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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

TIMBER COMMITTEE

Sixty-fifth session
8-11 October 2007

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SIXTY- FIFTH SESSION

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, 8 October 2007

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Adoption of the agenda | ECE/TIM/2007/1 |
| 2. Matters arising from the UNECE Commission session | ECE/TIM/2007/2 |
| 3. UNECE/FAO in a changing international environment:
briefing and discussion of recent developments | ECE/TIM/2007/3 |
| 4. Planning of the 2007-2008 Strategic Review of the UNECE
Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission
integrated programme of work on timber and forestry | ECE/TIM/2007/4 |
| 5. Planning for performance evaluation of the 2008-2009
programme of work | ECE/TIM/2007/5 |

Note - Timber Committee documents will be distributed to the official list as in previous years. However, the provisional agenda and other session documents will be available on the Timber Committee/European Forestry Commission website: www.unece.org/trade/timber

GE.07-23605

6. Market developments in 2007 and prospects for 2008, joint UNECE Timber Committee and International Softwood Conference market discussions ECE/TIM/2007/6
 - (a) Market discussions
 - (b) Joint country market statements (printed and electronic format)
 - (c) Joint country forecasts
 - (d) Drafting Committee
7. UNECE/FAO Policy Forum: Opportunities and impacts of bio-energy policies and targets on the forest and other sectors ECE/TIM/2007/7
8. Review of activities since the sixty-fourth session and programme of work to 2008 ECE/TIM/2007/8
9. Election of officers
10. Any other business
11. Date and place of next session
12. Adoption of the report

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Opening of the meeting

1. Mr. Marek Belka, Executive Secretary of the UNECE, or his representative, will open the sixty-fifth session of the Timber Committee.

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda (ECE/TIM/2007/1)

2. In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the adoption of the agenda is the first item of the agenda.

Item 2. Matters arising from the UNECE Commission session (ECE/TIM/2007/2)

3. The Committee will be informed of the decisions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-second session, held in April 2007, which have a bearing on the work of the Committee, as well as other decisions and developments. The Committee will be invited to take these decisions into account when adopting its programme of work under provisional agenda item 7.

Item 3. UNECE/FAO in a changing international environment: briefing and discussion of recent developments (ECE/TIM/2007/3)

4. The Committee will be briefed on developments of relevance to its work within fora, such as: the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF), the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) and FAO. The Committee will be invited to take these into account when deciding on its future work.

Item 4. Planning of the 2007-2008 Strategic Review of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission integrated programme of work on timber and forestry (ECE/TIM/2007/4)

5. The Committee will be informed of the planning for and approach to the 2007-2008 Strategic Review of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission integrated programme of work on timber and forestry. The Committee will be invited to comment upon and endorse these plans.

Item 5. Planning for performance evaluation of the 2007-2008 programme of work (ECE/TIM/2007/5)

6. The Committee is expected to discuss and agree on accomplishments to be achieved in the 2008-2009 biennium for each of its clusters of activities. To this end, the Committee will have before it a document containing draft expected accomplishments for the sub-programme's clusters, prepared by the secretariat. Starting in 2009, the Committee will be requested to evaluate to what extent these accomplishments were achieved (on the basis of accomplishment accounts to be drafted by the secretariat).

7. Under the same agenda item, the Committee will be invited to review a proposal for the strategic framework for 2010-2011 for its sub-programme on the basis of a draft by the secretariat.

8. These items will be taken up in Spring 2008 within the framework of the Strategic Review (see item 4) of the integrated programme of work.

Item 6. Market developments in 2007 and prospects for 2008 (ECE/TIM/2007/6)

9. For the first time, delegations from the Committee will meet together for joint market discussions with delegations from the International Softwood Conference. They will be invited to review developments in 2007 and prospects for 2008 on the basis of: the *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2006-2007 (Geneva Timber and Forest Study Paper, ECE/TIM/SP/22)*, countries' joint written statements, countries' joint market forecasts and expert presentations. An agreed statement synthesizing the discussions and forecasts will be prepared during the session and published immediately afterwards as a press release. A note by the secretariat will provide further information for the joint market discussions and country market statements.

