



Enquiry on the Implementation of MCPFE commitments 2007

and

Reporting on the MCPFE Qualitative Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management

COUNTRY:

Latvia

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Abbreviations

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
C&I	Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GCC	General Co-ordinating Committee
ha	Hectares
MCPFE	Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe
NGO	Non-governmental organization
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
VD	Vienna Declaration
V1-5	Vienna Resolutions 1 to 5
L1-2	Lisbon Resolutions 1 and 2
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

1. Background

In preparation for the Fifth Ministerial Conference (Warsaw, Poland, 5-7 November 2007), the MCPFE decided to review and report on progress in implementing the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe in Vienna (2003). Also, further progress made since 2003 in implementing commitments made at the Ministerial Conferences in Lisbon (1998), Helsinki (1993), and in Strasbourg (1990) should be reported through this enquiry.

In addition, it was decided to report on the MCPFE qualitative indicators on sustainable forest management (SFM). The reporting format for the improved qualitative Pan-European Indicators for SFM addresses policies, institutions and instruments in general as well as more specifically by policy areas. The improved qualitative indicators comprise a reporting format, which is grouped into:

- A) Overall policies, institutions and instruments for sustainable forest management,
- B) Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area.

The ministers gathered in Vienna reaffirmed that the criteria and indicators for SFM were a tool for monitoring, assessing and reporting progress on sustainable forest management. In consequence, the enquiry should collect the relevant data and information for reporting on the qualitative Pan-European Indicators for SFM in the context of the MCPFE report on the “State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007” to be presented at the forthcoming Fifth Ministerial Conference.

The next Ministerial Conference will also provide an opportunity to assess the implementation of the political commitments on forests made by the European Ministers in Vienna. In order to answer this question and to understand the lessons learned from the work conducted so far, it was decided that the implementation report of the MCPFE commitments for the upcoming Ministerial Conference will be based on the replies by signatory states and the European Commission to the enquiry questions contained in this document and the related evaluation. This will form a part of the report on the implementation of MCPFE commitments to be presented at the forthcoming Fifth Ministerial Conference.

The General Coordinating Committee (GCC) of the MCPFE recommended that one enquiry would cover the MCPFE qualitative indicators as well as the MCPFE commitments. It was further recommended by the Advisory Group on the reporting on the “State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007” to include the enquiry on the quantitative indicator 6.4 “Expenditure for Services” in this enquiry, as the MCPFE country representatives are deemed to be the most appropriate respondents to this particular indicator.

2. General guidance on reporting

This enquiry on the implementation of the MCPFE commitments and on the MCPFE qualitative indicators for SFM should enable responding countries to provide the best possible information for two reports:

1. “State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007”
2. “Implementation of the MCPFE Commitments – pan-European and national Activities 2003-2007”.

The main focus of the enquiry is on assessing and reporting the progress on SFM in European forests as well as the progress in the implementation of commitments the signatory states and the European Community made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (Vienna, Austria, 2003). The enquiry should also gather the information on the main changes or further developments in the implementation of the Helsinki, Strasbourg and Lisbon Resolutions since 2003.

The enquiry consists of the following parts:

Part A: “Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM” is structured according to the MCPFE qualitative indicators Part A. It comprises:

Section 1: MCPFE qualitative indicators Part A: Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM. These five indicators aim to describe overall policy approaches for a sustainable forest management. Additionally, significant changes since the last Ministerial Conference

should be reported. This part will be used for the report on the *State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007*.

Section 2: MCPFE commitments of the Fourth Ministerial Conference 2003 (Vienna Declaration, Vienna Resolutions V1-5 as well as clearly related MCPFE commitments of the Third Ministerial Conference 1998 (Lisbon Resolution L-2). This part will be used for the *Report on the National Implementation of MCPFE Commitments*.

Section 3: Further measures taken related to the qualitative indicators and comments provide the opportunity to report on further measures under a specific qualitative indicator and to provide data specifications or explanations.

Part B: "Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area" is structured according to the MCPFE qualitative indicators Part B. It comprises:

Section 1: MCPFE qualitative indicators Part B: Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area. Twelve indicators under Part B aim to provide information on specific policies for certain policy areas in addition to the information provided in Part A. This concerns the most specific policy objectives, the main institutions relevant to achieve the objective as well as the main policy instruments used. Additionally, significant changes since the last Ministerial Conference in 2003 should be reported.

Section 2: MCPFE commitments of the Fourth Ministerial Conference 2003 (Vienna Declaration, Vienna Resolutions V1-5) as well as clearly related MCPFE commitments of the Third Ministerial Conference 1998 (Lisbon Resolution L-2)

Section 3: Further measures taken related to the qualitative indicator and comments provide the opportunity to report on further measures under a specific qualitative indicator.

Part C: General reporting on Lisbon, Helsinki and Strasbourg Resolutions

Part D: Enquiry on the quantitative indicator 6.4 "Expenditure for Services"

While the enquiry to signatory states and the European Commission requests reporting on MCPFE qualitative indicators and on MCPFE commitment implementation in an integrated format, both the analysis of responses and of the reporting will be separate. As specified in the previous chapter, this enquiry will result in two separate reports:

1. *"State of Forests and Sustainable Forest Management in Europe 2007"*
2. *"Implementation of MCPFE commitments 2003-2007"*

For reporting, please note the following:

1. In the tables all requests for responses are marked by [], visible on computer screens (not necessarily on print-outs). All requests for responses are limited to approx. 100 words or 650 letters (incl. blank spaces) automatically.
2. The sum of texts provided per indicator in Parts A and B should not exceed 2 pages, and be around 1 page, if possible.
3. *Section 2 in Parts A and B presents an abbreviated summary of the original commitment text. This should facilitate identifying topics addressed, but not replace the original commitment. Please read the original commitments as specified in the reference numbers. These specify the document as well as the commitment number as numbered in the original commitment. (e.g. VD/7 = Vienna Declaration, para7, V1/9,12 = Vienna Resolution 1, paras 9 and 12) V=Vienna, L=Lisbon*
4. The requests in Section 2 of Parts A and B on the implementation of MCPFE commitments specify to report "**measures**", i.e. forest policy actions set to implement a commitment. *The responses should, as far as possible, be made in a form that allows identifying the type and magnitude of efforts undertaken.* In the responses, "Measures" should be classified or classifiable into the following categories:

Classes of “magnitude” for measures	Examples of documents related to “measures”
large measures: e.g. major programme	public programme document and/or related lists of projects
medium-size measure: individual projects	list of projects funded
small measures: e.g. individual actions	workshops organized, etc.

Degree of implementation of a reported measure
No measure taken (or blank space)
Measure in planning stage
Measure in implementation
Measure concluded

Degree of fulfillment of commitment through the measure reported
fully
partly
not or rather minor

Each of the responses in Section 2 of Parts A and B will be classified and analysed in these three dimensions.

