In accordance with its mandate, the Working Party is expected to provide guidance on Work Area 1: Data, Monitoring, Reporting and Assessment. This document provides information about activities in this work area since the Working Party’s last session in March 2019, as well as plans for 2020, drawing the Working Party’s attention to any specific issues where guidance is needed.

Activities in Work Area 1 for the year 2021 will be made available in document ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/inf.1.

### Summary

In accordance with its mandate, the Working Party is expected to provide guidance on Work Area 1: Data, Monitoring, Reporting and Assessment. This document provides information about activities in this work area since the Working Party’s last session in March 2019, as well as plans for 2020, drawing the Working Party’s attention to any specific issues where guidance is needed. Activities in Work Area 1 for the year 2021 will be made available in document ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/inf.1.

### I. Forest Resources

#### A. Data collection

1. Global Reporting on Forests and Sustainable Forest Management

   1. The Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section (Joint Section) continued supporting the implementation and reporting on: (i) the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; (ii) the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution E/2015/33; and (iii) the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030.

---

2. Global Core Set of forest related indicators

The core set of global forest-related indicators was agreed at the 13th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) in May 2018. The set consists of 21 indicators, including all forest-related SDG indicators and sub-indicators. The set refers to other forest-related targets and SDGs, the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) and other forest-related global processes. The UNFF at its 14th Session welcomed progress on the global core set of forest-related indicators and invited the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) to continue developing the second and third tier indicators. These indicators require further work before being applied, including the elaboration of definitions. Pilot studies should be considered before implementation of these indicators.

3. Reporting on implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests

The UNFF at its 13th Session invited its Members to submit national reports on progress made towards implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) 2017 and the United Nations Forest Instrument (UNFI). The UNFF Secretariat extended this invitation to the regional and sub-regional entities. In response to this invitation, the Joint Section prepared the report on the activities related to the implementation of the UNSPF 2017 – 2030 in the ECE region, completed through the Joint Integrated Programme of Work.

5. Joint Forest Europe/UNECE/FAO pan-European reporting on Sustainable Forest Management

The 2020 pan-European data collection uses two questionnaires – quantitative and qualitative indicators. The Joint Section, Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava, and the FAO FRA secretariat, assisted national correspondents in charge of the quantitative questionnaires.
The Liaison Unit led the collection process of qualitative data. The review of quantitative reports for the Global and Pan-European reporting was done by the same international expert.

10. In addition to supporting national reporting, the Joint Section provided data for four indicators: 3.2 quantity and market value of roundwood; 6.7 consumption per head of wood and products derived from wood; 6.8 imports and exports of wood and products derived from wood; 6.9 share of wood energy in total primary energy supply, classified by origin of wood.

11. The Joint Section, the FAO FRA secretariat and the Liaison Unit, continued the integration of forest data platforms, held by partner organizations. The global and regional data should be available this year from a dedicated webpage. The website would significantly streamline the storage and dissemination. It will be a key step towards integrating the collection of global and regional forest information.

12. The Joint Section would like to express its appreciation to the FAO FRA secretariat and the Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava for their cooperation on the joint reporting at both global and regional levels. The Joint Section is grateful to the experts (national and international) involved in the process and to the Russian Federation and Switzerland for their financial support.

B. Assessment and Reporting

1. State of Forests of Caucasus and Central Asia

13. The “State of forests of Caucasus and Central Asia” is the first overview that covers all eight countries of the region. The study was developed in close cooperation with forestry experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. It includes information on forest resources, the forest sector, trends and pressures on the forest, policies and institutions, major challenges and policy responses.

14. The English version of the study was launched at the UN Forum on Forests during its 14th session, from 6 to 10 May 2019 in New York, and the Russian version is in print. A beneficial offshoot of the study was a series of bilingual (English and Russian) overviews of forests and forest management in eight countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia. The overviews support forest sectors in the respective countries and seeks to form a connection between policy makers, society and the international community.

15. The Joint Section would like to express its appreciation to the main author, national and international experts involved in the study, and the Government of Switzerland for providing financial support to its production.

