

2. The participants were welcomed on behalf of the Slovenian Forestry Institute by Prof. Dr. H.C. Nikolaj **Torelli**; on behalf of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee and FAO by Mr Joachim **Lorbach**; on behalf of IUFRO by Mr Heinrich **Schmutzenhofer**; on behalf of the local authorities by Ms Mateja **Suhadolnik**; and on behalf of the Government of Slovenia by Mr Jože Strle, Slovenian State Secretary for Forestry.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Agenda Item 2)

3. The Provisional Agenda was adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Agenda Item 2)

4. The following Chairpersons were elected:

Mr. Joachim Lorbach, FAO	Items 1, 2
Mr. Nikolaj Torelli, Slovenia	Items 3, 4
Mr. Donald Nearhood, USA	Item 5
Mr. Bill Slee, UK; Mirko Medved, Slovenia	Item 6
Mr. Raffaele Cavalli, Italy; Rudolf Heinrich, Austria	Item 7
Mr. Donald Nearhood, USA; Bill Slee, UK	Items 8, 9
Mr. Joachim Lorbach, FAO	Items 10, 11, 12

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP, SLOVENIA AND ITS PRIVATE SECTOR

(Agenda Items 3 and 4)

5. Mr. Nikolaj Torelli opened Agenda Items 3 and 4. The following topics were presented:
- *Forest operation improvements in farm forests – an introduction to the workshop*, presented by Joachim **Lorbach**
 - *Slovenian forestry and its legislation*, presented by Katarina **Celic**
 - *Influence of the private forestry proprietary structure in Slovenia on production and utilisation of wood*, presented by Mirko **Medved**

RECENT ADVANCEMENTS IN FOREST OPERATIONS IN FARM FORESTS

(Agenda Item 5)

6. Mr. Donald Nearhood opened Agenda Item 5. The following presentations were made:
- *Challenges facing the European small-scale forestry – findings from the recent EU funded SMALLFORE project*, presented by Auvo **Kaivola**

- *Adaptation of a 4WD agricultural tractor for forest operations in steep terrain*, presented by Raffaele **Cavalli**
- *Environmental impacts of fuel use in motor manual and fully mechanised forest operations*, presented by Staffan **Berg**
- *Comparison of some technical characteristics of agricultural tractor Steyr equipped with three variants of farm winches “Tajfun” and with fixed winch “Tigar”*, presented by Marijan **Šušnjar**
- *Changes in equipment utilization among operationally active Swedish NIPF-owners*, presented by Ola **Lindroos**

IMPORTANCE OF FARM FORESTS FOR FORESTRY, RURAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (Agenda Item 6)

7. Mr. Bill Slee opened Agenda Item 6. The following papers were presented:
 - *The value of small-scale forestry: A challenge for foresters and rural development agents*, presented by Bill **Slee**
 - *Innovative ability of Slovenian private forests owners and related influencing factors*, presented by Boris **Papac**
 - *Swedish non-industrial private forestry in transformation*, presented by Gun **Lidestav**
 - *Measures and their impacts on expanding of small-scale forest plantations in farmlands in Turkey*, presented by Mevlut **Düzgün**
 - *The recent development and future challenges of family forestry in Finland*, presented by Tapani **Tasanen**
8. Mr. Mirko Medved continued with Agenda Item 6. The following papers were presented:
 - *Connecting forest owners – the basis for more efficient forest management in Slovenia*, presented by Jože **Mori**
 - *Perspectives of farm forestry development in the context of modern forest policy in Ukraine*, presented by Sergiy **Zibtsev**
 - *Removing barriers for forest operation improvements in private forest in Solcava (Slovenia)*, presented by Robert **Robek**

EDUCATION, EXTENSION AND TRAINING FOR FARM FOREST OWNERS

(Agenda Item 7)