5. In Part B please concentrate in particular on those indicators that are linked to the Vienna resolutions: B2 (carbon balance), B6 (biodiversity), B8 (economic viability) and B12 (cultural and spiritual values).
6. Please report on “measures” taken in the period 2003-2007 by the main body (Ministry) responsible for forestry, or where this main body played a key role. Countries with a federal structure are requested to focus first on major initiatives on the national level and to provide information on major federal measures, identifying the federal state in which the measure was taken.
7. Reporting on significant changes since 2003 will be analysed systematically, first by determining whether or not such changes were reported. No information is interpreted as “no significant change”.
8. Please provide further information on the measures taken, as deemed relevant, e.g. major partners in implementation, time period, budget involved, experiences made (lessons learned, obstacles encountered, solutions).
9. Please provide the latest information available unless otherwise requested.
10. Please specify reference documents as follows: - Author or institution. Year of publication (if published). Title. Reference Number. Publisher.
11. Information provided on the implementation of MCPFE commitment will be analysed quantitatively across countries according to the specifications as in paras 4 and 7, in addition to the substantive analysis.
12. The report *Implementation of the MCPFE Commitments – pan-European and national Activities 2003-2007* is foreseen to consist of a section on international implementation of the MCPFE commitments (the MCPFE Work Programme 2003-2007) as well as a summary analysis for each of the Parts A and B Section 2 as well as Part C of this enquiry.

A. Overall policies, institutions and instruments for SFM

A.1 National forest programmes or similar				
Main characteristics of nfp or similar	<p>general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to nfps since 2003 [max. 100 words] Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development (PBFSD) is a long term policy document where long term strategical goals of forest sector development, problems which prevent to reach them, basic principles of development policy and policy results, directions of action leading to reach goals of development policy are formulated. Detailed directions of action leading to reach policy goals and results, main objectives, results of action and outcome indicators to reach them, valuation of influence on state budget and municipalities' budget will be worked out and included in programme of baselines implementation (National Programme of Forest and Related Sectors - NPFRS).</p>			
Reference document: Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development accepted by Cabinet of Ministers in 2006				
Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> programme in development	<input type="checkbox"/> programme in implementation	<input type="checkbox"/> programme in review	<input type="checkbox"/> continuous process or other
Further information: Baselines prepared working group established by Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations within the framework of programme on technical cooperation "Formulation of Strategic Targets for the Forest Sector and Human Resource Development in Strategic Planning".				
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.1:				
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:				
a) develop and apply nfps ¹ in line with the MCPFE approach to nfps? (Ref.: V1/ 7)	<p>Please specify whether and in which form they were applied, and whether there is any important lesson for the MCPFE (usefulness, development needs,..) [max. 100 words]</p> <p>MCPFE Approach to National Forest Programmes in Europe is taken into account in preparation of baselines. Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' are based on basic principles of Latvian Forest Policy and Strategy of Single National Economy Development, taking into account international conventions ratified by the Republic of Latvia and international treaties, international agreements signed by the government, scientifically based Latvian nature, social and economic conformities to natural laws and national traditions and experience of forest management.</p>			
b) identify and address key cross-sectoral dimensions in the context of nfps? (Ref.: VD/13,14; V1/ 5, 8)	<p>Please specify whether or not, main dimensions identified, and what major explicit measures were taken. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Several program documents (listed in PBFSD) are related to development policy of forest sector in Latvia, which affect main directions of forest sector development, as well as defines state's policy in areas related to the sector's development. As essential measures mentioned in these documents are mentioned development of human resources, enable development of high technology, innovation, clusters of entrepreneurs, increase of science role in development of production, in order to produce competitive products with high value added. It is stated that development goals of forest sector and specific measures included in NPFRS must be integrated in priorities of documents mentioned before..</p>			
c) use the nfp process as a platform for cross-sectoral coordination, and to feed results into	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, how nfp is used as a platform or initiator of a mechanism; who is involved; and in what specific other policies nfp results were explicitly included. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>One of principles of Forest and Related Sectors' development policy is - in</p>			

¹ nfp = national forest programme

<p>other policies? (Ref.: VD/ 16,19; V1/ 9,10,11)</p>	<p>the planning process of other sectors, objectives and interests of forest sector development are taken into account. Appropriate direction of action defined by Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' is - establish real working intersectoral system of development planning and cooperation on national, regional and local level. Respective policy result - development priorities of the forest sector are integrated in national and related sectors' policy planning documents and programmes.</p>
<p>d) Does the nfp address - socio-cultural, - biodiversity, - carbon & climate issues (Ref.: V3/5; V5/ 5; V6/ 6)</p>	<p>Please specify for each, if yes, specify main explicit targets and measures taken. [max. 100 words] One of basic principles in Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' is - forest is national wealth which must be managed, conserved and increased to balance ecological, economical and social needs of society and to provide opportunities of development, in its turn state forest property is state's capital and guarantee for realization of ecological and economical interests of inhabitants of Latvia. Respective direction of action - preconditions are established for balanced exploit of forest ecological, economical and socio-cultural values, to provide economic viability of forest management.</p>
<p>e) promote participation of stakeholders in forest policy & program development? (Ref.:L1/2)</p>	<p>Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Direction of action defined in Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sector's Development - system is established for state's, municipalities', stakeholders' and sectoral cooperation to establish and implement rural, land use and development policy documents and plans.</p>
<p>Further measures taken related to A.1 and comments:</p>	

Reporting notes:

1. „nfp“ is understood to comprise both nfps or similar documents or processes. If nfps exist, please use this as main reference. If similar documents are used for answering, please specify the document (or process) under “Reference document”.
2. Reporting on general characteristics could include formal status of the document, validity period of current document, duration of process, range of stakeholders involved, major results or key lessons.

A.2 Institutional frameworks			
Main characteristics of institutional framework	general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to institutional frameworks since 2003 [max. 100 words] Reform of forest sector governance was started in 1998 with the main goal to separate state functions of public rights - regulatory, supervisory and support from state functions of private rights - ownership. Since year 2000 regulatory and supervisory functions are performed by state institutions - Ministry of Agriculture and State Forest Service, but ownership function is performed by managing organization - joint stock company „Latvijas valsts meži”.		
Main <i>public</i> organizations forest policy: - forest administration	Name (full formal name)	Forest-related staff (2005, FTE)	Administrative budget (mil€,2005)
	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia State Forest Service		
- public forest agencies (national level)	Join Stock Company “Latvia’s State Forests” (managing institution of state forests)		
	Latvian State Forestry Research Institute “Silava”		
- research, education and training institutions	Latvian University of Agriculture, Forest Faculty Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Institute		
	Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments		
- other (please specify)			
Main <i>private</i> organizations relevant for forest policy: (interest groups and associations)	Union of Forest Owners		
	Forest Owners’ Association of Latvia “KS MAA”		
	Latvian Society of Timber Traders Latvian Union of Timber Quality Experts Association “Latvijas Koks”		
	Latvian Timber Producers’ & Traders’ Association Latvian Union of Timber Harvesting Companies Association „Latvijas Mēbeles” Latvian Association of Wood Processing Entrepreneurs and Exporters Latvian Hunters’ Association		
other organizations relevant for forest policy (e.g. private-public bodies)	Latvian Ornithological Society		
	Pasaules Dabas Fonds formerly WWF Latvia Latvian Fund for Nature		
	Forest Sphere Workers Trade Union		
Main forest policy co-ordination mechanisms	Please describe the main formal mechanisms of policy co-ordination between the organizations above, if any. Please specify the year of establishment and major experiences, as appropriate (see reporting note) [max. 100 words] In 1997 the representatives of the state and the forest sector stakeholder groups, who were able to agree upon the longterm development aims of the sector, established Forest Advisory Council. On May 9, 2006 with the issuance of Cabinet of Ministers		

