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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
Timber Committee

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
European Forestry Commission

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

**Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology,  
Management and Training**

Twenty-third session Geneva, Switzerland, from 5-8 June 2000

**Review of the programme in vocational training and applied ergonomics  
(subject area 3)**

(Item 8 of the Provisional Agenda)

**Note by the secretariat**

This document presents the activities in subject area 3 since the Joint Committee's twenty-second session, and draws the Committee's attention to a number of points for decision (in bold, italic type).

The Joint Committee is invited to:

- review its past activities in this subject area and agree on activities for the future;
- decide on the specific points drawn to its attention.

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### **3.1 Forestry workforce network (FORWORKNET)**

1. The network now has about 320 members from 65 countries. While the print run of the 'FORWORKNET update' has continued to increase (1000 copies for the last edition), growth in registered membership has slowed to the point of stagnation. There remain significant gaps, particularly in central and eastern Europe. The Steering Committee decided to enlist the support of members from the region to extend membership there. The Committee will be informed of the results.

2. Publication of the *FORWORKNET update* twice per year has been resumed. The latest edition with a focus on women in forestry will be available for delegates at the session. Since 1999 the update has also been available on the Internet (ILO home page forestry: <<http://ilo.org/100secto/sectors/forest.htm>>). The information note and registration form are to be posted there as well. These documents should soon also be included on the UN/ECE home page. The network database software has been upgraded and the membership register, which was last published in 1996, is to be revised in 2000.

***Point for decision: The Committee is invited to review the evolution of the network and suggest ways of further extending its coverage.***

### **3.2 Forestry meets the Public (Seminar in Lyss, Switzerland, 8-11 October 2001)**

3. The 22nd Session of the Committee had endorsed the proposed seminar and requested that a detailed programme be drawn up for consideration by the Steering Committee. The latter endorsed a draft programme prepared by Messrs Büchel and Poschen which is reproduced as annex IV to this document, along with a schedule for the preparations.

***Points for decision: The Committee is invited to take note of the outlined programme and format and recommend changes, if any.***

### **3.3 Participation and partnerships in forestry (Team of specialists)**

4. This team had been established by decision of the 22nd Session with the main mandate of clarifying the concept of participation, identifying opportunities and developing a framework for increased participatory forest management (involvement of the public), awareness of the forest and use of forest products and services by the public. Its findings are intended also as one of the Joint Committee contributions to follow-up to the Lisbon Conference and the implementation of Resolution L1.

5. Mr. Miles Wenner (United Kingdom Forestry Commission) was appointed leader

of the new team as had been suggested by the Committee. He attended the last meeting of the Steering Committee to discuss the terms of reference and the work programme. Team members have been identified and held a first meeting hosted by Switzerland in November 1999. The composition of the team has been subject to some fluctuation. A list of team members is presented in annex II. A report of the first meeting has been prepared for the team's internal use.

6. A second meeting will take place in Växjö, Sweden in March 2000 at the invitation of the Swedish forest owners' association, who kindly offered meeting facilities. A draft final report is expected to be submitted to the Committee at the present session. It should be noted that the work of the team is proceeding well and swiftly to a large extent thanks to the generous support by the Swiss and Flanders (Belgium) forest services. They provided funding for the coordinator of the team without whom the present pace and quality of work could not be achieved.

***Points for decision: The Committee is invited to***

- ***comment on the contents of the team's draft final report;***
- ***to decide how to best use the outcome of the team's work; and***
- ***what further work, if any, the team should undertake.***

#### **3.4 Partnerships in forestry (Seminar in Flanders, Belgium in 2002)**

7. The 22nd Session had accepted an offer by the Flanders Region in Belgium to host this seminar. The secretariat communicated the decision to the authorities. One of the organizers of this seminar is also a member of the team of specialists on participation, which ensures good collaboration. The team will, inter alia, contribute to elaborating a draft programme for the seminar. This draft is to be circulated in advance of the session.

***Points for decision: The Committee is invited to discuss the outlined programme and format and, if any, recommend changes.***

#### **3.5 Women in forestry (Seminar in Viseu (Portugal), 2-6 April 2001)**

8. The 22nd Session had welcomed an offer by the Portuguese delegation to host this seminar. A tentative programme has been prepared between the host country and the secretariat. It is reproduced in annex III along with the draft time plan for preparations.

