Towards the Sixth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe

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FOREST EUROPE - Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe

- Sustainable forest management and emerging issues
- Sixth Ministerial Conference, 14 – 16 June 2011, Oslo (IYF)
- Political priorities and future direction of FOREST EUROPE
Overall priorities

• Strengthen the contributions of forests and the forest sector in Europe to sustainable development – at global, regional and national levels

• Visualise the contributions

• Ensure the long term provision of multiple goods and services from forests in Europe
The Challenges

- Crucial role of sustainable forest management – not evident to or recognised by society
- Environmental, economic and social benefits from forests are threatened by climate change
- Prepare for extreme events: storms, fires, drought, pests and diseases
- Increased demands from society, e.g. due to policies for renewable energy
Towards Oslo Ministerial Conference 2011

- Secure multifunctional forests and ensure long term provision of goods and services – with expected changing climate
  - Forests and forest sector – a vital part of the solution
  - Adapt forests and forest management to climate change
  - Need for adequate information

- Enhance implementation of sustainable forest management
  - Pan-European Vision, Goals, Targets
  - Supportive actions (pan-European and national)

- Strengthen European framework for cooperation
  - Framework for future work modalities
  - Ministerial decision on a possible legally binding agreement on forests in Europe
Working Group on a possible legally binding agreement

- Technical work in preparation for the Ministerial Conference
- Set out options for an LBA on forests in Europe (objectives, commitments, institutional arrangements, negotiation process)
- Oslo Conference – decision on whether to enter negotiations
- Working Group completes work in October 2010
Preparations

• State of Europe’s Forests 2011

• ELM 14-15 December 2011

• Several preparatory meetings

• ELM, spring 2011