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Timber Committee

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Review of activities since the sixty-seventh session, Programme of work and performance evaluation

Review of activities since the sixty-seventh session, programme of work and performance evaluation

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This document describes the implementation of the programme of work since 2009, for information and review by the Committee; it highlights expected activities and outputs 2010-2011, for guidance and endorsement by the Committee.

The Committee will be presented with a proposal to include the activities of *Silva Mediterranea* and the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds into the Strategic Plan of the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work for the period 2008-2013.

This document also addresses the strengthening of the work on forest policy and management by streamlining the work of the Teams of Specialists and through the establishment of a Working Party on Forest Policy and Management. It also assesses the current work of the Working Party on Forest Economic and Statistics and suggests ways to strengthen its work.

The Committee is invited to take note of the activities under the programme of work; to endorse the list of the outputs planned for 2010-2011; to approve amendments to the mandates of the Teams of Specialists and the establishment of the Working Party on Forest Policy and Management, and to provide guidance on all aspects of the Programme of Work.

I. Introduction

1. As in previous years, this agenda item presents an opportunity to brief the Timber Committee on the implementation of the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Timber Committee (TC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) European Forestry Commission (EFC) and planned future activities. This background document is prepared on the basis of the request by the Committee at its sixty-sixth session (ECE/TIM/2008/9).

II. Planned Activities under the Work Programme

2. At its sixty-sixth session, the TC, jointly with the EFC approved the Strategic Plan of the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work for the period 2008-2013 (ECE/TIM/2008/7). The different programme elements, as approved in the Strategic Plan, are presented in Annex 1, along with the outputs planned for 2010-2011.

3. At its meeting of 24-25 February 2010, the joint Bureaux reviewed the 2008-2009 biennial evaluation for each of the four clusters of activities. The results of the review are being communicated to the Committee through document ECE/TIM/2010/6/INF, together with the proposed cluster-level framework for the next biennial evaluations 2010-2011.

4. At its thirty-fifth session, the EFC, on the basis of a proposal of the joint Bureaux of the Committee and the Commission, decided to amend the Strategic Plan of the Integrated Programme of Work on Timber and Forestry so as to fully integrate all the subsidiary bodies of the Commission. The activities of *Silva Mediterranea* and the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds are therefore now included in the Strategic Plan.

5. The thirty-second session of the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (WPFES) called for the collection of wood energy statistics (carried out once per biennium) to be made a specific part of the programme of work in addition to the analysis which is already mentioned under Work Area 3. The Working Party suggested it be brought under Work Area 1 and have sufficient resources allocated to carry out the work. The wood energy work was deemed by the Working Party to be essential and a strong complement to the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire.

III. Work of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Teams of Specialists

6. The mandates of the Teams of Specialists (ToS) are presented in annex II. All ToS have been invited to review their mandates 2008-2010, renewable until 2013. The mandates of the ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management and the ToS on Forest Fire have been reviewed and updated. It was agreed that, as presently constituted, the ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, was not able to contribute effectively to its first objective related to Work Area 5. The first objective of the ToS was therefore deleted. Besides, an amendment has been inserted to precisely reflect its contribution on quantitative indicators in the preparation and review of the next State of Europe's Forests report. The mandate of the ToS on Forest Fire was also amended to better reflect current and future challenges of the team.

IV. Strengthening the work on forest policy and sustainable forest management by streamlining the work of the Teams of Specialists: establishing a Working Party on Forest Policy and Management; strengthening of the Working Party of Forest Economics and Statistics

A. Introduction

7. This proposal is the outcome of informal discussions and exchanges among the secretariat and the Bureaux and some chairs of ToSs and it reflects considerations made at UNECE and FAO meetings, on the need to:

(a) Strengthen the focus on policy-relevant topics within the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work of the TC and the EFC;

(b) Enhance understanding of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in the region and discuss main challenges;

(c) Foster communication and inter-action among ToSs;

(d) Improve the use of work of the ToSs to inform the discussions undertaken in the TC and the EFC;

(e) Fully implement the recommendations of the ECE reform and align current practices with UNECE guidelines and rules.

8. In particular, the proposal reflects the need to mobilize expertise on forest policy and management from within the forest sector and enhance the capacity to communicate about related needs and challenges with policy makers within and outside of the sector. More and more decisions affecting forests are taken outside of the forest sector, in particular in the UNECE region, given the proliferation of regulations and agreements in areas such as trade, environment and water that impact forest-related processes. It is therefore important to help the forest community to develop a stronger voice on issues affecting its future.

B. Strengthening the technical work and advice on policy and sustainable forest management

9. The understanding of the benefits and challenges of SFM and policies in the UNECE region needs to be reinforced. This goal is well reflected in the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work for the UNECE region; however, activities in this regard could be further enhanced. This has been noted by the ECE reform, as well as other forums and meetings, and has led to the increase of staff resources within the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber section in Geneva dealing with policy issues.

10. At its thirty-fifth session, the EFC also noticed the limited synergies between the forest and other communities (such as climate, water and biodiversity) and the need to strengthen the visibility and appreciation of the multiple roles that forests and SFM have for other sectors, including as the basis for developing and implementing mitigation and adaptation measures for climate change.