2. Forest ownership in the ECE region

16. The Joint Section published the study “State of Forest Ownership in the ECE Region”, prepared in close cooperation with the COST Action project “Forest Land Ownership Changes in Europe - Significance for Management and Policy” (FACESMAP). The underlying data on forest ownership in the UNECE region is available through the interactive database (in English and Russian) at: https://w3.unece.org/PXWeb/en.

17. The Joint Section is grateful to COST Action, the lead author and all authors and experts involved in the production of the study. The Joint Section would also like to acknowledge the Russian Federation and the European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR) for their financial support.

C. Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management

18. The ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring SFM continued its work related to the ongoing global and regional reporting on forests and forest management. The third meeting of the Team of Specialists was held from 3 to 4 December 2019 at the European Environment Agency in Copenhagen, Denmark.
19. In 2019, the Team developed an international forest damage/disturbance assessment, based on the results of a questionnaire dedicated to this purpose. At the meeting in Copenhagen, the Team analysed the results of the questionnaires and established a sub-group to study new means and formats for forest damage reporting.

20. The Team analysed the results of forest ownership reporting, including review of the questionnaires. Members of the Team discussed options for dissemination of information related to forest monitoring and assessment, including the creation of a repository of national forest data sources. More information about the work of the Team, reports from the meeting, background documents and presentations can be found at: http://www.unece.org/forests/fr/msfm.

21. The meeting at the European Environment Agency provided an opportunity for cooperation between the staff of the Agency and members of the Team of Specialists, which covered dissemination platforms as well as forest related reports published. The Team of Specialists and the Joint Section express their gratitude to the European Environment Agency for hosting the meeting.

D. Key questions for guidance and discussion

22. The Working Party is invited to:

   (a) Take note of the data collection processes for the global and regional reporting, and make recommendations on the finalization of the 2020 cycle;

   (b) Take note of the results of thematic and regional outputs and provide advice on the possible follow up and dissemination process;

   (c) Review the work of the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management and make recommendations for its work.

II. Forest Products’ production, trade and consumption

A. Data collection and assessment

23. Website analysis continue to show that data and statistics are the leading reason for visiting the Joint Section’s website. The most downloaded files are all related to price statistics.

1. Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire

24. In 2019, 44 questionnaires (containing some data) were received. These data were published in the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2018-2019 (FPAMR) in the related statistical annex and through FAOSTAT (all currently available).

25. Species trade and secondary products data for 2018 have not yet been published. Price statistics were updated during the summer 2019. Price statistics continue to attract a high level of interest on the Joint Section’s website. Trade flow data for eight product groups were published, showing trade by value between countries and regions. A flat file containing production and trade statistics for primary forest products was published and updated in 2019.

26. The Joint Section is tentatively planning to organize a capacity-building workshop on forest products statistics later in 2020. Further details will be discussed at the Joint Working Party meeting.

2. Timber Forecast Questionnaire

27. The Joint Section published forecasts and made them available at the meeting of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, incorporated them into the Market Statement, and subsequently published them online in 2019 in Excel and PDF format.
3. **International issues**

28. Cooperation between the four organizations (the International Tropical Timber Organization, Eurostat, the FAO and the ECE) that collect data through the JFSQ is conducted through the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (IWG). The organizations met in January 2020 in Geneva.

B. **Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics**


30. The annual report of the Team is annex of this document. The mandate of the Team runs from 2020 to 2021 and was renewed by the ECE Executive Committee.

C. **Key questions on data collection for guidance and discussion**


D. **Forest products market assessment**

1. **The Forest Products Annual Market Review**

32. The *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2018-2019* was completed on 16 August 2019. The English version in interactive PDF was made available on the Joint Section’s website on 31 October 2019, and the printed version in late November 2019. The Russian language version is expected to be made available by May 2020. As it has been the case for several years now, the French version of the 2019 FPAMR is not likely to be available until late 2020.

