trends in the region, and the sector's contribution towards sustainable development;</p> <p>(b) Thanked delegates for their statements on the latest trends in production and trade of forest products, as well as written Market Statements by member States available at <a href="https://unece.org/forests/market-analyses">https://unece.org/forests/market-analyses</a>, which are reflected in the Market Statement of the Joint Session;</p> <p>(c) Thanked the secretariat, national correspondents and the Teams of Specialists for the essential data and information collected and reflected in the publications by the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, in particular the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2020-2021;</p> <p>(d) Invited member States to continue reporting in 2022 and requested the Joint ECE/FAO secretariat to allocate more time to the market discussions at the 2022 COFFI session;</p> <p>(e) Approved the amended Market Statement (as contained in Annex I of the report).</p>
3 (d)(i)	<p>ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2021/2  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/03/report">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/03/report</a></p>	<p>The Commission and the Committee:</p> <p>(a) Took note of the recommendations by Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management on the possible structure and number of Teams of Specialists under the new Integrated Programme of Work;</p>

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	<a href="#">s/report-42nd-ecefao-working-party-session</a>	<p>(b) Took note of the meeting dates of the Joint Working Party's forty-third session scheduled for 1-3 June 2022;</p> <p>(c) Thanked the Joint Working Party for its work and invited the Working Party to continue its activities under the new Integrated Programme of Work;</p> <p>(d) Endorsed the report and thanked JWP and the Teams of Specialists for their work and results achieved.</p>
3 (d)(ii)	<p>ECE/TIM/2021/5  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/09/session-documents/review-2021-activities-and-activities-planned">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/09/session-documents/review-2021-activities-and-activities-planned</a></p>	<p>The Committee and the Commission:</p> <p>(a) Expressed their support for continuing the activities under the Integrated Programme of Work, while enhancing the visibility of these activities, and suggested that the process stands to benefit from making urban forestry an important area for action;</p> <p>(b) Highlighted the importance of advancing work in 2022 on preparing for the 2025 reporting cycle;</p> <p>(c) Welcomed the proposal by the Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests for the organization of a boreal ministerial meeting in 2022;</p> <p>(d) Endorsed the report on the 2021 activities and took note of the provisional list of 2022 outputs and publications;</p> <p>(e) Congratulated the member States and their experts as well as the Joint ECE/FAO secretariat for the results achieved and requested the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section to inform participants again at the 2022 session of COFFI.</p>
3 (e)	<p>ECE/TIM/2021/6  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session-documents/draft-integrated-programme-work-2022-2025-part">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session-documents/draft-integrated-programme-work-2022-2025-part</a></p> <p>ECE/TIM/2021/7  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session-documents/draft-integrated-programme-work-2022-2025-0">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session-documents/draft-integrated-programme-work-2022-2025-0</a></p>	<p>The Committee and the Commission took note of the recommendation from the independent evaluation of the UNDA 10th tranche project "Accountability systems for sustainable forest management in the Caucasus and Central Asia".</p> <p>The Committee and the Commission:</p> <p>(a) Reviewed the draft and amended several provisions. The revised draft was adopted as the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) 2022-2025 (Annex II);</p> <p>(b) Adopted the relevant Terms of Reference of the subsidiary bodies and Teams of Specialists. In particular, the Committee and Commission agreed to:</p>

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	<p>ECE/TIM/2021/INF.2  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/09/informal-documents/background-document-new-integrated-programme">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/09/informal-documents/background-document-new-integrated-programme</a></p>	<p>(i) Establish the mandate of the following Team of Specialists (ToS) for the period 2022-2023 and agreed to their respective Terms of References as contained in Annex I of this report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ToS on Boreal Forests</li> <li>• ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management</li> <li>• ToS on Sustainable Forest Products</li> <li>• ToS on Forest Communication</li> </ul> <p>(ii) Approve the merging of the ToS on Wood Energy and the ToS on Forest Products Statistics and with it the new Terms of Reference of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics as contained in Annex II to the report.</p> <p>(iii) Suspend the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook for the duration of the Integrated Programme of Work 2022-2025, given the completion of the Forest Sector Outlook Study 2021. Work on dissemination of the results of the outlook study and related capacity building activities will be continued by the Joint Section.</p> <p>(iv) Discontinue the ToS on Green Jobs.</p> <p>(c) Thanked all Teams of Specialists for their work and support over many years.</p>
3 (f)	<p>No official documents for this agenda item.</p>	<p>The Committee and the Commission:</p> <p>(a) Took note of the past and current activities on forest landscape restoration as outlined by the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section;</p> <p>(b) Expressed gratitude to the countries participating in the 2021 Ministerial meeting on Forest landscape restoration in Eastern and South-East Europe for their pledges of over 4 million hectares to be restored until 2030. The Committee and the Commission also welcomed the adoption of the ECCA30 Ministerial Declaration, and congratulated the governments of Turkey and Ukraine for pledging to restore 2.3 million hectares and 1.5 million hectares respectively;</p> <p>(c) Discussed the direction and future activities in this area, particularly, in the context of the 2021-2030 UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and requested the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section to continue to support member States in their work on forest landscape restoration.</p>
3 (g)	<p>ECE/TIM/2021/8  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session</a></p>	<p>The Committee and the Commission:</p>

