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**Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on  
 Forest Statistics, Economics and Management  
 Forty-first session**  
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 Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda

**GUIDANCE ON WORK AREA 1: DATA, MONITORING, REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT**

AGENDA ITEM 8 (a)

Note by the Secretariat

*Summary*

In accordance with its mandate, the Working Party is expected to provide guidance to Work Area 1: Data, Monitoring, Reporting and Assessment. This document provides information about activities in this work area since the Working Party's last session in March 2018, as well as plans for 2019, drawing the Working Party's attention to any specific issues where guidance is needed. Activities in Work Area 1 for the year 2020 will be made available in document ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2019/Inf.8 and discussed under Agenda Item 9.

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## I. Forest Resources

### A. Data collection

#### **Global Reporting on Forests and Sustainable Forest Management**

1. The Joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section (Joint Section) participated in and contributed to several initiatives and meetings relevant to the implementation and reporting on: (i) the 2030 Agenda<sup>1</sup>, (ii) the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution E/2015/33<sup>2</sup> “International arrangement on forests beyond 2015” and (iii) the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030<sup>3</sup>.

#### ***Global Core Set of forest related indicators***

2. A final proposal for the core set of global forest-related indicators, developed through the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Task Force, with contribution from the Joint Section, was submitted to the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) in May 2018. The proposal consists of 21 indicators, including all forest-related SDG indicators and sub-indicators. The set refers to other forest-related targets and SDGs, the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF) and other forest-related global processes.
3. The 13<sup>th</sup> Session of UNFF “welcomed the progress made in developing a global core set of forest-related indicators ... and *acknowledged* the value of a core set in assessing progress towards achieving the GFGs and targets and other internationally-agreed forest-related goals and targets and in better focusing data collection efforts to reduce duplication”. Furthermore UNFF “*encouraged* member organizations of the CPF and other relevant bodies to apply the indicators from the global core set which are ready for use and *requested* the Partnership to continue developing the remaining indicators and report on progress in this regard to the Forum at its 14<sup>th</sup> session”.

#### ***Reporting on implementation of the UNSPF***

4. The UNFF, at its 13<sup>th</sup> Session, adopted the format for voluntary national reporting on implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017 and the United Nations Forest Instrument (UNFI). The Forum invited its Members to submit their voluntary national reports by mid-November 2019.
5. The format for national reporting served as the basis for the development of the format for regional/sub-regional reporting, which was prepared at the Expert Meeting on Regional and Sub-Regional Inputs to the United Nations Forum on Forests, held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 7-8 January 2019. The new format, prepared with the support of the Joint Section, will be used for the provision of regional and sub-regional inputs to UNFF, with the same timeline as the national ones.

#### **Global Forest Resource Assessment / Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ)**

6. The 2020 Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) reporting cycle was launched at the global workshop “FRA 2020 Technical meeting of National Correspondents and CFRQ partners”, on 5-9 March 2018 in Toluca de Lerdo, Mexico.
7. The FAO FRA Secretariat, Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava and the Joint Section organized several capacity building activities with the purpose of supporting UNECE member States in the reporting process. These included the Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) 2020 Regional Workshop for countries of Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (April 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland), and the Technical Workshop for experts from the Caucasus and Central Asia (Tbilisi, Georgia, December 2018). The three organizations also assisted national correspondents individually, in the framework of the global and regional reporting.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E)

<sup>2</sup> <http://undocs.org/E/RES/2015/33>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/UNSPF\\_AdvUnedited.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/UNSPF_AdvUnedited.pdf)

8. It is expected that the review of national reports will be completed by the end of March 2019. For non-reporting countries, the secretariats will prepare desk-top studies based on available data. Delegates will be informed about the status of the reporting at the Working Party session.