9. Mr. Raffaele Cavalli introduced Agenda Item 7. The following papers were presented:

- *Family forests for a sustainable development in a changing world*, presented by Thomas **Stemberger**
- *The close context between advisory, education and extension for farm forest enterprises shown by the Styrian example*, presented by Helmut **Spitzer**
- *Development of forestry extension in Slovenia*, presented by Jurij **Beguš**
- *Activity in forestry – a Norwegian example of a countrywide system for continuing education and extension service*, presented by Geir **Myklestad**
- *Educational needs of forest owners in forest management region Novo Mesto* presented by Andrej **Kotnik**

10. Mr. Rudolf Heinrich continued with Agenda Item 7. The following papers were presented:

- *Workplace safety in Swiss private forests*, presented by Hanspeter **Egloff**
- *Training Finnish forest owners and professionals within the frames of international co-operation*, presented by Hannu **Humalmäki**
- *Participative learning as a forestry extension tool in the Alpine rural environment – a case study of Solcavsko area (Slovenia)*, presented by Nevenka **Bogataj**
- *Technology transfer – the use of small-scale forestry equipment in the United Kingdom*, presented by Colin John **Saunders**

Half-day excursion: Importance of the forest operations and wood utilization for farmers in Austria and Slovenia (see Annex 1).

Full-day excursion: The role of farm forestry for local and regional development (see Annex 2).

ORGANIZATION AND MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FARM FOREST OWNERS AND ASSOCIATIONS (Agenda Items 8 and 9)

11. Mr. Donald Nearhood introduced Agenda Items 8 and 9. The following papers were presented:

- *Forest operations in farm forests in the Mediterranean countries*, presented by Rudolf **Heinrich**

- *Swedish non-industrial private forest (NIPF) owners in co-operation*, presented by Christina **Berlin**
 - *Small non-industrial forest owners co-operation examples in Galicia (Spain)*, presented by Juan **Picos**
 - *Private forests in Poland – an overview*, presented by Krzysztof **Jodlowski**
 - *Characteristic, organization and management of private forests in Bulgaria*, presented by Nickola **Stoyanov**
12. Mr. Bill Slee continued with Agenda Items 8 and 9. The following papers were presented:
- *Private land forestry challenges and responses*, presented by Donald **Nearhood**
 - *Sanitation fellings or about self-regulation and state-regulation in private forests*, presented by Laura **Bouriaud**
 - *Position of small-scale private forests in Slovakia*, presented by Eva **Hustakova**
 - *Aspects affecting the role of private forests in the Czech Republic*, presented by Josef **Pecl**

POSTER SESSION

13. The following posters were presented:

- Baldini S. *Eucalypt coppice shoot extraction with crown by a extra light sky-line cable systems.*
- Baldini S. Picchio R., Calvani P. *Semi-mechanic felling on black locust short rotation forestry.*
- Krajnc N. *Preparation of wood biomass from private forests - new market opportunities in Slovenia.*
- Krajnc R. Gluk A. *History overview of forest operations in Upper Savinja valley.*
- Lidestav G. Lindroos O. *The FOR-program - working condition and more efficient technology for self-employed forest owners.*
- Medved M. *Accidents in Slovenian private forests in the last 20 years.*
- Saunders C. J. *The use of small scale harvesting equipment in ancient woodlands.*
- Schmutzenhofer H. *The International Union of Forest Research organizations.*

OTHER MATTERS (Agenda Item 10)