	Regulations No. 384 the new Regulation on Forest Advisory Council was adopted. Thus Forest Advisory Council is a forum, where the harmonization of the opinions of forest sector stakeholder groups takes place and where a balanced and sustainable development policy for the forest sector is drafted.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.2	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) support the establishment of associations of private forest owners and forest entrepreneurs? (Ref.: VD/12; V2/18, 19)	Please specify whether or not, if yes, in what form, and results so far. [max. 100 words] The Single Programming Document has been designed as a programming document for European Union Structural Funds in Latvia for programming period 2004-2006. Under measure Forestry Development activity - Establishment of and organisational support to forest owner associations was supported (support was provided to establish forestry associations, in order to help their members to improve the sustainable and efficient management of their forests).
b) establish or improve intersectoral co-ordination or communication mechanisms? (Ref.: VD/15, 18; V1/ 6)	Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which major measures were taken [max. 100 words] PBFRS defines direction of action - establish real working intersectoral system of development planning and cooperation on national, regional and local level. Respective policy results - a) development priorities of the forest sector are integrated in national and related sectors' policy planning documents and programmes; b) harmonized strategy of infrastructure development is developed; c) use of forest and wood products is increased in state's and municipalities' orders on market of Latvia; d) forest products use in power industry is increased; e) wood use in environmentally friendly home building is increased; f) identification of Latvian forest products on main markets is increased.
Further measures taken related to A.2 and comments:	
Policy Baselines of Policy Planning are accepted - their objective is to adjust policy planning process in Latvia, through improving policy planning, strengthening link between policy planning and budget process, as well as through establishing more effective system of policy evaluation and reporting.	

Reporting notes:

1. Institutional framework is understood to refer mainly to the organizational set-up of forest policy in the country. It further comprises formal co-ordinating mechanisms between these (incl. e.g. nfp).
2. Please describe federal structures and further sub-national level organizational structures under "main characteristics".
3. Please list organizations with a mandate to develop or implement forest policy on the national level only. Note that all major organizations listed in Part B should also be listed here. Interest groups and associations include e.g. private forest owners, environmental NGOs.
4. In case of public organizations, please specify forest-related staff (number, in full-time equivalent) and budget only. Use the "comments" section for further specification, if needed.
5. Note that mechanisms referred to in A.2 a) and A.2 b) include nfps – please do not repeat from A1 (text there will be taken into account). It also includes public-private partnership initiatives.

A.3 Legal/regulatory frameworks and international commitments		
Main characteristics of legal/regulatory framework	<p>general characteristics, incl. significant changes related to legal/regulatory frameworks since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Legal/regulatory framework was changed after reform of forest sector state administration. It was started in year 1998 in order to separate state functions of public rights - legislative, supervision and support from state functions of private rights. In year 2000 new Forest law was accepted and it was basis for new legal framework. There have been no significant changes in regulatory framework since 2003, only separate legal acts were amended or replaced.</p>	
Main forest and SFM related legal/regulatory act	Please list the main legal act related to forests and SFM (see also Part B)	
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Forest law, act or code</td> <td> Name: Forest law Date of adoption: 16.03.2000 (after adoption several amendments followed) Main changes from previous legal act: Separation of the states functions of public rights from the states functions of private rights. </td> </tr> </table>	Forest law, act or code
Forest law, act or code	Name: Forest law Date of adoption: 16.03.2000 (after adoption several amendments followed) Main changes from previous legal act: Separation of the states functions of public rights from the states functions of private rights.	
Main priorities and measures in <i>international</i> forest related commitments	<p>Please describe, incl. significant changes related to international characteristics since 2003 [max. 100 words]</p> <p>The Latvian Forest Policy defines one general goal - the sustainable management of forest and forest land. "Sustainable forest management" is defined as stated in MCPFE resolution Helsinki 1. It is stated by the Forest Policy that the basis of the Forest Policy is also international conventions and treaties ratified by the Republic of Latvia, international agreements signed by the government.</p>	
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.3:		
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:		
a) improve security of property rights (Ref.: V3/7)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Forest Policy says that forests in Latvia may belong to the state, local governments, individuals and legal entities. Ownership is regulated by the laws of the Republic of Latvia, which guarantee all owners equal rights and prescribe equal responsibilities, the inviolability of property rights and the independence of economic activity. In period of 2003 - 2007 legal acts were approved that provide opportunity for forest owners to receive compensation when significant restrictions of forestry activities are applied in the interests of nature protection.</p>	
b) address forest law enforcement (Ref.: VD/20; V4/6, 7)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Forest law and related regulations are in force. In 2004 and 2005 the law and regulations regarding accounting of roundwood were accepted. Objective of this law is to implement common order of tree and roundwood accounting in transactions in all stages of tree and roundwood circulation, as well as encourage fair competition and collection of taxes.</p>	
c) support enabling environments for SFM and investment (Ref.: V2/7)	<p>Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which issue was addressed and how. [max. 100 words]</p> <p>Stakeholder groups of forest sector have defined forest sector's policy development goals in Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development - 1) forest management in Latvia is sustainable and internationally acknowledged; 2) Latvian forest sector's production is competitive with high value added and fit with needs of client; 3) education and science potential and skills' level of human resources is appropriate to reach strategical goals of forest and related sectors. Directions of action to reach goals and results of development policy as well as policy results are</p>	

	defined in policy baselines. National Programme of Forest and Related Sectors will be developed to reach them.
d) support international processes, commitments and their implementation in - UNFF, CPF, IPF/IFF proposals for action, - CBD, - UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol (Ref.: VD/23, 24; V4/4, 14, V5/6, 10)	Please specify whether or not, and if yes, which, separately for the different commitments [max. 100 words] One of directions of action defined in Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development is - preconditions are established for balanced exploit of forest ecological, economical and socio-cultural values, to provide economic viability of forest management. Respective policy result under it-plan of measures is prepared to implement the Hague Decision on Forerst biological diversity of the Sixth Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/22), which should include criteria for economicaly and ecologically reasonable establishment of protected territories.
Further measures taken related to A.3 and comments:	
(incl. e.g. on UNCCD)	

Reporting notes:

1. Commitments, signature and ratification of major international commitments will be collected from the relevant conventions (UNFF, CBD, UNFCCC, CCD, ITTO, CITES, Ramsar, etc.).
2. Under "Main characteristics" please describe situation of legal frameworks with respect to distribution of responsibilities in general (central or federal, the diversity of key legal acts) as well as significant changes related to legal/regulatory frameworks and international characteristics since 2003.