**Joint Forest Europe/UNECE/FAO pan-European reporting on SFM**

9. The Joint Section, working together with the Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava, the FAO FRA secretariat, and other organizations, completed the national data collection reporting formats for reporting on sustainable forest management (SFM), which are also used for global FRA 2020 reporting.
10. The 2020 pan-European data collection uses two questionnaires – on quantitative and qualitative indicators. Data collection on quantitative indicators was done with the use of pre-filled Excel files, the qualitative indicators questionnaire was completed through an on-line format. The Joint Section jointly with the Liaison Unit assisted national correspondents in charge of the quantitative questionnaires, while the Liaison Unit led the collection process of qualitative data.
11. The collection of FRA and the pan-European quantitative data was done through two interfaces (FRA Platform and Excel questionnaire). To facilitate work of national correspondents working on both reports and ensure data consistency between both systems, the overlapping variables between these two systems were indicated. The review of both reports from one country was done by the same international expert. An important component of this support was the regional workshop organized jointly by ECE, FAO and Forest Europe (April 2018, Geneva, Switzerland), with participation of national correspondents and international reviewers. In addition to the provision of technical training, the workshop also highlighted similarities and differences between these two interfaces.
12. The International Data Providers, led by the Liaison Unit Bratislava, is completing the national data collection process. The Joint Section provides data for four indicators: 3.2 quantity and market value of roundwood; 6.7 consumption per head of wood and products derived from wood; 6.8 imports and exports of wood and products derived from wood; 6.9 share of wood energy in total primary energy supply, classified by origin of wood.
13. In parallel to national data collection, the Joint Section, together with the two other secretariats, worked on follow up activities, which included the development of the next edition of the *State of Europe's Forests* report and the dissemination of the collected data. These issues were discussed at the meeting of the Team of Specialists on Monitoring SFM, which was held back to back with the meeting of the Forest Europe Advisory Group on preparation of the State of Europe's Forest 2020 (November 2018, Vienna, Austria).
14. The production process of the *State of Europe's Forest 2020*, has already started (produced jointly by Forest Europe and FAO, with support of the UNECE). The concept of the report, production schedule and securing the main authors was led by the Liaison Unit Bratislava. It is expected that the drafting process will commence in spring 2019, with a review workshop for national correspondents and authors in autumn 2019.
15. At the request from member states, the Joint Section and the FAO FRA secretariat carried out the successful test on the transfer of pan-European data into the FAO FRA Platform. The test was an important step towards integration of forest data platforms, held by partner organizations, which would significantly streamline the storage, dissemination and future collection of forest information.
16. The Joint Section would like to express its appreciation to the FAO FRA Secretariat and the Forest Europe Liaison Unit Bratislava for their cooperation on the joint reporting. The Section also expresses its gratitude to the national and international experts involved in the process, and the Russian Federation for its financial support.

**B. Assessment and Reporting****State of Forests of Caucasus and Central Asia**

17. This study on forests of the Caucasus and Central Asia is the first overview that covers all eight countries of the region. The study was developed by Mr. Kit Prins in close cooperation with forestry experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. It includes information on forest resources, the forest sector, trends and pressures on the forest, describes policies and institutions, identifies major challenges and policy responses.
18. Data presented in the study was collected through a participatory approach, in close cooperation with national experts, which enabled the use of national information sources, not easily available at the international level. The national experts reviewed the country overviews that were compiled by the secretariat and provided summaries of the institutional structures in their countries.
19. The draft of the study “State of forests of Caucasus and Central Asia” was reviewed at a workshop (Tbilisi, Georgia, December 2018), with the participation of experts, the lead author and the secretariat.
20. The publication is planned to be launched at the 14<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Forum on Forests (6-10 May 2019 in New York, United States). The work for 2019 will focus on publishing and promotion of the publication.
21. The Joint Section would like to express its appreciation to national and international experts involved in the development of the study, and to the Government of Switzerland for providing financial support to its production.