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	<p><a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/11/circularity-concepts-forest-based-industries">n-documents/circularity-concepts-forest-based-industries</a></p> <p>ECE/TIM/2021/INF.3  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/11/circularity-concepts-forest-based-industries">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/11/circularity-concepts-forest-based-industries</a></p>	<p>(a) Expressed gratitude to the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section on the preparation of the study and the work done so far;</p> <p>(b) Invited ECE and FAO through the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a series of studies further reviewing the application of circular models in specific forest-based industries, and how they apply to Paris Agreement goals and SDGs, including through identification of case studies and best practice;</li> <li>• Take into consideration the whole forest-based value chain and bring attention to the circular nature of wood as a renewable resource and the role of sustainable forest management;</li> <li>• While considering that work on a definition of a circular bioeconomy in the forest sector is premature, look at existing definitions and present recommendations for adjusting them to the forest sector for consideration of member States during the next Joint Session;</li> <li>• Assess member States' priorities and needs in application of circular models in the forest sector, as appropriate;</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for member States to exchange knowledge and best practice on the implementation of circularity principles in the forest sector.</li> </ul>
3 (h)	No official documents for this agenda item.	<p>The Committee and the Commission:</p> <p>(a) Took note of the outcome of the 2021 Food Systems Summit (FSS) and its relevance for the work of the Committee and the Commission, including elements related to work on forest landscape restoration and nature-based solutions, as outlined by the FAO secretariat;</p> <p>(b) Requested the Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, to continue work in this area within its mandate.</p>
3 (i)	No official documents for this agenda item.	No decisions for this agenda item
4 (a)	<p>E/ECE/1494  <a href="https://unece.org/oes/documents/2021/05/reports/69th-session-economic-commission-europe-biennial-report-9-april-2019">https://unece.org/oes/documents/2021/05/reports/69th-session-economic-commission-europe-biennial-report-9-april-2019</a></p>	The Committee took note of the information provided.

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4 (b)	<p>ECE/TIM/2021/9  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session-documents/draft-programme-work-forestry-and-forest">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/08/session-documents/draft-programme-work-forestry-and-forest</a></p> <p>ECE/TIM/2021/INF.4  <a href="https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/09/informal-documents/outline-key-components-programme-work-forests">https://unece.org/forestry-timber/documents/2021/09/informal-documents/outline-key-components-programme-work-forests</a></p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <p>(a) Endorsed the subprogramme’s draft programme of work for 2022 and recommended it to the Executive Committee for approval;</p> <p>(b) Supported the focus of implementation and the interlinkages between the components of the subprogramme;</p> <p>(c) Requested the inclusion of urban forestry within the strategy section of the 2023 programme of work;</p> <p>(d) Amended and endorsed the Outline of key components of its programme of work 2023 and requested to include the outline and agreed recommendations in the proposed programme plan of the Forests and Forest Industry subprogramme for 2023 (Annex III);</p> <p>(e) Requested the ECE secretariat to prepare the programme of work 2023, together with an outline for 2024, for review and endorsement at the 2022 COFFI session.</p>
4 (c)	<p>No official documents for this agenda item.</p>	<p>The Committee:</p> <p>(a) Took note of the ECE’s secretariat’s reporting on ECE projects and commended it for the results and impact achieved. It thanked the ECE secretariat for the information and requested it to continue reporting at its next session in 2022. It also encouraged countries to assist the ECE secretariat in raising funds;</p> <p>(b) Affirmed the importance of the work of the joint section, including unique outputs that are not provided by any other organizations. The committee recognized that prioritization of activities may be required if sufficient funds are not mobilized.</p>
4 (d)	<p>No official documents for this agenda item.</p>	<p>The Committee took note of the ECE secretariat’s participation in the International Women’s Day event hosted by the Women’s Forest Congress on 8 March 2021 and the Committee encouraged delegations and the ECE secretariat to continue work in this area.</p>
4 (e)	<p>No official documents for this agenda item.</p>	<p>The following individuals were elected to hold office until the end of the eightieth session: Ms. Maria Sokolenko (Russian Federation) as Chair; and Ms. Marta Gaworska (Poland), Ms. Maureen Whelan (Canada), and Mr. Peter Blombäck (Sweden) as Vice-Chairs.</p>
4 (f)	<p>No official documents for this agenda item.</p>	<p>No decisions for this agenda item</p>

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		The Chair informed the delegates that, provided conference services are available, the week of 7 to 11 November 2022 has been provisionally reserved for the eightieth session of the Committee, to take place in Geneva, Switzerland.
4 (g)	No official documents for this agenda item.	No decisions for this agenda item
6	No official documents for this agenda item.	The Committee and the Commission adopted the report of the joint session prepared by the Joint secretariat.