



UNECE Weekly

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UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Conference on

A ROBOT IN EVERY HOME?

14:00-16:30, 20 October 2004

Geneva, Palais des Nations, Salle des Assemblées

Entry through Pregny gate, doors 13 and 15

Opening:

Mrs. Brigita Schmögnerová, UNECE Executive Secretary

Mr. Ulf Dahlsten, Director, Emerging Technologies and Infrastructures Applications, Information Society Directorate-General, European Commission

Keynote speakers:

Mr. Colin Angle, CEO and co-founder, iRobot Corporation, United States

Mr. Stefan Müller, Executive Vice President, KUKA Roboter GmbH, Germany

Prof. Sukhan Lee, Sungkyunkwan University and Director of Intelligent Systems Research Centre, Republic of Korea

ROBOT EXHIBITION

in the Palais des Nations, Salle des Pas Perdus

and on the lawn in front of the globe

10:00-17:00, 20 October 2004

It's just happened ...

Environment: review of strategic goals

The UNECE Committee on Environment Policy, at its 11th session 13-15 October, reviewed its activities related to the strategic goals for the environment in the region, namely: contributing to the "Environment for Europe" ministerial process; improving environmental governance; improving effectiveness of international legal instruments; contributing to the regional implementation of the environmental pillar of sustainable development; and integrating environmental concerns into sectoral policies. The Committee reviewed the environmental performance of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Tajikistan. Armenia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine provided the Committee with interim reports on the implementation of their first reports. The Committee welcomed the starting of second reviews which will focus in particular on sectoral integration as well as implementation and financing aspects.

The Committee will convene a High Level Meeting of Environment and Education Ministries on 18 March 2005 and will forward the Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development to it for consideration. The Strategy for ESD will serve as a flexible framework for the countries to adapt its principles to their national priorities, specific needs and circumstances. The Committee established an "Ad Hoc Working Group of Senior Officials" which is mandated to prepare the next Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe", to be held in Belgrade in 2007. The Committee will actively contribute to the preparatory process and draw up a communication strategy for raising awareness of the results achieved and issues promoted within the framework of the EfE process.

Forest products markets soar higher in the UNECE region in 2004 and 2005

The UNECE Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission have together analysed the current forest products market situation in 2004 and forecast markets for 2005 in the light of current policy issues – the region's forest and forest industry sector development is influenced by government and industry policies. Among the overall findings were the following: Forest products markets in the UNECE region were forecast to remain at high volumes in 2004 and 2005. Russia and many central and eastern European countries forecast full recovery to pre-transition levels for some market sectors. Forest products markets are global, and becoming increasingly competitive due to new sources of low-



cost wood and labour and international forest product corporations. Corporate survival requires improved competitiveness, including radical restructuring to take advantage of global markets. Illegal forest activities and trade of illegally derived forest products occur in every country in the UNECE region. Illegal logging ranges from less than 1% to 35% of annual harvests. Government policies and intergovernmental measures are being established to deal with the problem. Forests mitigate climate change by sequestering carbon in trees and after harvest in forest products. Manufacturing and use of forest products consume less energy than other construction materials.

Additional information is available on the following web sites: complete tables of country forecasts (www.unece.org/trade/timber/mis/forecasts.htm), country market statements (www.unece.org/trade/timber/mis/market/market-62/market-62.htm), Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2003-2004 (www.unece.org/trade/timber/docs/fpama/2004/fpama2004a.htm).

Facts and figures:

Women and Men as Share of Smokers (Selected UNECE Countries)