**Forest ownership in the ECE region**

22. The Joint Section finalized the study “State of Forest Ownership in the UNECE Region”, prepared in close cooperation with the COST Action project “Forest Land Ownership Changes in Europe - Significance for Management and Policy” (FACESMAP). It is expected that the study will be published by mid-2019.
23. The first results of the study were presented at the seventy-sixth session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (Vancouver, Canada in November 2018). The main findings from this publication were presented by Ms. Anna Lawrence (coordinating lead author) and authors of individual chapters at a seminar organized jointly with the European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR) (Brussels, Belgium, December 2018). This meeting included the launch of a new interactive database (in English and Russian) on forest ownership in the UNECE region, which can be accessed at: <https://w3.unece.org/PXWeb/en>.
24. The Joint Section thanks COST Action, its leader, Mr. Gerhard Weiss; the lead author, Ms. Anna Lawrence; and all authors and experts involved in the production of the study for their engagement, cooperation and commitment to this work. The Joint Section would also like to acknowledge the Russian Federation and the European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR) for their financial support.

**C. Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management**

25. The ECE/FAO Team of Specialists (ToS) on Monitoring SFM met twice in 2018. The first meeting (Tbilisi, Georgia, February 2018) was held in conjunction with the UNDA/UNECE/FAO Regional workshop on "Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia". The second meeting of the Team (Vienna, Austria, November 2018) was held back to back with the meeting of the Forest Europe Advisory Group on preparation of the State of Europe's Forest 2020.
26. The scope of the Team's work focused on matters related to the ongoing global and regional reporting on forests and forest management. In addition, the Team initiated its work on analysis and development of international forest damage/disturbance assessment and explored new means for strengthening its work on forest data processing and dissemination. The meetings of the Team served as a platform for exchanging information on ongoing work, outputs and plans related to forest monitoring and assessment. More information about the work of the Team, reports from the

meetings, background documents and presentations can be found at: <http://www.unece.org/forests/fr/msfm>.

27. In addition to the regular work of the Team, its members took part in the national and regional workshops and provided support to experts from countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia in the review and selection of criteria and indicators for SFM accountability systems. More information about the project can be found at: <http://www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/capacity-building/unda2016-2019>.
28. The Team of Specialists and the Joint Section expresses their gratitude to the Georgian National Forest Agency, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, for hosting, supporting and providing exceptional hospitality at both meetings.
29. The annual report of the Team will be provided later. The mandate of the Team runs from 2018-2019 and is subject to renewal by the ECE Executive Committee at the request of the joint session of the ECE Committee on Forests and Forest Industry (COFFI) and FAO European Forestry Committee (EFC) in November 2019.

#### **D. Key questions for guidance and discussion**

30. The Working Party is invited to:
  - a. Take note on the data collection processes for the global and regional reporting, and make recommendations on the finalization of the 2020 cycle;*
  - b. Take note on the results of thematic and regional outputs and provide advice on the possible follow up and dissemination process;*
  - c. Review the work of the Team of Specialists on SFM and make recommendations for its work.*
  - d. Advise on future work of the Team of Specialists on SFM, including the extension of its mandate.*

## **II. Forest Products' production, trade and consumption**

### **A. Data collection and assessment**

31. Website analysis continue to show that data and statistics are the leading reason for visits to the Joint Section website. Of the five most downloaded files, three are related to price statistics. See the agenda item 8(c) document (ECE/TIM/WP.2/2019/Inf. 6) for further details.

#### **Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ)**

32. In 2017, 45 questionnaires (containing some data) were received, compared to 37 the previous year. This equals 2015 for the most replies received. The number of data points provided declined over the previous year, as is common when our replies reach this level. More information is shown in annex A.
33. These data were published in the *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2017-18* (FPAMR), in the statistical annex accompanying it and through FAOSTAT (updated in August 2018 and January 2019).
34. Species trade and secondary products data for 2017 have not yet been published. Price statistics were updated during summer 2018. The price statistics continue to attract a high level of interest on our website. Trade flow data for eight product groups were published, showing trade by value between countries and regions. As usual, a flat file containing all forest products data for production and trade of primary products was published and updated in 2018.
35. The expected accomplishments used by the UN to evaluate the performance of the Joint Section include "Improved monitoring and assessment of the forest sector, to support sustainable forest management". The table in annex B shows the results for the last 25 years for one element of this indicator, the replies to the JFSQ. The "% Satisfactory" column is the number of countries supplying official data for at least 80% of the possible cells on JQ1 and JQ2, divided by the total number of countries in the ECE region. The target approved by the UN General Assembly for 2018-2019 is 75%.
36. The Secretariat is planning to organize a capacity-building workshop on forest products statistics in conjunction with FAO later this year. Further details will be discussed at the meeting of the Working Party.