14. There were no other matters.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (Agenda Item 11)

15. Conclusions

- a) The forest sector is facing similar problems in most parts of Europe in relation to farm and family forests. There should be more co-operation in order to find relevant and efficient solutions adapted to the different target groups that exist in farm and family forestry (*see footnote¹*).
- b) A great variety of forestry extension, education and training programmes exist. More emphasis should be placed on courses on forest operations for sustainable forest management and especially marketing for forest products. Special attention was drawn to the need for the formation of forest associations to support the advancement of the protection and utilization of farm forests and improve the revenue situation in farm forests.
- c) Operations in family forestry have to satisfy economic, social and environmental values in order to achieve sustainability.
- d) Family forests need to be supported through sustainable management and an efficient extension service that helps them recover the added value they produce (e.g. landscape). It is necessary to stimulate the awareness of family forest owners to be part of an economic and social system that manages strategic resources (e.g. environment) and has great potential to be developed.
- e) There is a gap between the policies for family forestry and owner attitudes and knowledge on forestry. Policy makers need to take account of owner attitudes and owners need to be aware of the motivations and drivers of policies. Good initiatives in some countries already exist, but co-operation among forest owners should be improved.
- f) The cooperation among small forest owners should be improved in order to enable them to have a greater collective power for managing their woodlands in a sustainable way.
- g) There are a wide variety of family forests, forest owners and systems of organization and management among and within countries. There is a need for more studies and training on family forest issues as well as workshops at different levels in this field.

¹ The terms farm forests and family forests were discussed at length. The majority of the participants saw the term family forest as more descriptive of the issue to be addressed. The current emphasis is on family farm forests. Future effort will be directed toward the more inclusive forest sector termed family forests. The reminder of these conclusions & recommendations use the inclusive term family forest.

h) Family forests should be respected as a cultural, social and environmental heritage. They are as a key part of the future development of the forest sector and a benefit to society as a whole.

16. Recommendations to the Joint Committee

The Joint Committee is encouraged to:

- a) continue to network with other partners and stakeholders to enhance technology transfer and management training of family forest owners. Wherever possible, participatory approaches should be used;
- b) create a forum to discuss environmental issues from the point of view of the family forest owner;
- c) promote more forest owner involvement in future meetings to have broader participation and perspective;
- d) organise a special workshop/meeting on the role of non-wood forest products and forest related services to support the development of family forests;
- e) prepare a guideline document to be used by member countries to implement measures for sustaining and developing family forests.

17. Recommendations to Member Countries

- a) New methods of participatory learning and knowledge transfer to support family forest development should be encouraged. Member countries are encouraged to support the dissemination of information on issues related to family forestry development.
- b) Member countries are encouraged to include economic and environmental aspects in their private forest policy, to avoid isolation by national boundaries and to ensure rural livelihoods by improved management of family forests.
- c) Forestry administrations and services should facilitate the study of the experiences of different countries and regions to ensure efficient and effective support of family forests in the countries.

- d) Develop and promote participation among forest owners, forest administrations, extension services and other public bodies to improve sustainable management of family forests.
- e) Member countries are requested to ensure networking among forest owners.

18. Recommendations to Forest Research Institutes and IUFRO

- a) Estimate actual and potential contributions of family forests to local/regional development and define appropriate mechanisms to give credit to forest owners for the non-market value they produce when managing their forests.
- b) Develop evaluation methods for different types of extension programmes to better reach the target groups and to improve the efficiency of the programmes.
- c) Research work should not only develop and transfer technologies but also look into socio-economic issues related to family forests.
- d) IUFRO is encouraged to strengthen the network among forest research institutes, research groups and other members across divisional and disciplinary boundaries concerning family forestry topics.
- e) Research alternative scenarios for development of the family forestry sector.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (Agenda Item 12)

- 19. The workshop participants discussed and adopted by consensus the draft conclusions and recommendations. The final report was prepared by the Secretariat and adopted after the workshop by e-mail correspondence.
- 20. For the host country, Robert **Robek** and Mirko **Medved** thanked the participants for attending the Workshop, preparing papers and posters, for the stimulating discussions during the sessions and for the conclusions and recommendations. Finally, Joachim **Lorbach**, on behalf of the Joint Committee and FAO, thanked the participants, the host country and all support staff for their active contribution to the successful outcome of the seminar. Participants were presented with Certificates of Attendance and small gifts from the host country.

ANNEX I

EXCURSION 1 - IMPORTANCE OF THE FOREST OPERATIONS AND WOOD UTILISATION FOR FARMERS

Excursion overview

The half-day excursion visited farms in Austria and Slovenia which depend on forest resources and examined their recent responses on contemporary challenges in a region, split by Shengen border. Participants also attended demonstrations of machinery employed and existing forest operations in farm forests, wood utilisation and marketing practices. A presentation was made on responses to market challenges and sustainable forest management in mountainous forests as well as economical and ecological considerations of their forest operations and wood utilisation.

