

Declaration of Krtiny

on Enhancement of Contributions of Forest Management ¹
to Sustainable Development in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Prague and Křtiny, Czech Republic, 27 October 2005,

updated in Zamardi, Hungary 18 May 2007

updated in Křtiny, Czech Republic, 27 November 2008

We, experts and stakeholder representatives of the forestry sectors of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan²

Nominated by the responsible Ministries of our countries;

Participating in the workshop on "Enhancing Contribution of Forest Management in Eastern European and Central Asian Countries" held in Prague and *Křtiny, Czech Republic*, 24-28 November 2008, organised jointly by the Czech Republic (Mendel University Brno), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of United Nations) Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, and the UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe)/FAO Timber Section;

Building on inputs provided by members of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Management in Eastern Europe and discussions and exchange during the workshops;

Welcoming the input provided by international organizations such as FAO and UNECE;

Recognising the dynamic development of new and revised policies and legislation, and restructuring of institutions;

Reaffirming herewith the importance of the Krtiny Declaration as adopted in October 2005, updated in Zamardi, Hungary, in May 2007, and **noting** its concrete impact to

¹ Forest management herewith describes to all human activities on forest land

² Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan did participate in the Prague and Krtiny and Zamardi commitments 2005 and 2007, but did not participate in the Krtiny workshop in 2008.

forest policy decision making in the target countries; **and herewith updating** the Declaration;

A. Recommend to national governments to:

Promote diversification of incomes through multifunctional forest management;

Undertake steps to encourage the outsourcing of state forest management related to production activities into commercially acting entities (state or private), considering the separation of management functions from controlling functions, applying international experiences;

Encourage diversification of forest tenure, considering various types of devolution of forest ownership and management rights;

Develop, implement and monitor national forest programme activities;

Allocate adequate public budget to the provision of non-marketable forest services, according to societal needs, including the application of innovative financing and fiscal mechanisms, e.g. payments for environmental services;

Develop human resources in view of restructuring processes in the forestry sector;

Strengthen national, regional and international training capacities in forest policy and social science;

Support academic and research institutions in the development and strengthening of curricula addressing forest policy, taking into account changing needs and conditions in forestry, and prepare teachers;

Strengthen the dialogue with the public, taking into account societal considerations and concerns, using participatory approaches;

Facilitate training of and information exchange between National Correspondents e.g. on Forest Resources Assessment, Forest Products Statistics, Forest Policy;

Inform international organizations of changes of contacts of national correspondents;

Promote and support innovations in forest management;

Ensure, to the extent possible, translation of international documents into national languages;

Undertake necessary steps towards the implementation of the suggested recommendations with increased efforts within the following two years (2009-2010);

Intensify cross-sectoral cooperation and strengthen the synergies with other sectors interacting with forest management;

Develop the forest cover and **promote** public forest services according to societal needs;

Foster the use of wood as long as the public services of forest are not under threat;

Gather and disseminate adequate data and information for support to policy decision-making e.g. forest inventories, timber statistics, state of current policies and institutions.

B. Recommend to UNECE and FAO to:

Facilitate harmonization of terms and definitions on forest policy, institutions and instruments;

Organize discussion on the concept and definition of “forest policy“ at follow-up workshops;

Initiate and facilitate the implementation of national forest programme processes on the basis of the national forest programme principles (sovereignty and country leadership, consistency within and integration beyond the forest sector, partnership and participation);

Conduct studies in support to forest policy and **organize** workshops at the national and regional levels, leading to the preparation of a high level forest policy conference, particularly on cross-border issues, building upon existing intergovernmental institutions;

Facilitate the strengthening of regional and international training capacities in forest policy and sustainable forest management;

Encourage international cooperation of national experts and stakeholders through the organization of study tours and networking, and **promote** international training and fellowship programmes;

Update regularly official nominations of national correspondents, based on information from the countries;

Analyse outcomes of recent forest policy studies and workshops and **present** a compilation of policy relevant recommendations at follow up workshops;

Improve capacity of countries to use, for sustainable management of resources, adequate inventory methods and forest management; taking into account the multifunctional role of forests and stakeholders' capacities and needs;

Undertake further activities on gathering and dissemination of data and information on forest policies and institutions, and **enhance** cooperation between the different initiatives carried out by international organizations;

Disseminate outcomes of FAO forest tenure studies in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and **facilitate** exchange of experiences with different tenure schemes;

Invest into translation and interpretation into Russian language, particularly to improve the quality of meeting documents; and, as much as possible, **ensure** translation of publications also into national languages;

Undertake steps to intensify the dialogue with the public, particularly through the promotion of international competitions and the International Forest Day/Week;

Request participating countries and international organizations to organize and finance meetings of forest policy experts on an annual basis;

Integrate the activities of the Team of Specialists on Policies and Institutions in Eastern Europe and Central Asia with the Krtiny process, considering a sub-regional approach for the organization of corresponding workshops.

This document was approved by the participants in a plenary session of the workshop on "Enhancing the contribution of Forest Management to Sustainable Development in Eastern European and Central Asian Countries" held in Krtiny, Czech Republic, 27 November 2008.