#### **Timber Forecast Questionnaire (TFQ)**

37. The Joint Section published forecasts from 34 countries, one less than the previous year although higher than the long-run average of 31. The amount of data supplied increased slightly. The deadline, at the suggestion of the Team of Specialists, was some weeks later than previous years which was possible due to the later date of the Committee meeting. Hopefully this can also be the case this year.
38. The forecasts were made available at the meeting of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, were incorporated into the Market Statement, and were subsequently published on-line in 2018 in Excel and PDF format. We have discontinued publishing these tables as a Discussion Paper.
39. The Section is also carrying out an analysis of the reliability of forecasts which will be presented at a meeting of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics on 26 March 2019 and a summary will be made at the Working Party.

#### **International issues**

40. Cooperation between the four organizations (the International Tropical Timber Organization, Eurostat, the FAO and the ECE) that collect data through the JFSQ is conducted through the Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics (IWG). The organizations met in January 2019 in Yokohama (agenda and report are available at [www.unece.org/index.php?id=23657](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=23657)). The meeting covered preparations for the 2018 JFSQ to be issued this year, reviewing the impact of the changes made last year, data dissemination and updates to databases due to JFSQ changes.
41. The FAO and ECE participated in the June 2018 meeting of the World Customs Organization's Harmonised System Review Subcommittee (WCO-RSC). The Harmonised System Committee subsequently met in September 2018 (without the presence of ECE or FAO). The Committee

decided not to endorse the changes proposed for fibreboard and sanitary napkins, confirming provisional adoption of other changes, including engineered wood products. Final acceptance of these will be decided by the WCO Council (the governing body of the WCO) in mid-2019.

**B. Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics**

42. The Team met once, just prior to the 2018 Working Party meeting. The report of the meeting is available at <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=47909>. Since this meeting, the Team has worked to finalize the Engineered Wood Products questionnaire. Preliminary results from this questionnaire will be available at the Working Party. The Team will be asked for its recommendation on regularly collecting information on these products and the Working Party is asked to review this recommendation.
43. The Team will report to the Working Party following its planned 26 March 2019 meeting. The agenda of this meeting is available at <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=50820>.
44. The annual report of the Team is in the annex to this document. The mandate of the Team runs from 2018-2019 and is subject to renewal by the ECE Executive Committee at the request of the joint COFFI/EFC session in November 2019.

**C. Key questions on data collection for guidance and discussion**

45. The Working Party is invited to:
  - a. Review Team of Specialists' recommendation on Engineered Wood Products;*
  - b. Advise on future work of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics, including the extension of its mandate.*