11. Thus, despite current efforts, more could be done to make sure that SFM is given appropriate attention at the technical level within UNECE, FAO and other regional processes. It is necessary to raise the profile of SFM vis-à-vis other sectors and gain a better understanding of its meaning in different national contexts. Efforts in this direction are often scattered, and undertaken through ad-hoc workshops addressing specific subjects,

or through recurrent analytical studies, such as the State of Europe's Forests (SoEF). However, the findings from this work need to be better mainstreamed in the policy-relevant discussions of bodies such as the TC and the EFC.

12. The overall objective of the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work is "to strengthen the forest sector and its contribution to sustainable development throughout the ECE region". To fulfil this objective there is therefore a need to exchange information, views and experiences among member States on the general socio-economic implications of improved SFM policy systems and on integrating SFM into development policies as a tool to contribute to economic growth and improved social standards in the region.

13. To this end, the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work benefits from the input of ToSs, which are meant to provide expert advice to member States on key issues related to forest policy and SFM. However, their advice and support is not fully utilized in the discussions and deliberations of UNECE/FAO bodies and, therefore, is also not being fully considered at the political and decision-making levels outside the forest sector.

C. Streamlining the work of Teams of Specialists and strengthening policy discussions

14. In order to strengthen the input of ToSs to the Integrated Programme of Work and the TC and EFC, those ToSs that develop information that addresses SFM and other important policy and management issues need to report and exchange views with member States on: main shared challenges; the identification of emerging issues (such as for instance adaptation to climate change in forests, payment of ecosystem services, pests and diseases and their link to climatic changes, and new challenges to the forestry sector); and priorities for action. However, a forum or body where such an exchange among experts could take place is currently missing.

15. It is thus suggested to establish a Working Party on Forest Policy and Management (WPFPM) to fulfil this role. This is meant to be a joint UNECE/FAO body, as in the case of the WPFES, through the endorsement of the TC and the EFC.

D. Draft Terms of Reference

16. The Working Party on Forest Policy and Management would fill the gap described above and implement the following tasks:

- (a) Contribute and provide technical advice to the EFC, TC and other regional and global forest related processes;
- (b) Identify emerging policy and management issues through the advice and support of the ToSs throughout the UNECE region;
- (c) Receive and discuss the reports from ToSs relevant to forest policies and management in order to: enhance a mutual understanding of mandates and work; identify possible synergies; and facilitate the exchange of experiences between ToSs and member State delegations;
- (d) Discuss the mandates of ToSs and emerging issues that relevant ToSs should address;
- (e) Discuss and identify the main policy and management challenges for the forest sector to become priorities for future work of ToSs;

(f) Enhance the understanding of key forest policies and management issues, including SFM in the region and discuss main challenges with ToSs and member Countries' experts;

(g) Suggest issues related to forest policy and SFM for the consideration of the EFC, as the main body addressing forest policy and management issues in the region as well as market and forest product related policy and management issues (see for instance wood energy) for the attention of the TC;

(h) Reach out to other sectors to discuss policy and management related matters of common interest, including best practices in SFM and their impact on the overall sustainability of forests, natural resource management and other issues such as biodiversity and climate change;

(i) Organize workshops to be held at the Working Party session;

(j) Increase the visibility and the impact of the work of the ToSs among member States and within the United Nations system at large.

17. Further to the proposed terms of reference above, and in accordance with the UNECE Guidelines for the Establishment and Functioning of Working Parties, the WPFPM would also be expected to:

(a) Develop a plan of work on forest policy and management based on the ToSs work and in support of the Strategic Plan of the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work on Timber and Forestry;

(b) Review the work and status of the ToSs.

E. Strengthening the Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics

18. The activities of the WPFES have, with time, drifted away from its original mandate. This generally reflects the need and ability of the Working Party to focus on those topics of main interest to its participants.

19. The establishment of a WPFPM also offers an opportunity to rethink the current structure and to identify those areas where the WPFES should renew its focus and identify new key functions. The WPFES should:

(a) As reflected in the name of the Working Party, address economic and statistical issues of forests as a whole and not be limited to products. This would allow the Working Party to reach out to other communities involved in forest management, and discuss common challenges (for instance in issues such as payment for ecosystem services or forest carbon markets);

(b) Clarify the statistical work to be undertaken, being careful to avoid any overlaps with the Eurostat Working Group on Forestry Statistics or any other organizations;

(c) Continue to review the implementation of the PoW, in particular working areas 1, 2, and 3 but strengthen its advisory role on how to address identified gaps;

(d) Identify emerging issues on forest economics and forest products that would need to be discussed and brought to the attention of the TC and EFC.

20. It is suggested that the WPFES revise its current terms of reference at its next meeting, to make sure that the body responds to current needs, identifies and fulfils strategic functions within UNECE/FAO processes, and its work is fully supported and of interest to member States, thus also contributing to a better participation in its meetings.

F. A new structure for Teams of Specialists' reporting and their interaction

21. Seven Teams of Specialists are established under the UNECE/FAO joint programme of work, as follows:

1. ToS on Forest Products Markets and Marketing
2. ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management
3. ToS on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
4. ToS on Forest Fire
5. Forest Communicators Network
6. Joint UNECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network to Implement Sustainable Forest Management
7. ToS on Forest Sector Outlook.

22. The current structure (see Fig. 1) lacks coordination and does not favour interaction among ToSs. This, in turn, limits cross fertilization and the possibilities for joint work around topical issues in support of the UNECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work on Timber and Forestry.