A.4 Financial instruments/economic policy	
Main characteristics of forest-related economic policy	Please describe, incl. significant changes related to economic policy since 2003 [max. 100 words] The economic goal of the Forest Policy is to ensure the sustainable development and profitability of the forest sector, taking into account ecological and social requirements, and to generate the greatest possible increase in value added. One of basic principles of development policy of forest and related sectors' is - development of market economy and free movement is promoted in forest sector, through establishment of appropriate legislation and decreasing intervention of state in economic activities.
Main characteristics of financial instruments	Please describe characteristics of main financial instruments, incl. significant changes in financial instruments since 2003 [max. 100 words] Since 2004 structural funds became available. Since 2003 the amount of budget of Forest Development Fund is increased and it is expected to increase in future.
Main budget line / programme	Name: 1) Development Plan Target/objective: Development of competitiveness and promote employment, development of human resources, development of infrastructure. Forest-related budget: 10,28 mil € for period 2004-2006
Main budget line / programme	Name: 2) Latvian Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 Target/objective: Development of capacities of rural people, Enhancement of labor generated income in rural territories, Sustainable management of rural natural resources, Development of rural living environment. Forest-related budget: 220 mil € for period 2007-2013
Main budget line / programme	Name: 3) Forest Development Fund Target/objective: Fund is established for the financing of forestry sector support and development programs, scientific research of forests, and education and training of forest owners. Forest-related budget: 1,87 mil € for period 2006
Main reference document(s): (please list documents with reference numbers) 1) Single Programming Document for Latvia 2004-2006 2) Latvian Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 (draft) 3) Forest Law, Regulations on Forest Development Fund	
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.4: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) set incentives for investment, including innovative economic instruments (Ref.: V2/7, 17)	Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures, what they aim to address, dimension, and effects so far. [max. 100 words] PBFRSD foresee to promote modernization of technologies, development and implementation of scientifically based and innovative based technologies and products with tools which are in hands of state. Respective policy results - a) there are support schemes and consultation services available to small and medium entrepreneurs for preparation and implementation of projects to change of business direction, for specialization, cooperation and environment protection; b) production technologies and equipment of forest industry enterprises' is changed; c) production capacities of first stage processing, further processing and production of byproducts in forest industry are balanced.
Further measures taken related to A.4 and comments:	

Reporting notes:

1. Main budget lines/programmes: please list the top three governmental funding programmes related to forestry, incl. governmental (public) programmes or budget lines with a relevant or significant forestry component. Target group of these budget lines include not only forest owners or state forest enterprises but also research and education institutions.

A.5 Informational means	
Main characteristics of informational policies	Please describe main characteristics and programmes, incl. significant changes in informational means since 2003. [max. 100 words] Main ways how to provide society with information on forest sector are publications, information on the web, different events such as Forest days, seminars, campaigns targeted to different parts of society.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to A.5: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) develop and use national level criteria and indicators for SFM, incl. in nfps? (Ref.: VD/25, L2/1)	Please specify whether or not. If yes, please describe measures. [max. 100 words] Study on national criteria and indicators was carried out in 2003. Information on forest sector is summarized each year and published. Responsible institutions prepare data on forest sector in forms accepted by interested stakeholders. Brochure Forest Sector in Latvia is published every year where information, evaluation and analysis of data on forest sector is included. Publications are published each year with the main objective to inform society about forest sector.
b) improve data-collection on SFM and monitoring of - biodiversity - carbon stock and climate impact? (Ref.: V4/9, 13; V5/7,9,10; L2/2, 4, 6)	Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures and what they aim to address. [max. 100 words] Since 2004 national forest inventory is started in order to get more reliable data on forest resources. It is expected that in future these data will be basic data source for reporting on forest resources. Main problem related to information on forest resources will be data compatibility because of different methods used for forest inventory.
c) use C&I in assessment, evaluation and reporting? (Ref.: VD/25, L2/3, 4)	Please specify whether or not. If yes, describe measures and what they aim to address. [max. 100 words] Each year state institutions provide information related to forest sector that is used for assessment, evaluation and reporting. This information is used for decision making and information on society about forest resources. Latvia also provides international processes with the best available information.
Further measures taken related to A.5 and comments:	

Reporting note:

1. A.5. a): this includes the use of the MCPFE Assessment guidelines

B. Policies, institutions and instruments by policy area

B.1: Land use and forest area and OWL	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Forest Policy 2) Forest Law 3) Law on Agriculture and Rural Development Date of issuance: 1) 28.04.1998 2) 16.03.2000 3) 23.04.2004 Formal status: In force, 2), 3) with several amendments
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) Goals of the Forest Policy in area of forest and forest land are - to prevent reduction of forest cover, by setting limits on the transformation of forest lands; to ensure protection and improvement of the productivity and value of forest land; to facilitate afforestation. 2) Objective of Forest Law is to regulate sustainable management of all the forests of Latvia, by guaranteeing equal rights, immunity of ownership rights and independence of economic activity, and determining equal obligations to all forest owners or lawful possessors. 3) Objective is to establish legal basis for agriculture development and define long term policy for agriculture and rural development.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Agriculture, State Forest Service, State Support Service, State Land Service
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Main instruments for achieving Forest Policy goals are legal acts and support for certain activities. Afforestation of land and transformation of forest land is allowed taking into account restrictions laid down in normative acts on nature and environment protection and according to territorial local government spatial planning and if a permit of the State Forest Service is received. If the decision on forest land transformation is positive, the applicant of the transformation should compensate the losses caused by destruction of the natural forest environment. Support of structural funds of EU is available for afforestation of land that is not used in agriculture.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.1:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007?	
Please describe	New regulations on forest land transformation, support for afforestation of land not used in agriculture.
Further measures taken related to B.1 and comments:	
Study on land sustainable land use policy is carried out. Within this process working group is established.	

Reporting note:

1. Under "Main characteristics" please also describe whether land use and ownership rights are an issue in specific areas and whether policies exist to increase (or decrease) forest area (or, specifically, forested land, including short rotation forests).