33. The FPAMR 2019 was made possible by funding from Finland, with significant in-kind contributions from many authors and organizations, and assistance from three interns/junior consultants from the University of Helsinki, the University of British Columbia and the University of Missouri. Its production was managed by the Joint Section. Statistical input was received from over 100 national statistical correspondents and contributors.

34. Many authors and reviewers for the publication are members of the ECE/FAO ToS on Sustainable Forest Products. In addition, the ToS provided authors and expertise for the production of the Review and the Team Leader provided substantial support in reviewing and proofreading of the final version.

35. At the November 2019 meeting of the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products (Geneva), the Team expressed appreciation of the new electronic version. The Team, however, was unanimous in their opinion that a printed version be continued. There was a general consensus that the Review was used predominantly as a reference, thus was easier to access as a printed copy.

36. In addition to the standard interactive PDF, the FPAMR was produced in three different e-publication variants, compatible with Android, Apple and Kindle e-reader. Despite the attractiveness and usability of the e-pubs, there has been very few downloads when compared to the PDF version (despite a promotional campaign). The Joint Working Party will be supplied with the most recent statistics on downloads during the Work Area 1 presentation. The e-publications, available since late October, came with an increased cost of $6,500 of extrabudgetary funds.
37. For the FPAMR 2020, the Joint Section has no funds available to hire authors. Contingency plans for the upcoming Review are to produce a reduced version.

2. Market Statements

38. The Joint Section invited member States to prepare country market statements as background for the COFFI annual meeting. Fifteen countries submitted statements which are available on the website (http://www.unece.org/forests/market-statements-2019). These provide an excellent level of country-specific detail on forest products markets, and the economic and policy contexts affecting them.

39. The 2019 Market Discussions in Geneva included expert presentations and focused on current forest products trends such as wood construction with mass timber. In addition to discussion of market trends, the discussion was primarily focussed on forest products market developments in the Russian Federation as well as the prospects for cross-laminated timber production and application in both Europe and North America.

40. The drafting committee developed the market statement for COFFI 2019, putting into one document the information provided by member States from the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire, Timber Forecast Questionnaire, Country Market Statements and Market Discussions. The market statement can be found in the annex of the COFFI 2019 meeting report (ECE/TIM/2019/2). Some of the main points of the market statement were also used for a press release with the title: “Forest Market discussions show how wildfires can spark innovation in forest management”, which highlighted the fact that not only can salvaged beetle-killed, blow-down, or burned timber be utilized to make forest products, but harvest can also help to make forests more resilient to such disturbances.

E. Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

41. The ToS was instrumental in the preparation and review of the FPAMR 2018-2019, providing authors, market intelligence and critical review. The ToS on Sustainable Forest Products met on 5 November 2018.

42. The FAO, ITTO and UNECE are finalizing a study on forest products conversion factors, which updates and elaborates upon the 2010 conversion factors study on ECE region countries. The new study provides conversion factors on major forest products from across the globe. The report will be available from the FAO website (http://www.fao.org/forestry/publications/en/FAO Rome) and hard copies will be available from FAO Rome.

43. The annual report of the Team is annex of this document. The mandate of the Team runs from 2020-2021 and was renewed by the ECE Executive Committee at the request of the joint COFFI/EFC.

F. Key questions on data assessment for guidance and discussion

44. The Working Party is invited to:

(a) Encourage replies to the JFSQ 2019 in time for the use of data in the FPAMR;

(b) Discuss future funding, format and content of the FPAMR;

(c) Advise on future work of the Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products, including the extension of its mandate.
III. Wood Energy

A. Data collection

45. In 2019, the Joint Section collected the initial replies to the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry for the reference year 2017 (JWEE2017) and presented it at the 2019 Working Party meeting. Thirty-one replies were received (similar to JWEE2015). These replies have been reviewed. Follow-up questions have been provided to correspondents and replies to these are currently being received. The Joint Section will finalize the data and will present the results to the Working Party. The Joint Section will upload country overviews to the website prior to the meeting.

