



**Economic and Social
Council**



**Food and Agriculture
Organization**

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**Joint UNECE Timber Committee and FAO European Forestry Commission
Bureaux Meeting**

**Palais des Nations, Geneva
24-25 February 2010**

Note by the secretariat

**Provisional Agenda Item 12b. 2010 session of the Timber Committee Joint with the Society of
Wood Science and Technology**

The Bureaux are invited to note plans for the 2010 session, and to make any suggestions.

I. JOINT TIMBER COMMITTEE AND SOCIETY OF WOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SESSION

1. At their 2009 meetings, the Bureaux confirmed the advantage of holding a joint UNECE Timber Committee and the Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST) session on 11-15 October 2010. SWST would be a suitable partner for future joint market discussions.” For reference, the Bureaux is welcome to review Item 11b from their April 2009 meeting.
2. The SWST is a technical and professional organization for scientists and engineers working in academia, government, consulting and the forest products industries. It is dedicated to providing education and expertise in finding better ways to use and produce wood products. More information on the SWST is available at www.swst.org.
3. The purpose of the SWST is to:
 - Develop and maintain the unique body of knowledge distinctive to wood science and technology
 - Encourage the communication and use of this knowledge
 - Promote policies and procedures which assure the wise use of wood and wood-based products
 - Assure high standards for professional performance of wood scientists and technologists
 - Foster educational programs at all levels of wood science and technology and further the quality of such programs
 - Represent the profession in public policy development.
4. The SWST publishes “Wood and Fiber Science”, a newsletter and proceedings from their meetings. They host an annual convention.
5. The SWST Executive Director, Ms. Victoria Herian, and the President-elect, Dr. Susan Aganost, participated at the Timber Committee in 2009. in Geneva. Discussions with the SWST officers went well, and we shared each others’ needs. We agreed to conduct joint market discussions with the TC under a theme common to both organizations. The SWST conventions have some functions that the TC does not, and therefore they could be held outside of the Palais des Nations, i.e. a gala dinner and participant lunches. Their poster session could fit within the Palais and as they could be of interest to TC delegates. They will have a one-day study tour. All of the SWST events held inside and outside the Palais are open to Committee delegates (with those held outside at cost).
6. The programme as of December 2009 is attached for Bureaux comment.
7. The secretariat believes that joint meetings have been advantageous to the TC in the past, especially recently with the International Softwood Conference. Successful joint meetings obviously build on each other’s strengths in joint sessions, but maintain each other’s identity through separate meetings (as was the case in 2007 with the ISC).
8. The advantage of holding joint market discussions for the TC will be to bring in a diversity of interests, while maintaining the core attributes and content of the normal market discussions, i.e. the basis of country forecasts and market reports and traditional market sectors. Presentations by experts from the SWST would be in line with the TC’s interest in promoting new markets and sound and innovative uses of wood. The TC would achieve greater recognition through the joint meeting, both through the increased

participation of perhaps 100 people from the SWST, and also from exposure to their international membership.

9. *The Bureaux are invited to note plans for the 2010 session, and to make any suggestions.*

Annex

**UNECE Timber Committee & Society of Wood Science and Technology
Joint Meeting, 11-15 October 2010, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

Draft programme as of 18 December 2009

Monday, 11 October, all day (with interpretation from 1000-1300 and 1500-1800)
[Note Monday start in order that SWST can have banquet and end-of-week study tour.]
0900-1000. Registration with coffee
1000-1200 Joint opening of TC and SWST
1200-1300 Separate business meetings of TC and SWST in separate rooms, both with interpretation
1500-1800 Joint TC & SWST Market Discussions begin

Tuesday, 12 October, all day (with interpretation from 1000-1300 and 1500-1800)
Joint TC & SWST Market Discussions continue
SWST separate sessions, concurrent with Market Discussions, with interpretation, on:
1. Role of nanotechnology in green materials and sustainable construction, 1000-1300
2. Poster session 1300-1800

Wednesday, 13 October, all day (with interpretation from 1000-1300 and 1500-1800)
TC & SWST Policy Forum. Topic: Building codes and standards – influence on material use and construction practices. (Changes in codes lead to changes in material demands, which then influences overall wood demand and the choice of raw materials. Eventual effects on forest resources.)

Thursday, 14 October (with interpretation from 1000-1300 and 1500-1800)
1000-1300 Final TC business meeting. End of TC at 1300.
1000-1300 SWST concurrent session on “Innovative wood and wood-based materials and their use in sustainable construction” without interpretation
1500-1800 SWST session on “Structural design for sustainable construction and disaster mitigation” without interpretation
2000+ SWST banquet, available for TC delegates with payment. Outside Palais

Friday, 15 October

This day is free for TC. If by chance we have a workshop this week, it could be scheduled on this day, but we have no topic planned. And if yes, it could begin on Thursday afternoon, since TC has no programme planned at that time. SWST will have a field trip, open to TC delegates at cost.

Venue reserved Salle XVIII, 1st floor, E Building for plenary sessions.
Salle XXIII for 120 people, E Building, near Salle XVIII for concurrent sessions
Hallway between XVIII and XXIII to be reserved for poster session (this is also the entrance to the Bar Serpentine where delegates can get sandwiches and drinks).