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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Timber Committee  
European Forestry Commission

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

**STEERING COMMITTEE**

Fifteenth session Lisbon, Portugal from 30-31 March 2001

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

(Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda)

**Note by the secretariat**

This document presents the activities in subject area 3 since the Joint Committee's twenty-third 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.

[\*/ This document is the one referred to in the provisional agenda as: TIM/EFC/WP.1/AC.1/2001/6.

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3.1 **Forestry workforce network (FORWORKNET)**

1. The network has resumed growth in membership. After both the newsletter and the information note containing a registration form have been put on the internet last summer, some 50 new registrations have been received. (ILO home page forestry: <<http://ilo.org/100secto/sectors/forest.htm>>) Membership now stands at about 350 members from 65 countries. The latest 'FORWORKNET update' has been published in January 2001 with a print run of 1,000 copies.

***Point for decision: For information only.***

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

2. The seminar had inter alia recommended the creation of a network of forestry training centres in Europe and outlined a structure for such a network. The idea has since been taken up by a group of seminar participants and some additional members who have launched the network under the name of 'EDUFOREST'. A bilingual homepage in English and French is available at

The group has requested the endorsement of the Joint Committee and the ILO for its drive to expand membership. A letter addressed to the Joint Committee chairman and the EDUFOREST information note are provided in annex 1.

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

- ***to determine whether the Committee should endorse the new network; and***
- ***to grant permission to use the Committee's name and logo in its correspondence and advertisements.***

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

3. 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.

4. Led by Mr. Miles Wenner (United Kingdom Forestry Commission) the team met twice for 2.5-day workshops and presented a report on participation to the liaison unit of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe in September 2000. The report was also introduced by the team leader at the joint session of the Timber Committee and the European Forestry Commission in Rome in October 2000. The report had been published as an ILO working paper 'just-in-time' for the session. It has been extremely well received. Its first edition of 800 copies was out of print within six weeks of its release. It has since been reprinted. It should be noted that the work of the team has been able to proceed so well and swiftly to a large extent thanks to the generous support by the Swiss and Flanders (Belgium) forest services who provided funding for the coordinator of the team.

5. So far circulation of the report has largely been limited to forest policy units in central governments. No systematic dissemination of the report has taken place in wider circles of

associations and academia. This would be very desirable for substantive reasons and to raise the profile of the Committee.

6. With the presentation of its report on participation the team completed the first part of its mandate. It has not had the time to tackle the issues of public awareness, communication and partnerships. Mr. Wenner has prepared a proposal for the continuation of the work concerning these two items. Various countries have signalled interest to support the endeavours of the team in this direction. The Committee will be informed orally about the proposal.

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

- ***decide how to disseminate the team's report more widely; and***
- ***decide what further work, if any, the team should undertake.***

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

7. The seminar will take place in the week following the Steering Committee session. It has generated considerable interest and some 80 participants are expected. About 25 papers will be presented, including by some of the most senior women foresters in the world. Unfortunately, a number of interested persons from eastern and southern Europe had to cancel their participation due to a lack of funding.

***Points for decision: for information only.***

3.6 **Public relations and environmental education in forestry** - (Seminar in Hütirubelbad, Switzerland, 8-12 October 2001)

8. Preparations are well underway. Key note speakers will include Mr. Gschwandtl from the Timber Committee's ToS on Public Relations and Miles Wenner of the Participation team. A second announcement and information note will be mailed shortly. It is reproduced in annex 2. Interest in the seminar is lively, though somewhat concentrated in German-speaking countries. About 100 enquiries and preliminary registrations have been received.

***Points for decision: The Committee is invited to take note of the second announcement and recommend ways to spread participation more widely and evenly.***

3.7 **Partnerships in forestry** - (Seminar in Flanders, Belgium in 2002)

12. The 23rd Session had requested an outline for the seminar and recommended a seminar date in the first half of 2002 in view of the other activities scheduled for the same year. The outline will be circulated separately and introduced orally at the session.

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

### **3.8 Traditional forest-related knowledge**

Mr. Nordanstig had suggested to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session that this was a topic possible future interest and agreed to present an outline to the Steering Committee. At the request of the secretariat he provided the note provided in annex 2.