(a) Market discussions

10. This first meeting with the International Softwood Conference offers an occasion to focus on softwood markets. The market discussions will also be linked to the theme of the policy forum, which will be “Opportunities and impacts of bio-energy policies and targets on the forest and other sectors”. The discussions will include the following topics:

- (a) Forest products market and policy developments
- (b) Softwood market developments and forecasts
- (c) Public procurement and green building policies
- (d) CE¹ marking and high-quality machine stress grading
- (e) Best practices in wood promotion
- (f) Main economic developments affecting forest products markets
- (g) Wood raw material market developments and forecasts
- (h) Wood energy markets and policies
- (i) Markets for modified softwood products
- (j) Certification impacts on softwood markets
- (k) Panel market developments and forecasts
- (l) Sawn hardwoods market development and forecasts
- (m) Paper, paperboard and woodpulp markets

(b) Joint country market statements (printed and electronic format)

11. Timber Committee and International Softwood delegations are reminded that their joint country market statements in English, French or Russian, are expected to reach the secretariat² **by 11 September 2007**. In preparing the country statements, delegations are requested to refer to specific instructions, which will be provided in a secretariat note. Country reports are requested in both printed and electronic format. The printed country report (200 copies) will be distributed on the first day of the session, and an electronic copy will be posted in advance on the Timber Committee/European Forestry Commission website: <http://www.unece.org/trade/timber>.

(c) Joint country forecasts

12. Country forecasts for 2007 and 2008 (prepared on the basis of the Timber Committee Questionnaire to be sent out by the secretariat at the end of July 2007) **should be submitted not later than 11 September 2007**. Supplementary copies of the questionnaire may be obtained from the secretariat on request, or from the website.

¹ CE marking is a declaration by the manufacturer that the product meets all the appropriate provisions of the relevant legislation implementing certain European Directives. CE marking gives companies easier access into the European market to sell their products without adaptation or rechecking. The initials "CE" do not stand for any specific words but are a declaration by the manufacturer that his product meets the requirements of the applicable European Directive(s).

² UNECE/FAO Timber Section, UNECE Trade and Timber Division, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, Fax +41 22 917 0041, E-mail: info.timber@unece.org

(d) Drafting Committee

13. It is proposed that the Drafting Committee for the Timber Committee Market Statement meet at 08:30 hours on Thursday, 11 October 2007, to consider the draft of the report concerning market developments and prospects, which will be approved by the Committee under item 11 of the provisional agenda.

Item 7. UNECE/FAO Policy Forum: Opportunities and impacts of bio-energy policies and targets on the forest and other sectors (ECE/TIM/2007/7)

14. The theme of the one-day policy forum on 10 October 2007 will be “Opportunities and impacts of bio-energy policies and targets on the forest and other sectors”. The Joint UNECE/FAO Policy Forum will build on the conclusions and recommendations from the Workshop on Mobilizing Wood Resources held in January 2007 in Geneva. The Policy Forum will focus on possible impacts and consequences of increased wood utilization on and by other sectors and other geographical regions.

15. Participation is open to government policy makers, experts from NGOs, scientific bodies, industry and trade organizations, national and international certification schemes, private forest owners’ organizations and international organizations. Representation will be global. A secretariat note will provide further information about the speakers and the organisation of the Policy Forum. Further information on the forum is available on the UNECE/FAO Timber Section website:

<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/docs/tc-sessions/tc-65/policyforum/welcome.htm>

Item 8. Review of activities since the sixty-fourth session and programme of work to 2008 (ECE/TIM/2007/8)

16. The Committee will be informed of activities since the sixty-fourth session and invited to comment, and to approve its programme through 2008.