46. The Team of Specialists on Wood Energy discussed the JWEE during its sixth meeting. The Team suggested providing conversion factors for lower heating value in addition to the higher heating value before the next round of the JWEE. This would be to better harmonize JWEE data with energy statistics, which generally measure energy in lower heating value. Conversion factors for lower heating value would have to account for the national average water content in wood fuels, the share of coniferous and non-coniferous wood as well as the average density of wood.

47. The Joint Working Party, during its thirty-first session, asked the Joint Section to conduct the data collection on wood energy on a two-year cycle (ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2009/10). The Joint Section will therefore start preparing the data collection process on wood energy supply and consumption for the reference year 2019 (JWEE2019) and proposes to launch the JWEE2019 in November 2020.

48. The Joint Section believes that the structure of the enquiry is quite mature and could be used with minor changes in the next round of the data collection. The Joint Section only proposes two amendments to the JWEE:

   (a) Amend the enquiry structure to allow reporting of wood energy consumption by sector in energy units (mirror table IV). This will allow for better coordination between energy and forestry sector at national level;

   (b) Include an automatic calculation of “Wood-based energy share of total final energy consumption” (see explanation heading “B” below).

B. Data assessment

49. The information provided by member States on wood energy is published but not further analysed by the Joint Section. However, the Joint Section would like to inform the Joint Working Party that different actors use the structure of the JWEE or the data for further assessment and comparison, namely with other sources of energy.

50. Wood energy, as the world’s most important single source of renewable energy and is equally important for SDG 7 (Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all) and SDG 15.2 (By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally). SDG 7.2 aims for the following: “By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix” (measured by Indicator 7.2.1 “Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption”). The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) decided that any change in wood used for energy has the potential to significantly spill over to SDG 15.2 (“By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally”) and decided to include the share of wood derived energy in final energy consumption as indicator 10 of the Global Core Set of Forest Indicators.

51. The Joint Section attended the Expert Workshop in support of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Joint Initiative on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting (see ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/5). The objective of the event was to strengthen the Global Core
Set of Forest Indicators to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030 (www.cpfweb.org/96871). The Joint Section presented the experiences from the ECE region with the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry and actively contributed to the development of indicator 10 of the Global Core Set of forest indicators. The methodological approach is fully compatible with the one in place for SDG indicator 7.2.1.

52. To improve indicator 10, member States acknowledged the need for closer collaboration between forest product and energy statistics. Better collaboration will improve data availability and allow for sustainability assessment of wood energy use which is currently not covered in indicator 10. The JWEE was seen as an good example providing very detailed wood energy data.

53. The working group on indicator 10 proposed to further improve collaboration across relevant actors, such as forestry, energy and statistical offices, ministries, industry associations and academia to improve data availability and quality related to indicator 10 and on wood energy in general.

54. The working group on indicator 10 recommended to initiate a task force as a forum on wood energy data comprised of e.g., representatives from the FAO, UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, International Energy Organizations, relevant biomass industry associations (e.g. World Bioenergy Association) and other international organizations (e.g. WHO).

55. EU regulation 2018/1999, Annex IX requires EU member states to report detailed data on forest biomass used for energy generation. The JWEE can provide detailed wood energy data for some EU member states. Relevant information about the JWEE was provided to the Concerted Action Renewable Energy Source Directive (CA-RES), Core Theme 4: Biomass mobilization and sustainability explaining how JWEE can provide required data.

C. Cross-sectoral cooperation

56. The Joint Section contributed a to a publication by the Sustainable Energy Division of the ECE on “Towards sustainable renewable energy investment and deployment - Trade-offs and opportunities with water resources and the environment”, ECE ENERGY SERIES No.63 (in print). The input by the Joint Section focused on the important role of wood energy among other renewable energy sources and possible impacts on the forest resources if not used sustainably.

57. The Joint Section would like to highlight again the success of the video on “More heat with less wood”. This film on the efficient use of wood for heating in private households was launched on 23 March 2016, during the thirty-eighth session of the Working Party and has now become the second most successful video on ECE’s Youtube account with more than 123,000 views as of early February 2020.