B.2: Carbon balance	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Law on United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2) Law on the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 3) Climate Change Mitigation Programme for 2005-2010 4) National Environment Protection Plan Date of issuance: 1) 09.03.1995 2) 13.06.2002 3) April 2005 4) 2003 Formal status: In force.
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) and 2) - ratification documents. 3) The primary goal of the programme is to ensure that starting with 2008, the total amount of greenhouse gasses emissions does not exceed 92% of 1990 level. This goal will be achieved by implementing activities in climate change mitigation policy areas. Forest sector related ones are - increase the share of renewable energy sources in the energy balance; increase efficient and rational use of energy resources; increase co2 removals in forestry. 4) To integrate objectives and actions of reductions of greenhouse gas emissions in power industry, transport, industry, inhabitation, agriculture, forest, waste management policy planning documents.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Economics, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Transport
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Instruments mentioned in B1, also support for improvement of economic value of forest stands - precommercial thinning, replacement of low productivity stands, replacement of low value stands
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.2: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote the SFM concept in the Kyoto Protocol context, particularly on afforestation? (Ref.:VD/21, V5/6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Afforestation of land not used in agriculture was supported under Development plan 2004-2006, and it will be supported under Rural Development programme 2007-2013.
b) promote substitution of non-renewables, particularly bio-energy (see also B.4)? (Ref.: V5/5,6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] "The Strategy of Utilization of Renewable Energy Sources 2006-2013" was accepted on 31.10.2006. It reflects measures for rational usage of biomass, biogas and other renewables.
Further measures taken related to B.2 and comments:	
Under Rural Development programme 2007-2013 it is planned to support production of fuelwood. It is planned to establish energy plant support scheme. Studies on potential and on technology for fuelwood production.	

B.3: Health and vitality	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Forest law 2) Regulations on Procedures to Protect the Forest and to Declare Emergency Situations in the Forest 3) Normative acts and other documents related to minimisation of storm (8-9 January 2005) damages Date of issuance: 1) 16.03.2000 2) 29.05.2001 3) 2005 Formal status: 1), 2) - in force, 3) - partly in force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] To perform forestry and other activities in a manner that reduce the possibility of forest damage and restrict distribution thereof.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] State Forest Service, Ministry of Agriculture, State Forestry Research Institute "Silava", State Fire Fighting and Rescue Service
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Monitoring of spread of most dangerous insects and diseases - State Forest Service carries out monitoring of forest health in all forests in order to detect pest and disease outbursts in time. Legal acts lay down requirements for forest protection measures. State Forest Service propose announcement of emergency situation due to mass spread of forest pests or diseases on the basis of data on forest health monitoring and reports on forest damages. State Forest Service or State Fire Fighting and Rescue Service propose announcement of emergency situation due to high risk of forest fires.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.3:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen research, monitoring and impact assessment of climate change and carbon stocks? (Ref.: V5/6)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Level II forest monitoring was started. Inventory of forest soils and evaluation of forest biodiversity was started within international project Biosoil. Studies related to evaluation of accumulated amount of carbon in forest are carried out.
b) strengthen adaptability of forests to climate change? (Ref.: V5/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Studies related to spread of pests after storm damages in 2005 and also influence of extreme wind velocity on forest stands' stability
Further measures taken related to B.3 and comments:	
(e.g. further measures to address health and vitality) Restoring of forestry production potential after damages made by fire and natural disasters is supported.	

B.4: Production and use of wood	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Forest policy 2) Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development 3) Forest law 4) Law On Record Keeping of Trees and Round Timber in Transactions Date of issuance: 1) 1998 2) 08.04.2006 3) 16.03.2000 4) 28.12.2004 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) One of principles on economic issues is state regulation of forest use principles, in order to ensure sustainable access to timber resources, through creation of a predictable environment for the development of forest product processing. 2) One of basic principles of PBFSD development policy - principles of forest use are regulated by state to stabilize sustainable accessibility of wood resources and establish predictable environment for development of forest products' processing. 4) Objective is to implement single tree and roundwood accounting procedure in transactions at all stages of tree and roundwood flow as well as support fair competition and tax collection.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] State Forest Service, Ministry of Agriculture, State Revenue Service
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] One of directions of action to reach development policy goal - Related Sectors' development policy defined by Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development - is - Latvian forest sector's production is competitive with high value added and fit with needs of client - is to establish real working intersectoral system of development planning and cooperation on national, regional and local level. Respective policy result - use of forest and wood products is increased in state's and municipalities' public procurement on Latvian market. Tree felling in forest is regulated by legislation.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.4:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote the sound use of wood? (Ref.: VD/9, V2/8, V5/5, L1/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Most relevant policy results of PBFSD should be application of forest and wood products in the State and local governments orders has increased in the market of Latvia; utilisation of forest products in the energy industry has increased; utilisation of wood in building of environment-friendly dwellings has increased; the recognizability of Latvian forest production in the main market outlets has increased, the export amount of forest production has not decreased.
b) promote the use of wood from sustainable sources?	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Aproximately half of forest area (including state forests) in Latvia is certified

(Ref.: V2/8)	according to FSC or PEFC serification shemes.
Further measures taken related to B.4 and comments:	
(e.g. policies addressing the use of wood as energy source or for construction purposes) According to concept of National Programme of Forest and Related Sectors and development policy goals and directions of action defined by Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development National Programme of Forest and Related Sectors will be elaborated to reach policy goals and results.	

B.5 Production and use of non-wood goods and services, especially provision of recreation	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Forest policy 2) Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development 3) Forest law 4) Law on Hunting Date of issuance: 1) 1998 2) 08.04.2006 3) 16.03.2000 4) 23.07.2003 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) Principle defined in Forest Policy is - Forests are freely accessible to all, regardless of ownership type, with the exception of legally defined restrictions. 2) One of directions of action is to establish real working intersectoral system of development planning and cooperation on national, regional and local level. Respective policy result - use of forest and wood products is increased in state's and municipalities' public procurement on Latvian market. 4) Game resources should be used in a manner to provide conservation and protection of game animal species population, gene pool and environment inhabited by game animals.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Agriculture, State Forest Service
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] According to Forest law natural persons have the right of access and free movement in a State or a local government forest, if regulatory enactments do not specify otherwise. And forest non-wood material values – wild berries, fruit, nuts, mushrooms and medicinal plants – may be gathered by persons at their discretion, if the forest owner or the lawful possessor has not set restrictions. Game management is regulated by legislation. Recreation facilities in state forests are provided by state joint stock company "Latvia's state forests" and in specially protected nature territories by administrations of nature reserves and national parks.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.5:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) improve enabling conditions for the market-based provision for non-wood goods? (Ref.: V2/9)	Please describe measures, which non-wood goods they address, the characteristics of these measures and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
b) improve enabling conditions for the market-based provision of services, esp. recreational services? (Ref.: V2/9)	Please describe measures, which services they try to promote, the characteristics of these measures and effects, if any, particularly for recreational services [max. 100 words]
Further measures taken related to B.5 and comments:	

