FORESTS AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Joint Session of the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission

4-7 NOVEMBER 2019 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA

More information on the joint session can be found here: www.unece.org/forests/foret2019
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Day 1 - Monday, 4.11.19</th>
<th>Day 2 - Tuesday, 5.11.19</th>
<th>Day 3 - Wednesday, 6.11.19</th>
<th>Day 4 - Thursday, 7.11.19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Official morning session</strong></td>
<td><strong>Opening/Panel sessions</strong></td>
<td><strong>Joint Committee/Commission matters</strong></td>
<td><strong>COFFI matters</strong></td>
<td><strong>EFC matters</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 10:00-13:00 | At 10:00: Opening ceremony for Forêt 2019 and the 5th European Forest Week | a) Global and Regional Forest Policy Matters  
   • The UN Strategic Plan on Forests (UNSF) and the regional input to the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF)  
   • Forests and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)  
   • Regional organizations such as Forest Europe and EFI | a) Outcome of Commission Session 2019 and relevance/implications (the subprogramme name changes) | c) Panel discussion: Emerging invasive species risk to European forests |
|            | At 10:30: Opening of the Joint Session | b) Integrated Programme of Work  
   I. Review of WiPoW  
   II. Report of the Working Party  
   III. Review of 2018-2019 activities, and activities and publications planned for 2019-2020  
   IV. Green Jobs: adoption of the guidelines  
   V. Landscape Restoration  
   VI. Renewal of Terms of Specialists | b) COFFI Rules of Procedures | d) FAO’s work on biodiversity |
|            | | c) Outcomes of the Regional Forum for Sustainable Development and the HLPF (of relevance to the work of CEF and FAO) | c) UNECE Forestry and Timber Trust Fund | e) Global processes |
|            | | d) Update on a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe (LBA) | d) Forestry and Timber subprogramme 7 Programme of Work | f) Implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and collaboration with UNFF, beyond WiPoW |
| Lunchtime | **SIDE EVENTS** | **SIDE EVENTS** | **SIDE EVENTS** | **SIDE EVENTS** |
| events     | | | | |
| 13:15-14:45 | | | | |
| **Official Afternoon Session** | **Panel sessions** | **Joint Committee/Commission matters** | **ECF matters** | **ECF matters/ Joint matters** |
| 15:00-18:00 | Panel session on Forests and the Circular Economy – a way to help achieve enhanced forest benefits (UNFF Global Forest Goal 2) | MARKET DISCUSSIONS | a) Follow-up to the decisions of the thirty-ninth session of the European Forestry Commission | i) Preparations for RCE 32 and COFO 25 (FAO governance) |
|            | | | b) Presentation of forestry activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia [extensive presentation with discussion] | j) Preparation for the XV World Forestry Congress |
|            | | | c) Progress of Silva Mediterranea and feedback from the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds | k) Election of officers, date and place of next meeting |
|            | | | | l) Any other business |
| **Evening** | **Evening activities** | **Evening activities** | **Evening activities** | **Evening activities** |
| 18:00 onwards | | | | |
Forests and the Circular Economy
European Forest Week 2017
Key messages

Europe's forests - where biodiversity lives
Forest policy in Europe has a strong focus on biodiversity. More than 30 million hectares of Europe's forests have been protected to conserve biodiversity and landscape. Over the last 15 years, the area of protected forests in Europe has increased annually by half a million hectares. More than 90 percent of European countries have specific objectives related to biodiversity.

Europe's forests - the natural carbon sink
Every year the European forest biomass sequesters an average of 719 million tonnes of CO₂. This corresponds to about 9 percent of Europe's net greenhouse gas emissions. Soil is the largest forest carbon pool, followed by the above-ground biomass, litter, below ground biomass and dead wood.

Europe's forests - for the climate!
Forests cover more than a third of Europe's land surface and the region's forest area continues to increase. Sustainably managed forests help to slow the effects of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere. Forest products provide a natural and renewable carbon neutral resource.
FORESTS

5th European Forest Week – Forests and the Circular Economy

GABRIELA KIKOŁA
How can you participate?

- Organize a side event during Forêt2019 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
- Organize an event in your country
Activities

Key messages

How can participation be increased?
Thank you!

Theresa Loeffler
UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section
20-22 May 2019, Oslo
ABOUT EUROPEAN FOREST WEEK
First celebrated in 2008, the European Forest Week provides a unique opportunity to increase the forest sector’s visibility and to influence pan-European and global discussions related to forests.