***Points for decision: The Committee is invited to discuss the outlined programme and format and, if any, recommend changes.***

#### **3.6 Forestry training for target groups that are hard to reach (Seminar La Bastide-des-Jourdans, France, 20-24 April 1998)**

9. The proceedings of the seminar have been published. The network of forestry training centres in Europe which the seminar had recommended to create and for which it had outlined a structure has been launched this spring with funding from the European Union Leonardo programme. An information note is included in Annex I.

***Points for decision: the Committee is invited:***

- *to take note of the network initiative;*
- *to determine whether and how the Committee should cooperate with the new network; and*
- *to recommend ways in which broad coverage could be achieved.*

**3.7 Improving working conditions and increasing productivity in forestry**  
(Seminar, Banska Stiavniska, Slovakia, 9-13 September 1998)

10. The proceedings of the seminar have been published.

***Point for decision: for information only***

**3.8 Social aspects of sustainable forest management** (Team of specialists)

11. The team's mandate had been extended to the year 2000 by the twenty-second session of the Committee to enable it respond to a possible request for further inputs from the coordinating unit for the Ministerial Conference. In discussions between the coordinating unit, the leader of the team and the secretariat, it was decided that there was no role for the team at the present time. It was agreed that part of the members of the team and the resources that had been set aside should be put to use to strengthen the team on Participation and partnerships in forestry. The Steering Committee therefore decided to acknowledge the generous support by the Swiss Government and to terminate the mandate of the team.

***Point for decision: for information only***

## ANNEX I

## Note on the Network of Forestry Training Centres in Europe

PROGRAMME LEONARDO DA VINCIRESEAU EUROPEEN D'INFORMATION ET D'ORIENTATIONAUX METIERS DE LA FORET**Projet pilote transnational**Résumé :

Promouvoir de véritables parcours de formation européens aux métiers de la forêt est une des motivations premières de ce projet pilote.

Pour réaliser ces parcours, le programme a pour objectif :

- de créer dans une première étape **un réseau sur internet** regroupant les organismes de formation européens aux métiers de la forêt. La constitution de ce réseau répond à une des conclusions du séminaire international sur les formations forestières (du 20 au 24 avril 1998 à La Bastide des Jourdans). Il a par ailleurs reçu **le soutien officiel du comité mixte FAO/CEE/OIT** lors de sa session bisannuelle du 14 au 16 septembre 1998 à Zvolen en Slovaquie. La création du site sera sous-traitée, il sera administré au Centre Forestier **et la création de la base de données sera réalisée par les 7 partenaires** de ce projet, chacun ayant la prise en charge de différentes zones géographiques (Europe du Nord; Europe Centrale; Europe du Sud). La constitution de la fiche d'identité des organismes de formation sera conçue par les 7 partenaires et visera notamment à favoriser la transparence des qualifications professionnelles. Cette étape durera 4 mois.
- de mettre en place dans une deuxième étape **un système d'information et d'orientation** accessible à partir d'internet qui permettra de trouver dans son pays ou dans les différents pays européens les formations permettant **d'acquérir de nouvelles compétences**. Ce système sera basé sur l'élaboration d'un **questionnaire interactif** permettant d'évaluer au mieux les compétences actuelles et les besoins en formation des personnes interrogeant le site. L'administrateur sera chargé de veiller à la prise en charge des demandes. La phase de conception durerait 4 mois et la phase de test 4 mois également.

**Les perspectives de développement de ce projet sont nombreuses.** Ce réseau sera en effet étendu sans difficulté à l'échelle mondiale et restera facilement accessible. Il pourra également servir de supports pour de futurs échanges de formateurs, d'apprenants et d'expertises (techniques et moyens pédagogiques) et de vecteurs d'informations.

Par ailleurs, le coût d'un tel réseau est uniquement important lors de sa création. Les frais de fonctionnement (mise à jour du site et vérification du bon fonctionnement) seront relativement faibles. Une cotisation, d'autant plus faible que les organismes de formation sont nombreux, permettra **d'assurer la pérennité du projet**.

**La décision prise par les participants au séminaire international d'avril 98 d'adhérer à un réseau international aux métiers de la forêt est une des garanties de réussite de ce projet.**

Contact: [salvignol@centre-forestier.org](mailto:salvignol@centre-forestier.org)

## ANNEX II

### Team of Specialists on Participation and Partnerships in Forestry 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, Vaxjo (Sweden), 27-29 March 2000 Provisional list of participants

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**ANNEX III**

**Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training**

with the participation of: **IUFRO**

***THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE FORESTRY SECTOR  
IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA***

***An international seminar  
Viseu (Portugal), 2-6 April 2001***

***First announcement and call for contributions***

**GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF FORESTS, LISBON**

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***Background***

Rather far reaching changes have taken place with respect to the positions and roles of men and women in European and North American societies at large. The forestry sector, by contrast, appears to have largely ignored this development and mostly remained 'a man's world'. There are both ethical and factual reasons why the forestry sector should acknowledge the various roles women play in and for the sector, seek to enhance their participation and create the equality of opportunity that many other sectors have come to take for granted.

Women have always been part of the forestry workforce, usually in tough, menial, poorly paid jobs. Quite some of these continue to exist. In recent years, women have been entering forestry professions at all levels in increasing numbers and are demanding that their role and contribution be recognized. Women now also work in logging for example and, with the advances in mechanization, new opportunities are opening up for them. Women are slowly infiltrating technical and managerial positions as well.

Diversification of forest uses and their contribution to rural development has been found to rely heavily on economic activity and enterprises operated by women. These include the marketing of berries and herbs, handicrafts and rural tourism. These contributions are critical in the Mediterranean region, for example, where forests are less productive and rural areas are faced with a massive exodus.

Some of the women in forestry have been overlooked because they are not visible: many contracting business depend crucially on the logistics and accounting skills of the contractor's wife, who may neither show on the contractor's pay roll nor set foot in a forest, except for a walk on Sunday. Likewise, many women have become forest

owners, but do not show up at male-dominated forest owners' meetings. Last not least, women make most consumer decisions concerning forest products and they are the majority of the public in Europe and North America that provides the sector with a 'license to operate' - or withdraws it.

Political will to foster change has been expressed. Equality of opportunity and treatment in employment as enshrined in international labour conventions has been recognized as a fundamental human right by all 174 member countries of the ILO in June 1998. In the same month, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe adopted Resolution L1 on 'People, Forests and Forestry'. In the sections of the resolution relating to women, the countries and the European Union undertake to strive to offer equal opportunity in employment, income, training and careers. They also commit themselves to recognise gender aspects in European forestry, to adapt education and training systems and programmes as well as to encourage studies on gender concerns.

### ***Objectives and topics***

While momentum and political will for change have been building up, there is a looming gap in information about the actual situation as well as a lack of specific ideas and strategies for ways forward. The seminar will contribute to filling the information gaps and to devising strategies at different levels from enterprise to sector wide. Specifically, participants will explore:

- what is the current extent and nature of the involvement of women in forestry?
- why are women usually under-represented?
- what is the scope for increasing the share of women in the workforce and female participation in the sector at large?
- what opportunities and obstacles exist?
- what changes are desirable concerning women's employment and their participation in decision making in forestry at all levels?
- how can these changes be achieved?

### ***Participants***

In order to achieve its objectives, the seminar depends on a broad participation of men and women from a cross-section of the forestry sector in Europe and North America, but also from other parts of the world:

- ' Forest authorities
- ' Forest management
- ' Forest industry
- ' Forest owners and their associations
- ' Forest service officials
- ' Forestry contractors and their associations
- ' Trade unions and associations of professional foresters
- ' Training and education
- ' Researchers

### ***Proceedings of the seminar***

The seminar topic will be discussed in conference-type meetings during which selected papers will be presented in plenary sittings, in a poster session, in small working groups, and during field visits.

#### ***Provisional agenda:***

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

Item 2 Election of officers

Item 3 ***General introduction***

3.1 The role of women in forestry in ECE member countries (results of an enquiry)

3.2 The case of Portugal - women as promoters of diversification of forestry activity and as contributors to rural development

Item 4 ***Exploring the situation of women in the forestry sector: status, obstacles and opportunities (plenary)***

4.1 Women employed in the forestry sector

- Women forest workers
- Women technicians and professionals in forestry
- Women in contracting businesses

4.2 Women as promoters of new business opportunities in forestry

4.3 Women as forest owners

4.4 Women as part of the public

Item 5 ***Strategies to promote equality of opportunity in employment, income and careers***

(Plenary and working groups)

- Experiences outside the forestry sector
- Experiences in forestry services and enterprises
- Contribution of research
- Changes in education and training systems

Item 6 ***Strategies to promote adequate participation of women in decision making***

(Plenary and working groups)

- for women forest owners
- for women as part of the public

Item 7 Any other business

Item 8 Conclusions and recommendations

Item 9 Adoption of the report

#### ***Tentative programme:***

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Opening General introduction	Plenary on item 5 Poster session I	Plenary on item 6 Poster session II	Study tour	Conclusions and Recommendations
Afternoon	Plenary on item 4	Working groups on item 5 Plenary report of groups	Working groups on item 6 Plenary report of groups	contd.	

### CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

*Contributions are welcome from anybody wishing to deal with a subject related to the theme of the seminar. Those interested are invited to send a summary of their contribution to the secretariat by 15 June 2000.*

The summary should indicate the proposed subject and outline the content in a maximum 300 words. It should also indicate name and address of the author and specify the type of presentation suggested (oral presentation, poster or paper).

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**ANNEX IV**

**Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training**

with the participation of : **IUFRO**

***FORESTRY MEETS THE PUBLIC***

*An international seminar*

Lyss (Switzerland), 8 - 11 October 2001

***First announcement and call for contributions***

**FEDERAL DIRECTORATE OF FORESTRY, BERN**

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***Background***

The relationship between forestry and the public is one of the major challenges facing European forestry in the next decade. Today's society is increasingly interested in forests, be it for recreational purposes (jogging, mountain biking, leisure, hunting etc.), as a means of 'reconnecting with nature', or because legal provisions have conferred a stronger right to participation in forestry planning. These factors contribute to a growing coverage of forests and forestry in the media and a rising demand for information and explanation of forest management objectives and practices. This demand and heightened attention also represent a major opportunity not only to spread knowledge about forests, but also to raise awareness about forestry and to strengthen the position of foresters as stewards of the resource.

This is recognized in Resolution L1 'People, Forests and Forestry' adopted by the 3rd Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe in Lisbon in 1998 which emphasizes the need for an increasing dialogue between the forest sector and the general public to define widely accepted objectives for forest policy. Adequate levels of education, public relations and transparency are identified as critical elements of a strategy to foster positive relations and partnerships between forestry and society in general. In the section of the resolution on future actions, the signatory states commit themselves to developing dialogue with the public and efficient programmes to increase awareness of the benefits of sustainable forestry for society.

***Objectives and topics***

Efforts to raise awareness concerning forests and forestry have been made for many years. The seminar is organized in order draw and build on this wealth of experience.

The seminar will provide a forum for the exchange of information and opinions for all interested in *public relations*

and *environmental education in forestry*. It will enable participants to compare current approaches and methods, to analyze their impact and effectiveness, to swap experience and material, and to identify new opportunities of and more effective means of public relations and environmental education in forestry.

The seminar sets out to answer the following questions:

- < What do we mean by public relations and environmental education in forestry?
- C Are they needed?
- C Which are the target groups?
- C What is the message forestry is trying to drive home?
- C Who are the 'messengers', which institutions are involved?
- < Which means and media can most effectively convey forestry messages?
- C How effective is this communication and how can impact be assessed?
- C What are the deficits and how can public relations and environmental education in forestry become more effective?

### ***Participants***

The seminar is designed for all persons working with or in forests, forestry and forest industry, in media and communication as well in environmental and general education:

- ' PR specialists
- ' Journalists
- ' Forest service officials
- ' Forest industry
- ' Forest owners
- ' Environmental NGO's
- ' Teachers
- ' Environmental educators

### ***Proceedings of the seminar***

The two issues will be discussed in plenary sessions during which selected papers will be presented, in a poster session, in small working groups, and during an excursion. There will also be a media exchange with opportunities for media presentation and exchange.

### ***Tentative programme***

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Day 1: | Opening  |
|        | General introduction   |
|        | Plenary on the status of public relations and environmental education (with 4-5 papers each) |
| Day 2: | Excursion  |

- Day 3: Working groups assessing and challenging current practices and exploring new approaches and opportunities
- Day 4: Plenary presenting findings of groups  
Media exchange  
Conclusions and recommendations  
Closing

## CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions are welcome from anybody wishing to deal with a subject related to the theme of the seminar. Those interested are invited to send a summary of their contribution to the secretariat by 15 December 2000.

The summary should indicate the proposed subject and outline the content in a maximum 300 words. It should also indicate name and address of the author and specify the type of presentation suggested (oral presentation, poster, paper, display of media).

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C .....

**Preliminary registration:**

***Forestry meets the public***

Please, return this form to MARTIN BÜCHEL before 15 December 2000

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Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- I will present:
- an oral presentation
  - a poster
  - a paper

9 a media exhibit (pls. specify)

Preliminary title:

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Summary/abstract on a separate sheet (max. 300 words)

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