B.6 Biodiversity		
Ecosystem / habitat / protected areas / landscape patterns	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Law on specially protected nature territories 2) Law on species and habitat protection Date of issuance: 1) 02.03.1993 2) 05.04.2000 Formal status: In force with amendments
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) Protected territories are established, protected and managed in order to protect and conserve nature diversity, provide basis for scientific research, conserve significant territories for recreation, education and teaching of society. 2) Objective of the law is to provide biodiversity by conservation of fauna, flora and biotopes, regulate protection, management and supervision of species and biotopes, promote conservation of populations and biotopes, regulate identification procedures of specially protected species and biotopes, provide performance of necessary actions.
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Environment, Administration of Nature Protection, Administrations of Specially protected Territories, State Forest Service
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Protection of species and biotopes is provided in specially protected territories including Natura 2000 territories and in microreserves.
Species diversity, incl. tree species composition and threatened forest species	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Regulations on establishment, protection and management of microreserves 2) Nature Protection Regulations in Forest Management Date of issuance: 1) 30.01.2001 2) 08.05.2001 Formal status: In force with amendments
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) Regulations determine the order of microreserve establishment, protection and management. Microreserve is a territory established to provide protection of specially protected species or biotopes outside specially protected territories as well as within specially protected territory if any of its functional zones does not provide it. 2) These Regulations determine general nature protection requirements with respect to forest management; nature protection requirements with respect to final felling and thinning; and restrictions on economic activity during the reproduction season of animals.
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Environment, Administration of Nature Protection, Administrations of Specially protected Territories, State Forest Service
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] According to law on protection of species and biotopes lists of specially protected species and biotopes are prepared where endangered, threatened or rare species and biotopes are included as well as species which populate specific biotopes. Species or biotope protection plans are established for several specially protected species or protected species with restricted use. Management activities in protected territories are carried out according to nature protection plans.

Genetic diversity, incl. in situ and ex situ gene conservation and seed production	Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Regulations on Forest Reproductive Material 2) Nature Protection Regulations in Forest Management Date of issuance: 1) 19.11.2003 2) 08.05.2001 Formal status: In force with amendments
	Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Regulations determine the order for registering the basic material; quality demands and certification requirements for the forest reproductive material; the order for marketing and utilising forest reproductive material.
	Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Agriculture, State Forest Service, State Forestry Research Institute "Silava"
	Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] In order to maintain the biological diversity of tree species, the State Forest Service shall separate out the forest stands of genetic resources (high-quality forest stand tree species of natural origin for the maintenance of genetic diversity and the gene pool). An area of a forest stand of genetic resources shall be regenerated by utilising the reproductive material acquired in such a forest stand.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.6:		
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:		
a) promote biodiversity strategy development and planning? (Ref.: VD/8,22; V4/6,14,15)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] National Biodiversity Programme accepted in 2000. Its action plan is updated regularly. One of directions of action defined in PBFRSD is - preconditions are established for balanced exploit of forest ecological, economical and socio-cultural values, to provide economic viability of forest management. Respective policy result under it-plan of measures is prepared to implement the Hague Decision on Forerst biological diversity of the Sixth Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/22), which should include criteria for economically and ecologically reasonable establishment of protected territories.	
b) improve impact assessments and monitoring of biodiversity? (Ref.: V4/6,13)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Achievable results defined in National Environment Protection Plan (accepted in 2003) are: Biodiversity Monitoring Programme and Action Plan is implemented; mechanism of compensations to land owners for losses caused by restrictions in protected territories is prepared and implemented; long term state programme on survey of biodiversity is prepared.	
c) further develop protected forest networks or similar? (Ref.: V4/10,15,16)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Natura 2000 network is established – list and data base is sent to the European Commission. Work is going on to improve Natura 2000 network according to comments of the European Commission.	
d) prevent loss and fragmentation and to restore degraded forests? (Ref.: V4/11,12)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Loss and fragmentation of forest is controlled through process of land use change. Please see also B1.	
Further measures taken related to B.6 and comments:		

(incl. e.g. on dead wood, regeneration and naturalness in multi-functional forests) Draft programme on long term conservation and sustainable use of cultivated plants and wild species related to them that can be used in agriculture and for food, agriculture animals, forests and fish genetic resources for year 2007 - 2009
Draft law on protection and sustainable use of Latvian agriculture's genetic resources.
Draft national action programme on land degradation prevention for 2008-2012 is under preparation.

B.7 Protective services	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Law on protective belts 2) Regulations on nature protection in forest management Date of issuance: 1) 25.02.1997 2) 08.05.2001 Formal status: Both in force with amendments
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) Objective of the law is to determine: a) types of protective belts and their functions; b) basic principles for establishment of protective belts; c) the order of maintenance and condition control of protective belts; d) restriction of management activities in protective belts. 2) Objective of the regulations is to determine general nature protection requirements (including management of protective belts along watercourses, water bodies and bogs) in forest management.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Administration of Environment protection , State Forest Service
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Protective belts of environment and nature resources protection are established around objects and territories which are significant from environment and nature resources protection and rational use point of view. Their main objective is to minimize or prevent negative anthropogenic influence on objects for which protective belts are established. Protective belts in forest are - protective belt of Baltic sea and Riga bay coastline, protective belts around above ground water objects, cultural monuments, bogs, protective belts in forest around cities.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.7:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen protective services? (Ref.: VD/10)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Management regimes of protected forests revised.
b) contribute to reduce the impact of climate-related disasters? (Ref.: V5/7)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Specific tree felling restrictions have been applied after storm damages in 2005 in order to avoid spread of spruce bark beetle.
Further measures taken related to B.7 and comments:	

Reporting note:

1. Protective services cover services as specified in MCPFE indicators 5.1 "Protective forests – soil, water and other ecosystem functions" and 5.2 "Protective forests – infrastructure and managed natural resources"

B.8 Economic viability	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development Date of issuance: 08.04.2006 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] To create preconditions for the balanced utilisation of ecological, economic and socio-cultural and historical values of the forest in order to ensure the economic viability of forest management.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economics
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Support schemes.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.8:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote innovation, entrepreneurship and to encourage investment in the context of SFM? (Ref.: V2/7, 11)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Draft programme on promotion of entrepreneurship competitiveness and innovations for 2007-2013 is prepared. Main objective of this programme are to provide favorable preconditions for development of entrepreneurship.
b) include economic viability and livelihood issues in rural development policy? (Ref.: VD/7, V2/16)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Rural Development Strategy and programme cover issues on economic viability and livelihood.
c) promote the voluntary cooperation of forest owners and addressed economic viability challenges? (Ref.: VD/12, V2/15, 17)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] See A2.
d) promote the valuation of full range of forest goods & services, incorporate results into accounting systems (Ref.: V2/10, L1/9, 10)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Further measures taken related to B.8 and comments:	
Results of the policy as defined in PBFRSD are: a) preconditions for the change of technologies and equipment and transfer of innovations into forestry are created, which allow to increase the efficiency and quality of forest and forestland management; b) a system for the support and promotion of management, co-operation and consultations of private forests is established; c) a plan of measures for the implementation of the decision "Biological Diversity of Forest" of the Sixth Meeting (Hague) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity has been developed, and it includes criteria for the establishment of ecologically and economically justified protected areas.	