23. At the moment, three ToSs on: (a) forest products markets and marketing, (b) monitoring SFM and (c) forest sector outlook, report to the WPFES. This allows them to fulfil their reporting duties, provide information and knowledge while the WPFES may review and advise on the development of the work in the context of each of the ToS. At the same time, no joint discussions take place, thus limiting exchanges on the more policy related aspects of the work of ToSs. Indeed, WPFES discussions focus mainly on markets and statistics, and do not address policy issues or matters pertaining to SFM.

24. The other four ToSs report directly to the joint TC and EFC Bureaux. No exchanges or discussions of common challenges take place during these sessions, mainly dedicated to reporting. Besides, member State delegations that are not part of the Bureau do not participate. So far, no forum has been identified to foster exchanges among the ToSs apart from a one time meeting that was held on 2 April 2009 between the extended joint TC and EFC Bureaux and the leaders of the ToSs. This meeting led to the identification of synergies amongst the ToSs, and a recommendation to hold more of these joint discussions in the future, in particular to repeat this exercise as the basis for the strategic review of the programme of work. However, at this stage no permanent forum exists for these discussions or for their follow-up.

25. From a more procedural standpoint, it should be noted that the current arrangement for the four ToSs to report to the Bureaux is unusual as, according to the UNECE guidelines and procedures as well as established practices in UN organizations, ToSs should normally report directly to their parent bodies.

G. Being cost-effective and delivering value

26. The WPFPM could be established without creating any significant additional burden on the Secretariat or member States' resources, since the Working Party will:

- (a) Benefit from the input and exchanges of ToSs, information which is currently shared only with the Bureaux;

(b) Hold sessions lasting no longer than two to three working days, of which one will be dedicated to a policy discussion in a workshop organized jointly by the two Working Parties (to replace the one day of policy discussions already organized by the WPFES). This would stimulate discussion of common challenges and participation by different audiences;

(c) Follow the same working procedures as the WPFES;

(d) Avoid the proliferation of ad hoc policy workshops organized intersessionally requiring the participation of representative of member States at different times of the year, and establish priorities for issues to be addressed intersessionally. The reduction of the number of intersessional ad hoc meetings and the clustering of discussions related to statistics, economics, policy and management in the same week will reduce participation costs of delegates as well as organisation costs, while allowing to cover the same amount of substantive discussions;

(e) Stimulate interaction and cooperation between ToSs which are currently under-utilized; also by inviting ToSs meetings to be held in the same week of WPs session;

(f) Allow both working parties to provide conclusions that will feed into the agenda of the TC and the EFC;

(g) Foster a better understanding of the linkages between the ToSs and the Working Parties, including how the work of the WPs relates to other processes such as Forest Europe and their work programmes.

27. With regard to the last point, it is proposed that each ToS, as part of the regular report on its activities, identify key challenges for its work. These challenges would be discussed at the meeting of the appropriate working party. A consolidated list of economics (from WPFES) and policy/management (from WPFPM) challenges would then be included in the reports of the meetings and would provide input for discussions at TC and EFC.

28. As the creation of a new body is often perceived by member States as an additional burden, the added value of this body should be clear and acceptable to them. It is thus important to make sure that the new mechanism is both cost effective and delivering value. To ensure that the new proposed format does not require additional resources from the Secretariat and member States for its functioning, it is proposed to use the current four day session of the WPFES (usually shortened to three) as follows, in order to cover both meetings of the Working Party as well as the joint policy workshop:

Table 1: Current WPFES session

<i>Day 1</i>	<i>Day 2</i>	<i>Day 3</i>	<i>Day 4</i>
Workshop	WPFES regular session	WPFES regular session	WPFES regular session ¹

Table 2: Proposed sequence of WPFES and WPFPM

<i>Day 1</i>	<i>Day 2</i>	<i>Day 3</i>	<i>Day 4</i>
WPFES regular session	Joint workshop	WPFPM regular session	Available for WPFES or WPFPM either as ½ day session for both, or one extra day for one of the two, when necessary

¹ The WPFES session consist of four working days (eight half day sessions), but the fourth day is often not utilized.

29. To stimulate participation from member States, the secretariat will inform them well in advance of the issues to be discussed both in the joint policy workshop and under the guidance of the ToSs.

30. This restructuring should also offer an opportunity to discuss WP and ToS membership, to make sure that:

- (a) Roles, mandates and expectations are clear;
- (b) Appointment of members is based on the roles and mandates;
- (c) Inactive members could be replaced by experts willing to contribute to the processes.

31. To streamline the work of both bodies it is proposed that the ToS on Forest Products Markets and Marketing and the ToS on Monitoring SFM continue to report to the WPFES, given the convergence of interest and issues addressed by these teams and the Working Party. However, it is suggested that all other ToSs report to the WPFPM, given the relevance of their topics to the policy and management discussions and the direct contribution to the work of these teams to the TC and the EFC. The ToSs on the Forest Sector Outlook and Forest Fire could also contribute to the WPFES, when the need arises, on relevant data/statistics related to their areas of responsibility. Representatives of the ToS on Forest Products Markets and Marketing and the ToS on Monitoring SFM should also participate in the WPFPM, to ensure that its processes are aware of the potential contributions of the work areas covered by these two teams, as well as to maintain liaison and identify synergies in work with the other ToSs (see Fig. 2).

32. If the establishment of new ToSs is proposed, and their main tasks would have either a policy or a management focus, they should also report directly to the WPFPM. Likewise, should the focus be more oriented towards forest economics or statistics, they should report directly to the WPFES.