D. Team of Specialists on Wood Energy

58. The Team met from 3 to 4 June 2019 in Umeå, Sweden. The Team elected a new Leader, Mr. Francisco Aguilar and confirmed the three co-leaders: Mr. Dinko Vusic, Mr. Matthias Dees and Ms. Karen Abt. The outcome of the meeting and highlights of the work of the Team are provided in detail in the meeting report and the presentations, all available on the meeting website: https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=51250.

59. The annual report of the Team is annex of this document. The ToS highlighted some points for the Working Party’s direction. Delegates are invited to take these into consideration while considering the ToS’ work. The mandate of the Team runs from 2020 to 2021 and was renewed by the ECE Executive Committee at the request of the joint COFFI/EFC session in November 2019.
E. Key questions on wood energy data assessment for guidance and discussion

60. Delegates are invited to:
   (a) Discuss the key issues related to wood energy in member countries;
   (b) Provide feedback on the work on the JWEE and discuss how to further improve the response rate to the JWEE;
   (c) Consider giving a formal mandate to the Joint Section and the ToS on Wood Energy to contribute to the future task force on indicator 10 of the Global Core Set of Indicators (“Wood-based energy share of total final energy consumption”);
   (d) Advise on future work of the Team of Specialists on Wood Energy.
Annex

A. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Management

This Team of Specialists report was not available in time to meet the document submission deadline. The report by the ToS will be posted on the website once it is available.

B. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics

Items for regular reporting to the Joint Working Party Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWPFSEM)

1. Name:

Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics
Team website: https://www.unece.org/forests/tosfps.html

2. Period covered:

April 2019 – March 2020

3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:

Leader: Mr. Branko GLAVONJIĆ
Deputy: Ms. Graça LOURO
Secretary: Mr. Alex MCCUSKER

4. Members:

34 (as of 23 January 2020)

5. Countries:

(as of 23 January 2020) Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

6. Meetings held:

None in the reporting period but one meeting was held prior to the last session of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on 26 March 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland and the next meeting is currently planned to be held on 26 March 2020, in Geneva, Switzerland.

7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- The main ToS outputs in the last year were:
- Collection of statistics and information within the:
- Production of JFSQ for 2018, covering the compilation on post-consumer recovered wood as a single item, as agreed by the team and discussed during 2019.
Items for regular reporting to the Joint Working Party Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWFSEM)

- Timber Forest Questionnaire 2019
- Consolidation on the questionnaire for Engineered Wood Products (Glulam, CLT, LVL, I-beams, production and trade) which is being developed since 2017.
- Members of the ToS made significant contributions to the development of the upcoming Study on conversion factors.

8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:

- Work on roundwood removals methodology and information sources;
- Preparation of forecast data on forest products production and trade. Continuing work on the wood balance. The issue of double counting will also be pursued. Wood chips – what are requirements for “clean” chips used in pulping. Distinguish them from energy chips;
- Collection of historical data on forest products, species trade, and prices;
- Production of JFSQ for 2019;
- Timber Forest Questionnaire 2019;
- Support to the FPAMR production;
- Preparation of data and the statistical annex for the FPAMR 2019-2020;
- Preparation of tables and graphs for the Market Forecasts 2019-2020;
- Improvement of the existing database and expansion of available information: Integration of 2017 changes into ECE database;
- Capacity building of statistical correspondents and improving statistical system for forest products in South East European countries in cooperation with FAO (workshops, trainings);
- Dissemination through FAOSTAT and ECE websites.

9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party:

- Supporting the participation in the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics and attendance at other international meetings;
- Supporting to the Harmonized System 2022 revision, review of international classifications;
- Providing assistance to the initiatives for capacity building of statistical correspondents and improving the statistical system for forest products in countries in south eastern Europe. A 2020 capacity-building workshop could involve experts and non-experts with separate programmes. Serbia was identified as host country.