B.9 Employment (incl. safety and health)	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Forest Policy 1) Law on labor protection 2) Regulations on labor protection requirements in forestry Date of issuance: 1) 06.07.2001 2) 21.06.2005 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Objective of the law is guarantee and improve safety and health protection in work for employees, determining responsibility, rights and mutual relations in labor protection for employers, employees and their representatives as well as for state institutions.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] State Labor Inspection, State Forest Service
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Legislation and requirements of certification schemes.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.9:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) enhance workforce safety and improve work environment? (Ref.: V2/14, L1/8)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Brochures on safe tree felling in forest stands damaged by wind were issued.
Further measures taken related to B.9 and comments:	

B.10 Public awareness	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Forest policy 2) Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development Date of issuance: 1) 1998 2) 08.04.2006 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) The goal of the forest information system is to provide the state, the private sector, society and international institutions with accurate information about forest status, management, and the forest products market.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Ministry of Agriculture, State Forest Service
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Most public and attended by people event of forest sector is Forest days. This event is organized each year and state institutions and public organizations, municipalities as well as timber industry enterprises take part in organizational work. Within Forest Days planting of forest, cleaning of surrounding and historical sites, educational seminars, competitions and exhibitions related to forests are organized. In order to express appreciation for achievements in forest sector and to encourage development and identification of forest sector, ceremony of forest sector annual award "Golden cone" is organized.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation to B.10:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) develop dialogue with the public, incl. through awareness raising programmes? (Ref.: L1/1)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Dialogue with the public is done by forest sector organizations and institutions within Forest Days, seminars, competitions and other events.
Further measures taken related to B.10 and comments:	

B.11 Research, training and education	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Forest policy 2) Policy Baselines of Forest and Related Sectors' Development Date of issuance: 1) 1998 2) 08.04.2006 Formal status: In force
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) The goal of Latvian forestry education is to prepare forest sector specialists whose knowledge and skills ensure the competitiveness and dynamic development of the Latvian forest sector and whose credentials are internationally recognised. The goal of forest science is to obtain scientifically founded information for the development of sustainable and multifunctional forest management. Forest related ecological, technological, economic and social research must be relevant to the forest environment and resources of Latvia.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Latvian State Forestry Research Institute "Silava", Latvian University of Agriculture, Forest Faculty, Latvian State Institute of Wood Chemistry, Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Institute, State Forest Service, Ministry of Agriculture
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] State support (the Forest Development Fund, the Hunting Development Fund). Establishment of standards of profession. Preparation of "The vision of the Technological Platform of Latvian Forest Management and Wood Resources Based Industry".
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.11: Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) strengthen research, increase interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary research? (Ref.: VD/17, V3/ 11, V4/17, V5/ 6,7)	Please describe measures, including in forest biodiversity and carbon-related issues, and socio-cultural aspects, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] PBFERSD foresee direction of action - to create preconditions for the development of scientific potential, involvement of competitive financing of the State and sectoral merchants for long term fundamental and applicable scientific projects - with the following results of the policy: a) a co-operation mechanism of the State, science establishments, interest groups and manufacturing merchants and increasing amount of State and private financing at all levels have been established; b) scientific potential is able to offer innovative technologies and new products to the sector.
b) enhance the quality of education, training and extension and other forms of knowledge dissemination? (Ref.: V2/12,13, V3/6, L1/4,6)	Please describe measures, including on socio-cultural aspects as well as on promoting new opportunities and techniques, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] PBFERSD foresee direction of action - To promote integration of higher and vocational education and practice - with the following policy results: a) the State order in relation to the preparation of specialists of higher and vocational education complies with the development needs of the sector; b) a co-ordinated system for the further training of sectoral specialists and State administration institutions has been established; and c) a system and mechanisms of financial support as regards provision of students of vocational and professional education institutions with places of practice have been established.

Further measures taken related to B.11 and comments:	

B.12 Cultural and spiritual values	
Main legal or reference document(s):	Name: 1) Forest policy 2) Law on Cultural Monuments 3) Law on Specially Protected Nature Territories Date of issuance: 1) 1998 2) 12.02.1992 3) 05.04.2000 Formal status: In force, 2, 3 with amendments
Main objective	Please describe current main policy objectives and issues, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] 1) The goal of the forest policy in the social sphere is to balance the interests of society and forest owners in the use of the forest's social values and in the development of labour relations in the forest sector. principles will be observed. 2) To provide conservation of cultural - historical heritage. 3) To provide conservation of nature monuments.
Most relevant institutions	Please specify main responsible organization (legal responsibility), implementing organizations, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] State Inspection on Cultural Monument Protection, Administration of Nature Protection
Main instruments used	Please describe main policy instruments used for achieving the main policy objectives and for addressing issues as described above, incl. significant changes since 2003 [max. 100 words] Forests are freely accessible to all, regardless of ownership type, with the exception of legally defined restrictions. Protection of cultural-historical values and landscapes is taken into account in forest management. Legislation determines management of cultural - historical and nature monuments. Nature monuments are separate, isolated natural formations: protected trees, dendrological plantings, avenues, geological and geomorphological nature monuments and other natural rarities having scientific, cultural and historical, aesthetic or ecological value.
MCPFE Resolution commitment implementation related to B.12:	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) reflect the socio-cultural dimensions in policies? (Ref.: VD/11, V3/5,6,8)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Socio-cultural issues are included in Forest, Agriculture, Rural development, Environment policies.
b) enhance the landscape attractiveness and their protection, including of traditional knowledge and practices? (V3/9)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Surveys on landscape planning are carried out.
c) conserve and manage significant historical and cultural objects? (V3/10)	Please describe measures, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Measure Conservation and restoration of rural heritage sites is planned under Rural Development plan 2007-2013. The purpose of this measure is to facilitate preservation, renovation and improvement of rural cultural heritage sites related to agricultural, forestry and food processing activities, rendering them accessible and attractive to general public and tourists.

Further measures taken related to B.12 and comments:

Part C: General reporting on Lisbon, Helsinki and Strasbourg Resolutions

a) Lisbon Resolutions L1-L2

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

Lisbon Resolution L1: People, Forests and Forestry - Enhancement of Socio-Economic Aspects of Sustainable Forest Management	
Further measures taken to implement Lisbon Resolution L1	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters, if any [max. 100 words] Measures - Vocational Education and Information Measures, Use of Advisory Services provided to Farmers and Forest Holders are foreseen in Rural Development programme 2007-2013. See A2, B10, B11, B9.
Lisbon Resolution L1 commitment implementation: aspects not covered in Parts A and B Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) encourage studies on gender aspects of forest policy & practices? (Ref.: L1/5)	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words] Gender aspect is touched in the study of private forest owners.
b) evaluate the potential impacts of forest certification systems? (Ref.: L1/11)	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words]

Lisbon Resolution L2: Pan-European Criteria, Indicators and Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management	
Further measures taken to implement Lisbon Resolution L2	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words] See A5.
Lisbon Resolution L2 commitment implementation: aspects not covered in Parts A and B	
Were measures taken in 2003-2007 to:	
a) promote national adaptation and use of the PEOLGs ² ? (Ref.: L2/7, 8)	Please describe measures, if any [max. 100 words] National adaptation of PEOLGs was done in the process of forest sector institutional reform in 2000. Principles of these guidelines are incorporated in national policy documents and legal acts of forest management.