V. Recommendations

The Timber Committee is requested to consider and review the proposals above, and:

- 1. Approve the list of planned outputs for the period October 2010-October 2011;**
- 2. Endorse the decision of the EFC to include the activities of *Silva Mediterranea* and the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds in the Strategic Plan;**
- 3. Consider the proposal to make the collection of wood energy statistics a specific part of the programme of work under Work Area 1 and decide if the analysis of wood energy, an activity currently under Work Area 3, should also be placed under Work Area 1;**
- 4. Review and approve the mandates of the ToSs;**
- 5. Endorse the establishment of a Working Party on Forest Policy and Management and endorse its preliminary Terms of Reference, for the final consideration and approval of the Executive Committee of the UNECE;**
- 6. Invite the FAO European Forestry Commission to endorse the proposal on the establishment of a Working Party on Forest Policy and Management as a joint subsidiary body and endorse its drafts Terms of Reference;**
- 7. Agree that an organizational meeting of the Working Party on Forest Policy and Management be held in early 2010, to better define its roles and terms of**

reference, for the final consideration and approval of the joint TC and EFC session in 2011. The meeting will also allow a first exchange amongst ToSs and the identification of relevant policy priorities to be shared with the joint EFC/TC session;

8. Request the WPFES to review its terms of reference and programme of work in the light of the points raised for review in the text above;
9. Invite the chairpersons of all the ToSs to liaise with the secretariat and prepare for the upcoming sessions of the WPFES and WPFPM and related discussions.

Figure 1
Current organizational setting for Team of Specialists' reporting

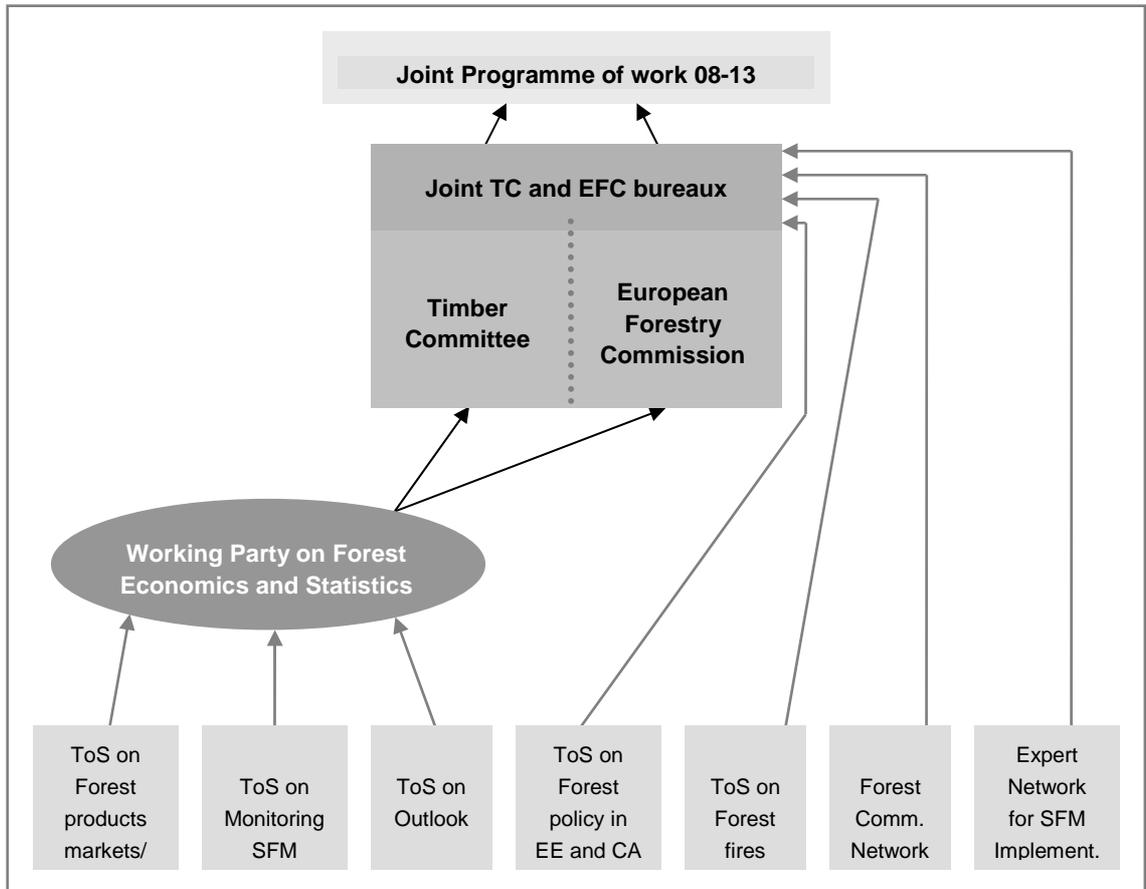
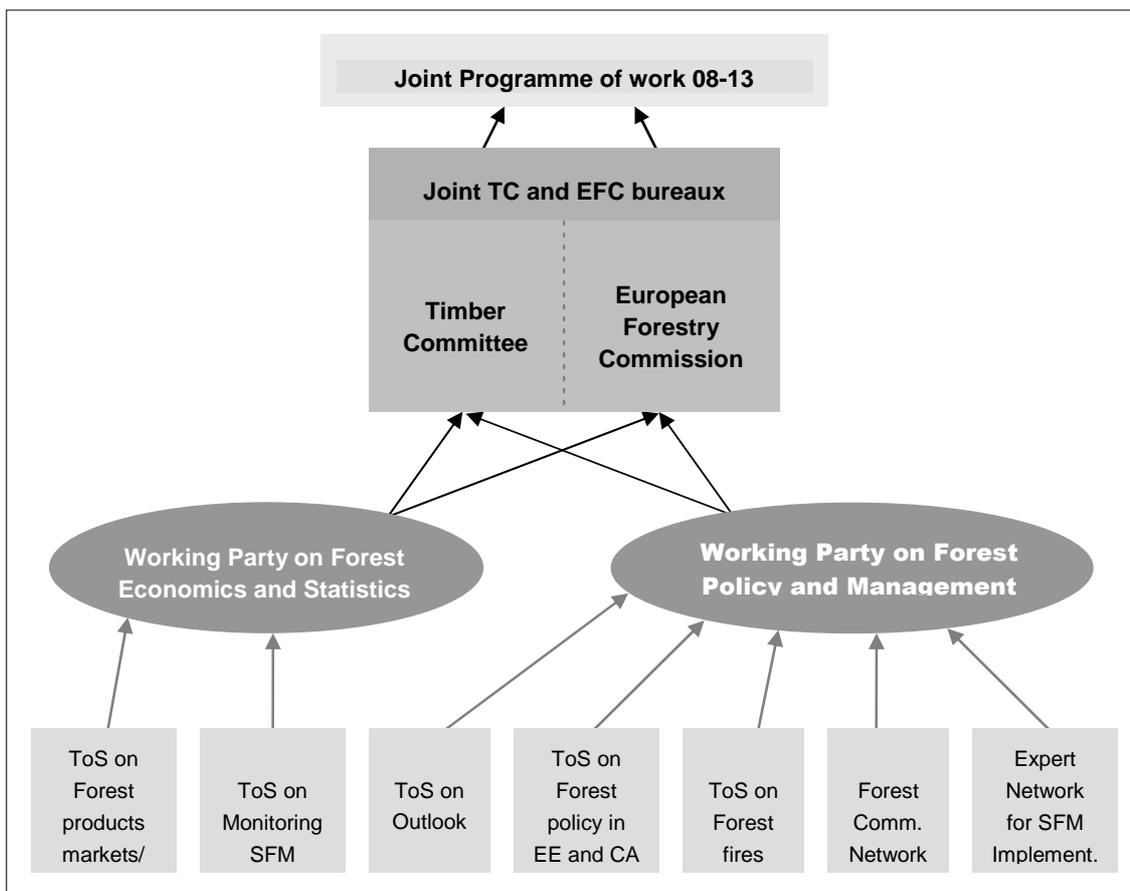


