

**ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists report to the  
thirty-ninth session of the  
Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on  
Forest Statistics, Economics and Management**

**Items for regular reporting to the JWPFSEM**

**1. Name :**

Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook  
Team [www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/policy-dialogue-and-advice/forest-sector-outlook.html](http://www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/policy-dialogue-and-advice/forest-sector-outlook.html)

**2. Period covered:**

April 2016 – March 2017

**3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:**

Leader: Mr. Mart-JAN SCHELHAAS  
Deputies: Jeff PRESTEMON, Paolo CAMIN  
Secretary: Florian STEIERER

**4. Members: (Number only)**

59 members

**5. Countries: (List separated by comma)**

25 countries: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan.

**6. Meetings held:**

Online consultation with the team for preparing the workshop in the Russian Federation, 4 November, 2016.

“Streamlining the next round of Forest Sector Outlook studies” 12 - 13 December 2016  
Moscow, Russian Federation ([www.unece.org/index.php?id=43170](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=43170) )

## **7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:**

Due to resource limitations, not preparations for the European Sector Outlook Study III are lagging behind. However, fundraising activities are gaining momentum and the ToS is working closely with the secretariat to increase the donor base. The team will aim at increasing awareness in the countries about these developments and the possibilities for contributing to the work by in kind and financial support.

In the US, activities were focussed on adaptation of the model framework, updating forest inventory, production, and trade quantities based on input from some UNECE member states, and selection of appropriate socio-economic scenarios. Preliminary results of the NAFSOS projection system have been presented in the meeting in Moscow.

The Russian Federation facilitated an expert meeting in Moscow in December 2016. This 2-day meeting was attended by 27 participants and speakers, plus two remote presentations. The overall objective of the workshop (in line with the objective of the Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook) was to be able to cover the entire UNECE region in the next Forest Sector Outlook Studies, including the Russian Federation and countries of the CIS. Participants discussed the former outlook studies conducted in Europe, North America and the Commonwealth of Independent States and how future studies could reflect different economic conditions and trends in sectors outside the forest sector (e.g., climate change, Sustainable Development Goals). A range of possible tools and methods was presented and discussed, as well as the availability of local data, methods, studies and policy documents.

## **8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:**

The following activities are foreseen for the coming year:

- Organising a team meeting in May/June 2017.
- Fundraising for EFSOS III
- NAFSOS II, including testing of an updated modeling system that could directly account for forest plantations, including the effects of climate-related forest growth productivity changes, finalizing reference scenarios, identifying and generating preliminary versions of policy scenarios, and beginning to write a draft version of this report.

The following activities were proposed and discussed in the Moscow meeting:

- Share preliminary modeling results of the North American Outlook Study with the Russian Federation;
- Assess the possibility of sending 1-2 modelling experts to Roslesinforg in order to train specialists in the use of the EFISCEN forest growth resource model;
- Web-meeting for de-briefing to the ToS and to discuss potential future meeting;
- Discuss with the Russian Federation and members of the ToS about the possibility to organize a forest products markets modeling event, back-to-back with the next ToS;

**9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party:** (if significant issues, how do we stimulate WP discussion)

The activities of the Team, particularly those related to the development of the new European Forest Sector Outlook study, are severely constrained by the resources that are allocated, both on the Secretariat side as well as for individual team members. Considerable resources are needed to produce high quality outlook studies. If resources are not sufficient, the Team proposes to not produce the outlooks rather than producing something of inferior quality.

Consider supporting the (European) Outlook Study through in kind and financial resources. More support for the Secretariat to support the team. Continued support for cooperation with the Russian Federation with the aim to have 3 interconnected outlook studies covering the whole ECE region.

**10. Activities proposed for the IPoW 2017-2021 (to be presented and discussed under Item 7)**

Production of NAFSOS II, support to production of EFSOS III, continued collaboration with the Russian Federation to support a possible RFFSOS II.

**11. Other comments:** (collaboration with other ToS)

Date: 23/02/2017