² PEOLG = Pan-European Operational Level Guidelines

b) Helsinki Resolutions H1-H4

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

Helsinki Resolution H1: General Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Forests in Europe	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H1	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words] See A1, A3, B1 - B12.
Helsinki Resolution H2: General Guidelines for the Conservation of the Biodiversity of European Forests	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H2	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words] See A3, B6.
Helsinki Resolution H3: Forestry Cooperation with Countries in Transition	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H3	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words]
Helsinki Resolution H4: Strategies for a Process of Long-term Adaptation of Forests in Europe to Climate Change	
Further measures taken to implement Helsinki Resolution H4	Please describe measures not described in previous chapters: [max. 100 words] See B1, B2, B3.

c) Strasbourg Resolutions S1-S6

Please report on only measures which were not described in the previous parts of this enquiry. For measures that address implementation of Lisbon Resolutions but were described in the previous parts, please refer to the related sections

Strasbourg Resolution S1: European Network of Permanent Sample Plots for Monitoring of Forest Ecosystems	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S1	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Forest monitoring is carried out according to EU regulation on Forest Focus.
Strasbourg Resolution S2: Conservation of Forest Genetic Resources	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S2	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] See B6.
Strasbourg Resolution S3: Decentralized European Data Bank on Forest Fires	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S3	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words] Latvia collect and provide data on forest fires.
Strasbourg Resolution S4: Adapting the Management of Mountain Forests to New Environmental Conditions	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S4	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Strasbourg Resolution S5: Expansion of the EUROSILVA Network of Research on Tree Physiology	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S5	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]
Strasbourg Resolution S6: European Network for Research into Forest Ecosystems	
Further measures taken to implement Strasbourg Resolution S6	Please describe measures, not described in previous chapters, their characteristics and effects, if any [max. 100 words]

Part D: MCPFE quantitative indicator 6.4 “Expenditure for Services”

Forest owners, public and private, foundations, and public administrations incur additional expenditures for producing a range of services that are demanded by the public free of cost. These are, for instance, expenditures to maintain protective forests against natural hazards, for preventing soil erosion or for protecting water quality as well as social services. These services are an important contribution to the quality of life and safety of humankind. It is essential to ensure that these services are maintained and that adequate public funding is provided to cover the necessary related expenditures. The total national expenditures for services from the forests should provide quantitative information on the efforts of countries to provide such forest services.

Currently, information on expenditure for services is weak and data collection mechanisms have not yet been established. The MCPFE background documents on the pan-European criteria and indicators specifies that this indicator needs to be further elaborated before its full implementation. The current assessment has pilot character and intends to provide a first and preliminary overview on national expenditures for services. The results of the enquiry will be utilized to further develop this indicator. In line with the pilot character of the assessment, clear information on expenditures was not included in the enquiry on quantitative indicators, which was focusing on indicators, for which operational assessment schemes have already been implemented at the national level.

As in most countries no mechanisms have been established for collecting information on expenditures for services realised by a wide scope of funding sources, the current assessment is limited to ***expenditures from official administrative budgets.***

Reporting Form A1: Expenditures for services

MCPFE indicator 6.4 Total expenditures for long-term sustainable services from forests

Rational: Information is requested for expenditures for services from official administrative budgets

Table 8: Non-wood Goods:

Code	Expenditures for Services	Ref. year	Value (1000 [national currency])	Data Quality Value (1000 [national currency])	
				From	To
A1.1	Recreational services	2005	n.a.		
		2000	n.a.		
		1990	n.a.		
A1.2	Environmental services	2005	n.a.		
		2000	n.a.		
		1990	n.a.		
A1.3	Protective services	2005	n.a.		
		2000	n.a.		
		1990	n.a.		
A1.4	Other services	2005	n.a.		
		2000	n.a.		
		1990	n.a.		
		2000	n.a.		
		1990	n.a.		

Data sources:

For each service reported:

Country specifications:

For each service reported, as necessary:

Country comments:

Reporting notes:

1. The total expenditures for services from the forests should confine to expenditures from official administrative budgets and present quantitative information on the efforts of countries to provide such forest services.
2. Reference area for reporting is "Total FOWL", not further divided into sub-classes "Forest" and "Other wooded land". If data is available for sub-class "Forest" only, please report on this sub-class and provide note under "Country comments".
3. If data is available only for certain forest areas or ownership classes (e.g. state forests), but not for others, data should be reported with explicit indication of area (ha) and/or reference to the ownership class under "Country comments".
4. The class "Recreational Services" includes, for instance, expenditures such as hunting licences, fishing licences, managed outdoor recreation areas or trails for mountain biking, horse riding, skiing and other recreational activities
5. The class "Environmental Services" includes, for instance, expenditures for maintaining and enhancing of the natural habitat and biological diversity and contracts for conservation.

6. The class "Protective Services" includes, for instance, expenditures to maintain protective forests against natural hazards, for preventing soil erosion or for protecting water quality.
7. Please report in the country specifications the currency for which values have been provided.
8. Data Quality: please specify the likely range of values specified in column 4 "value".

Definitions of "forest" and "other wooded land":

<p>Forest</p>	<p>Land with tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent and area of more than 0.5 ha. The trees should be able to reach a minimum height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i>. May consist <u>either</u> of closed forest formations where trees of various storeys and undergrowth cover a high proportion of the ground; <u>or</u> of open forest formations with a continuous vegetation cover in which tree crown cover exceeds 10 percent. Young natural stands and all plantations established for forestry purposes, which have yet to reach a crown density of 10 percent or tree height of 5m, are included under forest, as are areas normally forming part of the forest area, which are temporarily unstocked as a result of human intervention or natural causes but which are expected to revert to forest.</p> <p><u>Includes:</u> Forest nurseries and seed orchards that constitute an integral part of the forest; forest roads, cleared tracts, firebreaks and other small open areas within the forest; forest in national parks, nature reserves and other protected areas such as those of special environmental, scientific, historical, cultural or spiritual interest; windbreaks and shelterbelts of trees with an area of more than 0.5 ha and a width of more than 20 m. Rubberwood plantations and cork oak stands are included.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> Land predominantly used for agricultural practices.</p>
<p>Other wooded land</p>	<p>Land either with a tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of 5-10 percent of trees able to reach a height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i>; or a crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10 percent of trees not able to reach a height of 5 m at maturity <i>in situ</i> (e.g. dwarf or stunted trees) and shrub or bush cover.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> Areas having the tree, shrub or bush cover specified above but of less than 0.5 ha and width of 20 m, which are classed under "other land"; Land predominantly used for agricultural practices.</p>

ANNEX

(see file Enquiry_MCPFE_qualitative_Annexes.doc)

Annex 1: MCPFE commitments Vienna 2003

Annex 2: MCPFE qualitative indicators

Annex 3: Reference matrix of coverage of commitments through the structure provided by the MCPFE qualitative indicators

For MCPFE Resolutions and other documents please also refer to:

<http://www.mcpfe.org/resolutions/>