Figure 2
Proposed organizational setting for Team of Specialists reporting, including the establishment of a Working Party on Policy for Sustainable Forest Management



Annex I

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations European Forestry Commission and United Nations Economic Commission For Europe Timber Committee

Integrated Programme of Work on Timber and Forestry

List of projected outputs October 2010 – October 2011, by programme element of the Strategic Plan 2008-2013

1. Work Area 1 – Markets and Statistics

Programme elements

- 1.1 Collecting, validating and disseminating statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products
 - 1.1.1 Statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products, including certified products, for 2009 (collection, validation, publication)
- 1.2 Analysis of markets for forest products, notably topical and policy relevant aspects, including *Forest Products Annual Market Review* and annual Timber Committee Market Discussions
 - 1.2.1 UNECE/FAO *Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2010-2011*
 - 1.2.2 UNECE Timber Committee Market Discussions, October 2011
 - 1.2.3 Meetings of Team of Specialists on Forest Products Markets and Marketing
- 1.3 Implementing sustainable forest management through capacity building for forest products marketing
 - 1.3.1 Workshop on forest products marketing, Macedonia 2010, Slovenia 2011
- 1.4 Monitoring and analysis of markets and policies for certified wood products, including public procurement and green building
 - 1.4.1 UNECE conference on “Green building and climate change: From science to policies,” 2011
- 1.5 Collecting and disseminating forest fire statistics
 - 1.5.1 Collection of forest fire data through FRA 2010 and quantitative indicators for sustainable forest management

2. Work Area 2 – Forest Resources Assessment

Programme elements

- 2.1 Collecting, validating and disseminating information according to criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management
 - 2.1.1 Updating of the interactive database on pan-European indicators

- 2.2 Regional contribution to FAO Forest Resource Assessment 2015
- 2.2.1 Cooperation on preparation of expert consultations on global forest resources assessment – Kotka VI
- 2.3 Implementing sustainable forest management through support to developing national systems for forest monitoring*
- 2.3.1 Collection of national reports on state of forests and sustainable forest management
- 2.4 Improving information on forest types
- 2.4.1 Preparation of the final report from pilot implementation of the new forest types
- 2.5 Reporting on and analysis of the state of forests in the UNECE region
- 2.5.1 Meetings of the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, and the Advisory Group on the next Report on the State of Forests in Europe, December 2010, Geneva
- 2.5.2 Preparation of key findings on State of Europe's Forests 2011
- 2.5.3 Preparation of the main report on State of Europe's Forests 2011
- 2.6 Monitoring and analyzing forest ownership and tenure