Country	1995						2000					
	Ages 15 - 24			Age 15+			Ages 15 - 24			Age 15+		
	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
Armenia	0.5 ⁴	41.0 ⁴	16.7 ⁴	1.2 ⁴	63.7 ⁴	29.0 ⁴	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria	18.8 ^{4,14}	30.0 ^{4,14}	24.2 ^{4,14}	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bulgaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	37.4 ⁷	44.8 ⁷	41.3 ⁷	29.8 ⁷	51.7 ⁷	40.5 ⁷
Canada	25.5	22.1	23.8	23.6	27.4	25.5	19.1 ⁷	20.9 ⁷	20.0 ⁷	15.9 ⁷	20.2 ⁷	18.0 ⁷
Croatia	19.0 ⁹	25.0 ⁹	22.0 ⁹	26.6 ²⁰	34.1 ²⁰	30.3 ²⁰	25.0 ^{6,9}	30.0 ^{6,9}	27.0 ^{6,9}	...	...	...
Czech Republic	15.8	24.2	20.2	20.2	32.1	25.8	16.0	25.3	20.9	17.3	29.7	23.4
Estonia	24.3 ¹⁴	50.3 ¹⁴	37.5 ¹⁴	29.4 ¹⁵	55.9 ¹⁵	41.2 ¹⁵	26.5 ¹⁴	49.1 ¹⁴	38.0 ¹⁴	25.7 ¹⁵	50.6 ¹⁵	35.4 ¹⁵
Finland	22.8	23.0	22.9	19.5 ¹⁰	29.1 ¹⁰	24.0 ¹⁰	22.8 ⁷	30.9 ⁷	26.9 ⁷	19.7 ^{7,10}	28.8 ^{7,10}	23.8 ^{7,10}
France	52.0 ¹⁸	46.0 ¹⁸	49.0 ¹⁸	28.0 ²¹	39.0 ²¹	33.0 ²¹	36.0 ^{8,18}	43.0 ^{8,18}	40.0 ^{8,18}	26.0 ^{8,21}	31.0 ^{8,21}	29.0 ^{8,21}
Germany	23.0	32.0	27.6	21.5	35.6	28.3	26.8 ⁶	35.3 ⁶	31.2 ⁶	22.2 ⁶	34.7 ⁶	28.3 ⁶
Hungary	...	...	...	27.0	44.0	35.0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iceland	22.5	20.5	21.5	26.9 ¹²	26.7 ¹²	26.8 ¹²	21.1 ⁷	24.5 ⁷	22.8 ⁷	22.8 ^{7,12}	24.5 ^{7,12}	23.6 ^{7,12}
Ireland	...	...	...	28.0 ¹⁷	31.0 ¹⁷	29.0 ¹⁷	40.0 ^{5,19}	38.0 ^{5,19}	39.0 ^{5,19}	31.0 ^{5,17}	32.0 ^{5,17}	31.0 ^{5,17}
Israel	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.4 ²²	34.0 ²²	24.1 ²²
Latvia	20.4 ⁵	43.5 ⁵	33.3 ⁵	18.2 ^{5,10}	50.2 ^{5,10}	31.8 ^{5,10}	21.7	37.8	29.0	18.2 ¹⁰	51.3 ¹⁰	32.6 ¹⁰
Netherlands	37.5 ¹⁴	37.0 ¹⁴	37.2 ¹⁴	31.2	40.9	35.9	35.0 ¹⁴	44.3 ¹⁴	39.5 ¹⁴	29.3	36.2	32.7
Norway	27.6 ¹⁴	29.1 ¹⁴	28.3 ¹⁴	32.1 ¹⁶	33.7 ¹⁶	32.9 ¹⁶	30.6 ^{7,14}	27.7 ^{7,14}	29.2 ^{7,14}	30.8 ^{7,16}	30.9 ^{7,16}	30.8 ^{7,16}
Poland	10.0 ³	22.7 ³	16.4 ³	19.4 ³	40.9 ³	29.6 ³	...	...	...	...	...	...
Portugal	10.4	26.7	18.8	6.5	29.2	17.3	10.6	25.9	18.6	7.9	29.3	18.1
Republic of Moldova	2.4 ⁴	37.1 ⁴	19.2 ⁴	3.2 ⁴	46.3 ⁴	22.9 ⁴	2.1 ⁷	21.7 ⁷	11.6 ⁷	2.0 ⁷	38.8 ⁷	18.2 ⁷
Romania	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.8	18.8	13.9	10.1	32.3	20.8
Slovenia	15.2 ^{2,9}	15.2 ^{2,9}	15.3 ^{2,9}	22.7 ²	34.7 ²	28.2 ²	25.5 ^{6,9}	23.9 ^{6,9}	24.5 ^{6,9}	19.8 ⁶	32.4 ⁶	25.9 ⁶
Spain	41.0 ¹	45.4 ¹	43.3 ¹	24.4 ¹	48.8 ¹	36.3 ¹	39.8 ⁴	39.4 ⁴	39.6 ⁴	27.2 ⁴	44.9 ⁴	35.8 ⁴
Sweden	21.0	13.7	17.2	23.6	22.0	22.8	18.9 ⁷	13.9 ⁷	16.3 ⁷	19.9 ⁷	17.9 ⁷	18.9 ⁷
United Kingdom	...	...	...	28.0 ¹³	29.0 ¹³	28.5 ¹³	...	...	...	25.0 ¹³	29.0 ¹³	27.0 ¹³
United States	16.8	19.3	18.0	18.3	22.0	20.1	20.0	22.0	21.0	17.3	21.2	19.1

Source: UNECE Gender Statistics Database, compiled from national statistical offices

Notes: ¹ 1993, ² 1994, ³ 1996, ⁴ 1997, ⁵ 1998, ⁶ 1999, ⁷ 2001, ⁸ 2002, ⁹ 15-16, ¹⁰ 15-64, ¹¹ 15-75, ¹² 15-79, ¹³ 16+, ¹⁴ 16-24, ¹⁵ 16-70, ¹⁶ 16-74, ¹⁷ 18+, ¹⁸ 18-24, ¹⁹ 18-34, ²⁰ 18-64, ²¹ 18-74, ²² 20+

Coming up soon ...

- 18-20 October Working Group on Genetically Modified Organisms
- 18-21 October Work Session on Gender Statistics
- 18-21 October Capacity-Building Workshop on Trade Facilitation Implementation
- 19-21 October Working Party on Inland Water Transport

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