Team of Specialists on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Inaugural meeting

4-6 March 2009

SEUR Office, Budapest

ToS Report to the Joint UNECE / FAO Bureaux,

Geneva, 02 April 2009
ToS on Forest Policy in EE and CA

Elected Officers:

**ToS Leader:**

Prof. Anatoly P. Petrov, *Russia*

**Vice-Leaders:**

- Ms. Jana Jovanovska, *Macedonia*
- Mr. Alisher Shukurov, *Uzbekistan*

*Presentation on their behalf …*
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Issues to be presented (as required):

a) Outcome of the inaugural meeting
b) Work Plan for the next years (outputs)
c) Issues for the Bureaux or/and JWP attention
d) ToS activities linking to climate change

Pl., see info. in „Standard Reporting Form“
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*The success of the meeting was defined in the sky …*
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Preparatory discussion in advance of the meeting helped to “tune” positions, refined the meeting’s programme and provisional agenda, discuss the roles to be played by secretariat from UNECE/FAO (Geneva), FAO (Rome), FAO/SEUR (Budapest) and FAO/SEC (Ankara), as well as the expected outcome …

Some 35 participants from 20 countries…

ToS meeting started with the field trip …
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Warming up, ice-breaking and getting together…
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**Background Documents presented to participants:**

- 1. Integrated UNECE/FAO Programme of Work on Timber and Forestry, *incl. specifics of Work Area 5*
- 2. Declaration of Kritny, *as updated 27 November 2008*
- 3. “*Strategy for UNECE/FAO Forestry Activities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia*”
- 4. Sub-regional (*SEUR*) forestry programme
- 5. *Mandate, objectives & expected major outputs of the Team of Specialists, as approved by parent bodies*
- 6. Objectives of the first ToS meeting (*specifically*)…
**ToS on Forest Policy in EE and CA**

**ToS Objectives:** To enhance effectiveness of international activities intended to support and contribute to sustainable development of the forest sector in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, notably:

1. Strengthened forest management and marketing;
2. Strengthened policies and institutions;
3. Improved forest information management and communication;
4. Identifying emerging issues and facilitating dialogue and discussion on important policy and cross-sectoral aspects;
5. Better integrating countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia in international networks and forums for discussion of forest sector issues in Eastern Europe and Central Asia;
7. Contribution to the implementation of “Strategy for UNECE/FAO Activities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia”.

UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia,
4-6 March 2009
Objectives of the inaugural meeting (a)

- Inform about UNECE‘s and FAO‘s activities related to policies and institutions, as well as work of partners (+ CEPF, IUCN, EUSTAFOR, EFI, …)
- Exchange information on forest policy developments in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, to address key issues
- Discuss work plan 2009-2013, means to achieve objectives, and development of expected outputs, among them:
  - To address issues of countries‘ concern
  - Development of Forest Policy Publication: Review of situation in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
  - Review of Forest Policy Information collected by UNECE and FAO, with respective colleagues at the national level
  - Better integration into Forest Policy Networks, dissemination of information in countries, ToS website
  - Consider how the Team can integrate climate change and related issues into its work
Objectives of the inaugural meeting (b)

- Team understands its role and defines future activities/work plan 2009-13

- Organisational points:
  - Constitute the Team: elect a Leader and Vice-Leaders
  - Decide upon methods of ToS work
    - Next meeting(s)
    - Cooperation with other UNECE/FAO Teams of Specialists
  - Identify issues for attention of Joint TC/EFC Bureaux for the annual reporting to the Bureaux, meeting with Teams
Outcome of the inaugural meeting

The results of the ToS meeting are currently summarized… Please, see details in the paper works, namely:

- Report (*draft*) of Inaugural meeting of the Team of Specialists;
- Work Plan 2009-2013 (*draft*);
- Standard Reporting Form to the Joint TC/EFC Bureaux.

+ achieved „*non-material““, but „*practical““ results, noted in the objectives above…
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Work Plan for the next years (2009-2013):

17 planned/expected outputs (> 35 activities)
They can be grouped (conditionally) in 5 „clusters“:

- Information exchange (listserver, web-site, newsletters)
- Workshop(s) – T&D, country reports, background papers, proceedings, follow-up)
- Forestry PLI „country profiles“ (publication … )
- TCP projects (capacity building, training, education)
- Administration, organization, promoting (Krtiny declaration, high-level conference, ToS meetings)
+ 3 sub-groups (pl., see ToS Work Plan for details)
Issues for the attention of Bureaux or JWP

a) Secretariat support from the FAO sub-regional office for Central and Eastern Europe (Budapest) and Central Asia (Ankara), UNECE/FAO & FAO HQs
b) Information in English and Russian is needed
c) Extra-budgetary funding is required (4 outputs + 2 activities in other outputs)
d) a greater focus on implementation (tbd)…
e) Organization of a series of workshops /seminars, and elaboration of related background papers/analysis
f) Maintain the network of over 20 countries with forest policy experts from the region
g) Terms and Definitions related to forest policy issues
Combining the „Krtiny process“ with the work of the ToS


- Declaration of Krtiny: „Integrate the activities of the ToS on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia with the Krtiny process, considering a sub-regional approach for the organization of corresponding workshops“

- Combination with the work of the ToS through Team members
  - Holding Team meetings back-to-back with capacity building workshops
  - Informing former workshop participants about the work of the Team, involving them as experts
ToS activities linking to climate change

- To be addressed by reviewing country priorities and needs in the context of forest policy formulation and implementation;

- Review whether climate change is an integral part of national forest programmes (nfps);

- Compare how countries have integrated climate change issues…

- Further practical ideas/ suggestions/ proposals to be discussed…

(comparative institutional advantage – adaptation, e.g. forest fires, storms, pests / diseases…)

List of Climate Change and Forestry Experts !!!!...
Cooperation with other Teams of Specialists

- Capacity building on forest inventory and forest assessment;
- Capacity building on wood and wood products marketing;
- Advise on forest fires and (other forest damages) management;
- Raising forestry sector profile in countries of the region …
- Capacity building for forestry training/continuous education in countries of the region.
- Input to the outlook studies, and policy development taking into account Outlooks …
Thank you!!!

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