3. Work Area 3 – Forest Sector Outlook

Programme elements

- 3.1 Preparing European Forest Sector Outlook Studies
- 3.1.1 Meetings of Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook and Core Group to prepare for next European Forest Outlook Study
- 3.2 Contribution to FAO State of the World's Forests Report
- 3.2.1 European regional contribution in 2011
- 3.3 Analysing climate change issues relevant to the forest sector
- 3.3.1 Policy Forum on Forests and Climate Change in 2011
- 3.4 Analysing energy-related issues, including demand and supply for wood energy
- 3.4.1 Discussion paper of results of the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry 2009
- 3.5 Collecting, validating, and disseminating information and analysis of wood availability and potential wood supply

4. Work Area 4 – Social and Cultural Issues

Programme elements

- 4.1 Implementing sustainable forest management through promoting occupational safety and health
- 4.1.1 Meeting of the Joint UNECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network on Implementing Sustainable Forest Management

* Elements marked with an asterisk imply that extra-budgetary funding is required.

- 4.2 Implementing sustainable forest management through promoting best practice in forest education and training
- 4.2.1 Meeting of the Joint UNECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network on Implementing Sustainable Forest Management
- 4.3 Monitoring trends as regards gender and forestry
- 4.4 Implementing sustainable forest management through promoting best practice for forest contractors

5. Work Area 5 – Policy and Cross-Sectoral Issues

Programme elements

- 5.1 Contribution to the global dialogue on forests
- 5.1.1 Contribution to COFO 2011
- 5.2 Monitoring recent developments in forest sector policies, legislation and institutions, including national forest programmes
- 5.2.1 Publication of chapter on qualitative indicators for the State of Europe's Forests report 2011
- 5.2.2 Update of information repository on policies and institutions in Europe, comprising the pan-European qualitative indicators for sustainable forest management.
- 5.3 Analysing developments in forest sector policies, legislation and institutions, including interactions with other sectors
- 5.3.1 Publication of "Finding forests: a sourcebook on international institutions and policy tools addressing the European forest sector".
- 5.4 Implementing sustainable forest management through capacity building for forest policies and institutions*
- 5.4.1 Meeting of Team of Specialists on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- 5.5 Organizing policy forums on major topical issues
- 5.5.1 Joint UNECE/FAO Policy Forum 2011
- 5.6 Exchanging information on improving management of wildland fires
- 5.6.1 Meeting of Team of Specialists on Forest Fire
- 5.6.2 Workshop on Forest Fire
- 5.7 Improving sectoral and cross-sectoral exchange and communication
- 5.7.1 Meeting of Forest Communicators Network
(Ongoing activities and exchange with other UNECE committees and organizations)
- 5.8 Producing forest and forest products country profiles*
(Temporarily suspended, following discussion with the Bureaux of alternative options)

6. Sessions of intergovernmental bodies**Programme elements**

- 6.1 FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, Thirty-third session, Geneva, 2011
- 6.2 Working Party on Policy for Sustainable Forest Management, First session, Geneva, 2011
- 6.3 UNECE Timber Committee, Sixty-ninth session, Geneva, October 2011.

Annex II

Proposed Strategic Framework for the period 2012-2013 United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Subprogramme 7

I. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Markets and Marketing

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 1

Programme elements 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4

A. Objectives

To contribute to the sustainable development of forest products markets in the UNECE region:

1. Provide a forum for discussion of forest products marketing in the UNECE region. In particular, contribute to the UNECE Timber Committee annual market discussions and thereby advise UNECE/FAO on forest products market developments.
2. Advise the UNECE/FAO secretariat on implementation of Work Area 1, focusing on its products and publications, and undertaking studies as appropriate.
3. Provide assistance in marketing in the UNECE region, especially to central and eastern European countries, through information collection, analysis and dissemination, and capacity building.
4. Maintain and expand the international network and forums for discussion on forest products markets and marketing.

B. Expected major outputs

1. Contribution to Timber Committee market discussions and workshop(s) on relevant topics, including the market effects of green building policies, corporate social responsibility in forest products marketing and trade, public procurement policies, wood energy, and other topics, in line with the work programme.
2. Advice on market-related publications and products, including the provision of expertise in the production and technical reviews of the Forest Products Annual Market Review.
3. Participation in wood energy market study in conjunction with the secretariat's long-term outlook study for wood energy.
4. Maintenance and expansion of the "Current Issues Website" (<http://www.lfpdc.lsu.edu/unece/>) to collect and share with a wider community forest products marketing information, and the Forest Products Marketing Distance Learning Website (<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber/mis/forest-products-marketing-links.htm>)
5. Maintenance and expansion of the "Forest Products Marketing & Business Management Reference List."

C. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Duration:	From 2008 to 2010, renewable to 2013
Methods of work:	To be determined by the team
Reporting:	Once a year to the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
Team leader:	Leader: Professor R. Vlosky (United States) Deputy Leaders: Professor B. Glavonjic (Serbia) Professor E. Akim (Russian Federation)
Responsible secretariat member:	Ed Pepke

II. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Areas 2 and 5
Programme elements 2.1 – 2.6, 5.2, 5.3

A. Objectives

1. Contribute to the coordination of reporting on criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management by MCPFE and Montreal process countries;
2. Support the regional contribution to the global Forest Resource Assessment FRA;
3. Strengthen the strategic discussion of the monitoring of sustainable forest management;
4. Improve countries' reporting capacities and support development of national systems of forest monitoring;
5. Provide advice on the implementation of the framework on forest types;
6. Contribute to the institutional cooperation on monitoring of forests;
7. Maintain and expand the international network and forums for discussion on forest resources and the monitoring of sustainable forest management.