10. Other comments:

The continuation of discussion within ToS and between ToS and other international organizations and institutions concerning the upgrade of the statistical system for forest products.
C. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

*Items for regular reporting to the Joint Working Party Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWPFSEM)*

1. Name:

Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

2. Period covered:

April 2019 – March 2020

3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:

Leader: Mr. Eoin O’Driscoll

Deputies: Mr. Delton Alderman and Mr. Jeremy Wall

Secretary: Mr. Matthew Fonseca

4. Members:

Eighty-six (as of 21 January 2020)

5. Countries: (List separated by comma)

Thirty-four countries: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan. (as of 21 January 2020)

6. Meetings held:

- A meeting of the ToS was held on 5/11/2019 on the margins of the UNECE Forêt 2019
- A meeting of the ToS will be held on the margins of this Working Party meeting.

7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- Assisted the Joint Section with the production of the UNECE FPAMR 2019/2020, authored chapters, supplied photos, proof-read the FPAMR
- Assisted the Joint Section with the organisation of the Market Discussions at Forêt 2019. This included speaker selection. An informal speaker meeting which was held over lunch prior to the market discussions was considered to be very helpful.
8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:

- Produce the FPAMR;
- Organise and run the Market Discussions at the UNECE Timber Committee Meeting 2020. The format for same to be similar to that introduced in 2019;
- Organise and run a workshop on the use of forest products in construction 19/5-20/5/2020;
- Organise and run a workshop at CoP26 in Glasgow in November 2020.

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

Securing adequate multi-annual funding for the production of the FPAMR.

10. Other comments: (e.g. collaboration with other ToS, justification for not holding a meeting, etc.)

We are in ongoing discussions with the secretariat of the UNECE Housing and Land Management regarding the organisation of joint meetings.

D. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy

*Items for regular reporting to the Joint Working Party Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWPFSEM)*

1. Name:

Team of Specialists on Wood Energy

Team website: https://www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/forestwood-energy/team-of-specialists-on-wood-energy.html

2. Period covered:

April 2019 – March 2020

3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:

   Leader: Mr. Francisco AGUILAR
   Deputies: Ms. Karen ABT, Mr. Matthias DEES, Mr. Richard SIKKEMA, Mr. Dinko VUSIC
   Secretary: Mr. Florian STEIERER

4. Members:

22 (as of 03 February 2020)
5. Countries:

(as of 03 February 2020) Austria, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Sweden, Serbia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

6. Meetings held:

Fifth Meeting of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy, 3 - 4 June 2019, Sweden, Umeå, hosted by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:

- The ToS contributed to the publication of Chapter 9 in the Forest Products Annual Market Review ‘Wood Energy Markets’.
- ToS members worked together in the analysis of residential wood energy consumption data and publication of scientific manuscript:
  - It was followed by a popular science manuscript released in the German press:
- The ToS has sought continued collaboration on energy statistics with the International Energy Agency, Eurostat. There is an outstanding need for standardized statistics.
- Some members of the ToS attended the Expert Workshop in support of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Joint Initiative on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting. The event was held at the FAO headquarters in Rome from 22 – 24 October 2019.

8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:

- The ToS will have its annual meeting in Geneva on 26 March 2020.
- The ToS will continue working on a better understanding and contribution to wood energy data in an upcoming report titled “Conversion factors for residential wood energy consumption prelude integration of forest products and energy statistics”.
- The ToS will explore synergies between its mandate on Wood Energy and how its utilization relates to goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Another area of interest for the ToS is the linkage between wood energy production and potential air quality effects. We foresee synergies with other UN groups inclusive of the UNECE Air Convention, United Nations’ Environment Program, the World Health Organization and others.
- A direct contribution of approaches to define the carbon neutrality of wood energy is another area of interest for the ToS Wood Energy and may bring synergies with UNFCCC.
9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party: (if significant issues, how do we stimulate WP discussion)

Foreseeing opportunities for cooperation with other UN-bodies (UNECE Air Convention, UNEP, WHO) in the context of the UNECE Air Convention.

10. Other comments: (e.g. collaboration with other ToS, justification for not holding a meeting, etc.)

In March 2020 there will be a joint session with the ToS on Forest Products Statistics to discuss the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry.