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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
Timber Committee

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
European Forestry Commission

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Joint Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training

Steering Committee

Fourteenth session
(17-18 September 1999)

Review of the programme in forest technology
(subject area 2)

(Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda)

Note by the secretariat

This document presents the activities in subject area 1 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.

(I) Environmentally Sound Forest Roads and Wood Transport

The proceedings of the FAO/ECE/ILO and IUFRO supported Seminar on Environmentally Sound Forest Roads and Wood Transport was published in 1998 by FAO.

It covers the following subjects:

- a) Environmentally Oriented Forest Road Planning, Design and Location
- b) Environmentally Sound Forest Road Construction and Maintenance
- c) Forest Engineering Structures and Protection Works
- d) Wood Transport

Altogether the Report has 424 pages, containing 40 papers on recent developments, research efforts and practical applications in forest engineering.

The Report has been distributed to the Seminar participants and selected experts interested in the subject area.

Points for decision: The Committee may wish to discuss ways and means of wider distribution to contact points in the countries concerned. e.g. (Website, Internet).

(ii) Reducing the impact of forest operations on ecosystems, activities of team specialists

Dr Iwan Wasterlund has been asked to provide an update on this item:

According to the mandate, the team prepared a conference in Feldafing, Germany, in September 1999 and announced it in co-operation with IUFRO P3.11. Announcements were put out on the IUFRO web site, newsletter and some other places.

At the meeting of team 21-22nd March 1999 in Limoges, France, the team had only 7 outside applications to the meeting (apart from the members in the team). The dead line of the application was set to 30 th March 1999, but people were welcome to ask for further information in before. Economically it would be impossible to run the FORSITRISK conference with only 20-25 persons attending the meeting. A contributing reason to the low participation in our meeting could that at least two more meetings are later announced to be held in the same period (without the knowledge of the team).

Thus, the team decided to cancel the Feldafing meeting at its Limoges meeting 21-25 March and appeal to Joint Committee to accept this decision.

The preparation of the guidelines in accordance to item 3-4 in the mandate the team is determined to continue with the preparation of the guidelines and intend to have finished this by end of December 1999.

In the preparations of the guidelines a question raised to be answered by the Joint Committee: Who is paying for the printing of the guidelines.

Points for decision: The Committee is invited to take note of the programme and may wish to discuss and comment on the foreseen activities.

(iii) New Trends in Wood Harvesting with Cable Systems : Proposal for a Workshop, 11-17 June 2000, Ossiach, Austria

The seminar was proposed to be held in the year 2000. Due to the IUFRO World Congress and a planned FAO/IUFRO Satellite Meeting on Improved Forest Management and Harvesting Practices and the recently held International Mountain Logging and tenth Pacific North West Skyline Symposium, held from 28 March to 1 April 1999 at the Oregon State University, Corvallis, USA, and the Forest Engineering Conference in Edinburgh, UK, from 28 to 30 June 1999, it is suggested to postpone the meeting to the year 2001. The programme is attached. The new proposed date is also better in line with the International Year on the Mountains which will be held in the Year 2002 for which the outcome of the Workshop could provide a significant input to this event. The provisional agenda is set out in annex I.

Points for Decision : The Joint Committee is invited to take note and comment on the programme.

(iv) Forest Operations of Tomorrow in Pessac, Aquitaine France, from 20 to 24 September 1999

The Seminar has attracted by mid-of August some 80 participants from 18 different countries. 23 basic papers are expected to be presented and additional voluntary papers and posters.

In addition, three half-days field visits will be organised which will enable participants to learn about the pilot projects dealing with formation of independent harvesting teams, efficient networks of forest harvesting entrepreneurs, contractual, logistic and organisational arrangements, future of safety of work and training for change.

Points for decision : For information only.

(v) Harvesting on Non-Wood Forest Products in the Mediterranean Region. Proposal by the Authorities of Turkey to host a Seminar on Harvesting of Non-Wood Forest Products in the Mediterranean Region in 2000

The Turkish Authorities have shown interest to host a Seminar on Harvesting of Non-Wood Forest Products in the Mediterranean Region and requested FAO to discuss the proposed Seminar with the Turkish Authorities and prepare a programme.

A preparatory mission was scheduled from 7 to 11 September 1999. A draft programme has been prepared and is set out in annex 2 for consideration by the Committee.

Points for decision: The Committee may wish to provide guidance on the programme and decide on how best to proceed with the preparation of the seminar.

(vi) Multifunctional Forestry in Protected and Vulnerable Forest Areas : Proposal for Workshop on Multifunctional Forestry to be organised by the Mountain Forestry and Ecology Research Institute in Sochi, Russian Federation, from 18 to 23 September 2000

The Mountain Forest and Ecology Research Institute has prepared a provisional agenda and information on the Seminar and sent the document for the above mentioned Seminar to the Secretariat.

A copy of the programme will be made available to the Committee.

Points for decision : The Committee may wish to provide guidance on the programme and in particular on the timing of the Seminar.

ANNEX I

WORKSHOP ON NEW TRENDS IN WOOD HARVESTING WITH CABLE SYSTEMS

Ossiach, Austria

June 2001

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 : Adoption of the Agenda

Item 2 : Election of Officers

Item 3 : General introduction to the Workshop

Item 4 : New developments in Cable Systems

- I) Planning and organization of work
- ii) Application of systems
- iii) Productivity and costs of cable crane operations
- iv) Evaluation of environmental impacts using cable systems
- v) Post-harvesting assessment

Item 5 : Use of cable systems for sustainable forest management

- I) Requirements of roads for the use of cable systems
- ii) Use of cable systems in combination with other extraction machines
- iii) in combination with wood processors

Item 6 : Use of cable systems and norms for a work safety

- I) Safety and health in cable crane operations
- ii) Accident prevention
- iii) Training in cable crane operations

Item 7 : Use of contractors in cable crane operations

- I) Business contracts
- ii) Work organization
- iii) Work control
- iv) Post harvesting assessment

Item 8 : Conclusions

Item 9: Any other business

Item 10 : Adoption of the report of the Workshop

EXCURSIONS

Excursion to Ossiach Tauern in the Training Forest of the Ossiach Training Center. Demonstration of some cable systems

Excursion to Private Forest Enterprise using modern mobile cable systems

Excursion to the Federal Forest Enterprise, large scale operations

Excursion to cable crane operations by forest contractors

Two cultural events will be organized during the Workshop

ANNEX II

Project Idea for a Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Seminar on Harvesting of Non-Wood Forest Products in the Mediterranean Region in the Year 2000 in Turkey

Background

At the Twenty-second Session of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training, it was suggested to approach the authorities of Turkey exploring the possibilities and interest in hosting and organising a meeting on Harvesting of Non-Wood Forest Products in the Mediterranean region. The reason to propose Turkey as a venue for such a seminar was Turkey's rich experience on this subject and the possibility to present many successful examples including a most interesting excursion programme.

Ideas for the content of the Seminar

The detailed content of a seminar would need to be worked out in cooperation between the Turkish Authorities and FAO in advance one and half a year before the commencement of the seminar.

To our mind, besides the harvesting aspect issues such as the promotion of non-wood forest products, operational management plans, organization of operations, community involvement, employment and income, economic valuation of non-wood forest products supporting sustainable forest management practices, training and extension measures, fiscal incentives to support activities related to non-wood forest products, conservation, processing and marketing of non-wood forest products, should be considered when developing the agenda for a seminar.

Participants at the Seminar

All European countries including Canada, USA and Russian Federation would be invited. If the Seminar is organised in cooperation with IUFRO, which we would recommend, the participation will be much wider including particularly North African countries and other countries.

Due to the high interest in this subject in the Mediterranean region and elsewhere, one could expect easily a participation of 50-150 specialists from Government agencies, private forest enterprises, contractors, researchers, academics, rural communities, forestry associations, extension and training institutions and NGOs.

Travel expenses will have to be covered by the employers of the experts or by the individuals themselves.

Duration of the Seminar

One week, covering presentation of position and voluntary papers as well as excursions.

Languages at the Meeting

FAO/ECE/ILO seminars are held in three languages namely English, French and Russian, very often in addition, interpretation in the language of the host country is provided. This will require simultaneous interpretation during the meeting. Costs for interpretation must be borne by the host country. If it is decided to organize a workshop, then it could be held in one language only (f.i. English). This might, however, somewhat reduce participation but certainly is much cheaper.

Costs for the Meeting

Detailed costs should be worked out during a preparatory mission, drawing up the division of responsibilities and developing financial plans, securing funds for the meeting. One way to recover costs is to establish a participation fee which would need to be paid by each participant regardless whether the participant presents or does not present a paper.

Role of FAO/ECE/ILO Committee

The role of the FAO/ECE/ILO Committee is to provide secretariat services, develop the programme, send out invitations, prepare meeting documentation and provide secretariat services for the meeting itself. Costs for the secretariat for the meeting itself has to be borne by the host country. Costs for preparation of the programme, sending out invitations and preparation of meeting documentation will be covered by the FAO/ECE/ILO Secretariat.

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