B. Expected major outputs

1. Regional contribution to Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010;
2. Assistance in the preparation and review of the next report on the State of Forests in Europe, for the Oslo Ministerial Conference: including advice on enquiries, definitions etc., covering quantitative indicators;
3. Improved reporting capacity of countries weak in reporting on criteria and indicators for the State of Europe's Forests Report 2007;
4. Guidance on the implementation of the forest type classification.

C. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Duration:	From 2008 to 2010, renewable to 2013
Methods of work:	To be determined by the team
Reporting:	Once a year to the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
Team leader:	Leader: Simon Gillam (United Kingdom) Deputy Leaders: Andrius Kuliešis (Lithuania) Brad Smith (United States)
Responsible secretariat member:	Roman Michalak

III. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Policy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 5
Programme elements 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.7, 5.8

A. Objectives

To enhance effectiveness of international activities intended to support and contribute to sustainable development of the forest sector in eastern Europe and central Asia, notably through:

1. Strengthened forest management and marketing;
2. Strengthened policies and institutions;
3. Improved forest information management and communication;
4. Identifying emerging issues and facilitating dialogue and discussion on important policy and cross-sectoral aspects;
5. Better integrating countries of eastern Europe and central Asia in international networks and forums for discussion of forest sector issues in Eastern Europe and Central Asia;
6. Advising the UNECE/FAO secretariat in the dissemination of its products in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and in the implementation of Work Area 5;
7. Monitoring implementation of the “Strategy for UNECE/FAO Activities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia,” and UNECE/FAO activities on implementing sustainable forest management.

B. Expected major outputs

The team will identify priority issues in countries in the region and promote a transparent regional discussion of priorities and best practice in reforming policies and institutions in the sector. It will advise the UNECE/FAO Secretariat, on the implementation of their programmes within the framework of the integrated programme of work. In this context, the Team focuses on the policy and institutional dimension of the work. It will:

1. Guide the development of a publication on Forest Policies and Institutions in Eastern Europe;
2. Improve exchange of information and experiences on forest sector policies and institutions between member countries;
3. Raise awareness of existing forest policy information and networks;
4. Promote better integration of countries into international policy networks;
5. Improve public awareness on forest sector issues and issues of a cross-sectoral dimension in eastern Europe and central Asia;
6. Maintain the ToS website.

C. Background

Established/ Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO
Approved by: European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Duration: From 2008 to 2010, renewable to 2013

Methods of work:	To be determined by the team
Reporting:	Once a year to the joint bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee the and FAO European Forestry Commission
Team leader:	Leader: Professor Anatoly P.Petrov (Russian Federation) Deputy Leaders: Jana Jovanovska (FYR Macedonia) Alisher Shukurov (Uzbekistan)
Responsible secretariat member:	Norbert Winkler supported by UNECE/FAO (Marion Briens, Franziska Hirsch) FAO/SEC (Muzaffer Dogru) FAO Headquarters (Irina Buttoud)

IV. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Fire

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 5 *Programme element 5.6*

A. Objectives

1. To promote a continuous exchange of (new) knowledge and practices on fire management through the organization of meetings on emerging issues in Fire Management in the UNECE region and the publication of the International Forest Fire News;
2. To provide, in close cooperation and coordination with the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group / Global Wildland Fire Network, FAO, UNISDR, Council of Europe and other partners, guidance to ECE member states on forest fire management and forest fire policies, including bilateral / international cooperation of ECE member states;
3. To organise regional seminars and training workshops in fire management;

Note: In the context of this mandate the Team will continue to address all vegetation fires (“wildland fires”), including fires in the agricultural sector and in peatland / wetland biomes.

B. Expected major outputs

Time period 2008-2010:

1. Symposium on Fire Management in Cultural and Natural Landscapes, Nature Conservation and Forestry in Temperate-Boreal Eurasia (GFMC, Freiburg, Germany, 25-28 January 2008);
2. Meeting on Fire Management on Terrain Contaminated by Radioactivity, Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) and Land Mines” (Kyiv / Chernobyl, Ukraine, 6-8 October 2009);
3. Advanced Wildland Fire Management Seminar (Antalya, 1-4 March 2010);
4. Finalization of the Russian language version of the International Multi-Lingual Fire Management Terminology;
5. International meeting on Cross-boundary Fire Management (Irkutsk, Russia, 16-18 June 2010);
6. International conference on Forest Fire: Management and International Cooperation in Fire Emergencies of the Asia Pacific (Khabarovsk, Russia, 3-7 October 2010);
7. Continue online publication of IFFN.

Time period 2011-2012:

1. Support the preparation of and participate at the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference (South Africa, May 2011) with presentations on fire management in ECE member states;
2. Support the preparation of an “ECE Regional Conference on Cross-boundary Fire Management” (proposed to be held in 2011), to build on the results of the Irkutsk, Khabarovsk and South Africa conferences.

C. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Duration:	From 2008 to 2010, renewable to 2013
Methods of work:	To be determined by the team
Reporting:	Once a year to the joint bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee the and FAO European Forestry Commission
Team leader:	Leader: Johann G. Goldammer (Germany) Deputy Leaders: Andrey Eritsov (Russian Federation) Professor Nikola Nikolov (FYR Macedonia)
Responsible secretariat member:	Pieter van Lierop, FAO

IV. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists Forest Communicators Network

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: All Work Areas *Programme element 5.7*

A. Objectives

To improve the ability of the forest and forest products sector to communicate effectively, within and outside the sector, through:

1. Providing a forum for international interaction and cooperation in forest related communications;
2. Developing and introducing state of the art communication approaches.

B. Expected major outputs

1. European forest communication strategy;
2. Updated studies on public perception concerning forests, their management and related products;
3. Best practice guide on forest related environmental education (Forest Pedagogics);
4. Communication Strategy and follow up to the European Forest Week 2008 (upfront and follow up media work; evaluation of achievements and lessons learned; improved concept for future activities);
5. Preparations for the International Year of Forests 2011 (raising awareness in the region; developing a strategic outline for concerted activities of local, regional and global relevance);
6. Contributions to the EU Forest Action Plan, in particular on forest related environmental education and on a European forest communication strategy;
7. Public relations (PR) advice, upon request, to joint Bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission, and joint UNECE/FAO secretariat, to the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Markets and Marketing, to other Teams of Specialists, and to the MCPFE Liaison Unit Oslo;
8. Build PR capacity in member countries of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission through workshops and topical meetings.

C. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Duration:	From 2008 to 2010, renewable to 2013
Methods of work:	To be determined by the team
Reporting:	Once a year to the joint bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee the and FAO European Forestry Commission

Team leader:

Leader:

Ingwald Gschwandtl (Austria)

Deputy Leaders:

Marta Gaworska (CEPF)

Colin Morton (United Kingdom)

Kai Lintunen (Finland)

Tomas Kotovics (Latvia)

**Responsible secretariat
member:**

Paola Deda

VI. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists: Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Expert Network to Implement Sustainable Forest Management

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work area 4

Programme elements: 4.1, 4.2, 4.4

A. Objectives

1. The focus of the Experts Network's activities is the implementation of sustainable forest management in Europe and North America, in particular relating to social, cultural and environmental aspects, on the basis of the broad policy objectives established by the parent bodies and the MCPFE. It concentrates on a limited range of topics, for instance training, workforce, private forestry, contractors, occupational safety and health, social dimension of forestry (SFM), i.e. on human resources.
2. While all countries benefit from international cooperation, the Experts Network recognizes the special needs of some countries of the CIS and Southeast Europe, as identified in the integrated programme of work of work.

B. Expected major outputs

1. Regular exchange of information and advice on best practice and technology transfer, allied with the use of innovative information technology and communication systems;
2. International seminars and workshops which are primarily intended for forest specialists and practitioners;
3. Quality standards and analysis.

In particular:

4. Second International Forestry Training Centres Conference, Lyss, Switzerland, November 2008;
5. European qualification certificate for forestry operations (EU programme);
6. Quality and forestry training: joint quality reference standards for forestry training centres (EU programme);
7. Generalisation of use of training products on forestry safety and training;
8. Contribution to EFECT programme on forest contractors with ENFE;
9. Data base on web with concrete examples of best practice in implementing sustainable forest management.

C. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Duration:	From 2008 to 2010, renewable to 2013
Methods of work:	To be determined by the Expert Network
Reporting:	Once a year to the joint bureaux of the UNECE Timber Committee the and FAO European Forestry Commission

Team leader:

Leader:

Christian Salvignol (France)

Deputy Leaders:

Josef Herkendell (EEA)

Diarmuid McAree (Ireland)

Martin Büchel (Switzerland)

**Responsible secretariat
member:**

Paola Deda

VII. UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook

Reference to Integrated Work Programme: Work Area 3

Programme elements: 3.1, 3.4, 3.5

A. Objectives

1. Advise and support the UNECE/FAO secretariat on the methodology, implementation and follow-up of regional outlook studies: European Forest Sector Outlook Study and specific studies;
2. Monitor and analyse policy aspects of use of wood for energy generation and material use and the implications for the forest sector;
3. Monitor the use of wood for energy;
4. Provide guidance on wood availability, demands and mobilization to the Task Force on Wood Availability and Demands;
5. Contribute to the implementation of Warsaw resolution W1 "Forests wood and energy".

B. Expected major outputs

1. Provide guidance on methods, analysis and conduct of forest sector outlook studies
2. Advice on wood energy-related publications and products
3. Scenarios for production and consumption of goods and services of the forest, and for wood supply, taking into consideration all influencing factors
4. Research on the topic area, in support of forest sector outlook studies and other relevant support to policy making
5. Advice to the secretariat on implementation of the ECE/FAO/EU/IEA Joint Wood Energy Enquiry in 2008 and subsequent years

C. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint session of the UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission, Rome, 23-24 October 2008
Duration:	From 2008 to 2010, renewable to 2013
Methods of work:	To be determined by the Team. Will cooperate with the UNECE/FAO Teams of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Products Markets and Marketing
Reporting:	Once a year to the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Products Economics and Statistics

Team leader:

Leader:

Mart-Jan Schelhaas (Netherlands)

Deputy Leaders:

Tatjana Yakusheva (Russian Federation)

Jeff Prestemon (United States)

**Responsible secretariat
member:**

Franziska Hirsch