17. The Committee will also be invited to comment and approve the proposed “Pan-European Forestry Week” planned for 2008, a joint meeting between the Timber Committee, the European Forestry Commission, and possibly the MCPFE and other partners. A draft concept note on this event will be circulated before the meeting.

Item 9. Election of officers

18. In accordance with its Rules of Procedure and established practice, the Committee is expected to elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, who will hold office until the end of the sixty-sixth session. At the sixty-fourth session, Mr. Johann Dengg (Germany), Chairman, and Mr. Heikki Pajuoja (Finland) and Mr. Branko Glavojic (Serbia), Vice-Chairmen, were elected to hold office until the end of the sixty-fifth session.

Item 10. Any other business

19. At the time of writing, the secretariat has no points to propose under this item.

Item 11. Date and place of next session

20. It is proposed that the sixty-sixth session of the Timber Committee be held in conjunction with the thirty-fourth session of the FAO European Forestry Commission, as planned every four years, and possibly include meetings and joint events with other partners during the proposed “Pan-European Forestry Week”. The date and place of the “Pan-European Forestry Week” will be decided later (see also item 7 above).

Item 12. Adoption of the report

21. The Committee will be invited to adopt its report on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. According to the UNECE Plan of Action, the report will be short and decision oriented. However, the Committee will be invited to approve formally the market statement based on the discussions under item 5, and approved by the Drafting Committee on 11 October 2007, Thursday morning.

III. TENTATIVE TIMETABLE

Monday, 8 October 2007	
OPENING	
10.00	Opening of the session
	Item 1. Adoption of the agenda
	Item 2. Matters arising from the UNECE session
	Item 3. UNECE/FAO in a changing international environment
	Item 4. Planning for the 2007-2008 Strategic Review
	Item 5. Planning for performance evaluation of the 2007-2008 programme of work
Side meeting 1	International Softwood Conference, private discussions, producers/ exporters
Side meeting 2	International Softwood Conference, private discussions, users/ importers
15.00	Item 6. Market developments Joint Timber Committee/ International Softwood Conference market discussions "Softwood markets and policies"
Tuesday, 9 October 2007	
10.00	Item 6. Market developments (continued) Joint Timber Committee/ International Softwood Conference market discussions "Softwood related market sectors: competition and synergies"
Wednesday, 10 October 2007	
10.00	Item 7. Policy forum: Opportunities and Impacts of Bio-energy Policies and Targets on the Forests and Other Sectors
Thursday, 11 October 2007	
08.30	Drafting Committee (no interpretation)
10.00	Item 7 Summary of the Policy Forum Item 8 Review of activities since the sixty-fourth session and programme of work to 2008 Item 9 Election of officers Item 10 Any other business Item 11 Date and place of next session Item 12 Adoption of the report
15.00	Meeting of the UNECE Executive Committee and the Timber Committee Bureau



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

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Date _____

*Please Print and send by fax to 0041-22-917 0041 or by email: Cynthia.de.castro@unece.org
(BRING THE ORIGINAL with you to Geneva. An additional form is required for spouses.)*

TITLE OF CONFERENCE

Will attend:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	65th Session of the UNECE Timber Committee, 8-11 October 2007 (ALL EVENTS)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Market Discussions, 8-9 October 2007 only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy Forum, 10 October 2007 only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Team of Specialists on Forest Products markets and Marketing, 11-12 October 2007 only

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organization or Agency

Mr.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Participant's Family Name/Surname	First Name
Mrs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Ms.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date of Birth <input style="width: 15%; text-align: center;" type="text"/> / <input style="width: 15%; text-align: center;" type="text"/> / <input style="width: 15%; text-align: center;" type="text"/>	

Participation Category

Head of Delegation <input type="checkbox"/>	Observer Organization <input type="checkbox"/>	Participating
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ANNEX – MAP OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA (Simplified)