Programme

13:20	Meeting of participants with valid visas & passports in front of the hotel and boarding in the buses. Meeting of participants without Austrian visa in front of the hotel and boarding in the van.
13:30	Transfer to the 'Pavlic local pass' (or visiting Forestry museum Vrbovec, for those without visas).
14:00	Introduction to the 'Lanwirschafts Kammern' (LK) representatives. Transfer to Excursion point 1- Bad Eisenkappel with the on-trip explanation of the LK role.
14:30	Visit the farm Miklau who founded association with few other farmers and carpenter. Sharing the achievement and challenges of their association.
15:30	Transfer to Excursion point 2-Bleiburg.
16:15	Presentation of the Forest owner associations in Carinthia. Presentation of the Forest owner association Bleiburg with the emphasis on forest operation related issues. Demonstration of the harvesting private forests with the harvester/forwarder owned by Forest owner association member.
17:30	Return trip to the 'Pavlic local pass'
18:30	Transfer to Excursion point 3-Farm Žibovt (with picking the no-visa participants).
8:45	Presentation of the Farm Žibovt: history, present state and prospects of the forest operation related issues. Short walk around farm and demonstration of the forestry operation related machinery.
19:30	Traditional dinner at the tourist farm Žibovt.
21:30	Boarding to the buses, transfer to the Hotel

ANNEXII**EXCURSION 2 - THE ROLE OF FARM FORESTRY FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT****Excursion overview**

The full-day excursion, was devoted to the diversity of the private forests in Slovenia. There will be demonstrations of the social and economic impact on forest operations and wood utilisation and measures that may be taken to increase the contribution to sustainable development in the local society and region. In addition, selected visits to cultural sites along the route and the capitol of Slovenia were organized.

Programme

07:50	Meeting of participants in front of the Hotel and boarding in the bus.
08:00	Transfer to the Excursion point 4-Biomass district powerplant (BDP) Logarska.
08:10	Presentation of the Forest management unit Solcava and BDP project from the idea to its realisation.
08:50	Transfer to Excursion point 5-Celje, with the on-trip explanation of the Savinjska region history and its present development.
10:30	Presentation of the farm forests and public interest in urban areas on three sites in Celje: Site 1: General information on forests and forest management Site 2: Prospects of the private forests in urban areas Site 3: Access improvement project.
11:30	On site snack with sandwiches, fruit and refreshments.
12:00	Transfer to the Excursion point 6 - Winch company Tajfun. During transfer video presentation of the company.
12:30	Presentation of the farm winch production from technological and social point of view. Discussions with the Company managers.
13:30	Transfer to the village Mokronog. Introduction to the representative of Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia and to the excursion sponsor - Forestry company Gozd d.d.
14:15	Transfer to the Excursion point 7 – Forest owner’s association ‘Mirenska dolina’. General introduction to the local forestry practise (Site 1). After leaving the bus dividing of the participants into two groups.
14:45	Presentation of the Regional Forest Service and water sawmill to the first group (Site 2). Transfer other half of the participants with mini bus to the firewood production jobsite (Site 3), demonstration of the forest operations, discussion with the forest owner and presentation of the Farmer’s association (Site 4).
15:10	Exchange of groups and repetition of the demonstrations and presentations.
16:10	Transfer to the Excursion point 8 –Medieval Castle Otocec
16:30	Dinner at the Otocec castle hotel.
18:00	Transfer to the Excursion point 9 –Ljubljana, Capitol of Slovenia.
19:30	Bus sightseeing of the major city highlights. Stop at the Ljubljana castle (shopping possibility).
20:15	Boarding to the bus, transfer to the Hotel. No intermediate stops.
22:00	Expected arrival at the hotel Plesnik.