**D. Forest products market assessment****The Forest Products Annual Market Review**

46. The *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2017-2018* was completed on 15 August 2018, and the English version in interactive PDF was available on the Joint Section's website on 10 September 2018. It was available in print and distributed to delegates of the COFFI meeting just ahead of the Market Discussions, which were held on 5-9 November 2018 in Vancouver, Canada. The Russian language version should be available by May (if past years are an indicator). As has been the case for several years now, the French version of the 2018 FPAMR is not likely to be available until late 2019 or 2020.
47. Due to the ongoing, significant delay in translation of publications into French, the secretariat seeks the approval by the Working Party that no French language version be produced (the Russian version would continue).
48. The FPAMR 2018 was made possible by funding from Finland, with significant in-kind contributions from many authors, and assistance from two interns from the University of Helsinki. Its production was managed by the Joint Section. Statistical input was received from over 100 national statistical correspondents and contributors.
49. Many authors and reviewers for the publication are members of the ECE/FAO ToS on Sustainable Forest Products. In addition, the ToS provided authors and expertise for the production of the *Review* and the Team Leader provided substantial support in the reviewing and proofreading of the final version.
50. At the November 2018 meeting of the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products (Vancouver), the Team recommended including an additional chapter on trade restrictions, seeing this as a key issue affecting trade of forest products. However, the secretariat proposes including information on trade restrictions in the relevant product chapters and the policy chapter, as trade restrictions on forest products are often highly specific and we have been tasked with keeping the Market Review concise.
51. At COFFI 2018 stressed the importance of full digitalization for dissemination of publications and communication, including smartphones and tablets (ECE/TIM/2018/2, paragraph 83). The secretariat intends to use the 2018-2019 FPAMR as a pilot project. At this point, the plan is to only produce the FPAMR in electronic format (no printed version) and shorten it by 25%.
52. The following are examples of UN electronic publications:
  - a. UNCTAD, 2018. World Investment Report. Available as PDF and electronic publication (<https://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=2130>);
  - b. UNCTAD, 2018. E-handbook on statistics. Available as PDF and electronic publication (<https://stats.unctad.org/handbook>);
  - c. The UN printing department prepared the following mock-ups (showcasing features, not actual content) as examples of what the 2019 Market Review could look like: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/Ir2GiizH8nV8U/> and <https://xd.adobe.com/view/50d0905b-19e4-4a90-5095-fe3d9c0a2c65-26e1/?hints=off>.
53. All of the examples provided above have their constraints and specific advantages. The Secretariat will present these in the session and invites delegates to discuss the options.

**Market Statements**

54. The Joint Section invited member States to prepare country market statements as background for the COFFI annual meeting. 17 countries submitted statements which are available on the website (<http://www.unecce.org/forests/market-statements-2018>). These provide an excellent level of country-specific detail on forest products markets, and the economic and policy contexts affecting them.
55. The 2018 Market Discussions in Vancouver included expert presentations and focused on current forest products trends. During the discussion, there was an emphasis on the importance of forests and wood products to mitigate climate change and, more broadly, on providing products that meet society's desire to live sustainably. Wooden buildings have great potential for storing carbon as well



as reducing carbon emissions over the entire life-cycle of the structure. Experts informed delegates that effective mitigation strategies involve sustainable forest management and the use of long-lasting products for carbon storage and substitution of carbon-intensive materials. Sustainable forest management and the use of sustainable wood products is a win-win situation for forest industries to prosper and to contribute to sustainable consumption and production.

56. The secretariat, guided by member States, developed the market statement for COFFI 2018, putting into one document the information provided by member states from the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire, Timber Forecast Questionnaire, Country Market Statements and Market Discussions. The market statement can be found in the annex of the COFFI 2018 meeting report (ECE/TIM/2018/2). Some of the main points of the market statement were also used for a press release with the title: “UNECE forest product market discussions highlight potential for carbon storage, greening the economy and growing demand from Asia”.

#### **E. Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products**

57. The ToS was instrumental in the preparation and review of the FPAMR 2017-2018 and assisting with the agenda for the Market Discussions in Vancouver. The ToS on Sustainable Forest Products met on 5 November 2018.
58. The FAO, ITTO and UNECE are finalizing a study on forest products conversion factors, which updates and elaborates upon the 2010 conversion factors study on ECE region countries. The new study provides conversion factors on major forest products from across the globe. The report is currently being reviewed and finalized and is scheduled to be published by FAO in 2019.
59. The annual report of the Team is in the annex to this document. The mandate of the Team runs from 2018-2019 and is subject to renewal by the ECE Executive Committee at the request of the joint COFFI/EFC session in November 2019.

#### **F. Key questions on data assessment for guidance and discussion**

60. The Working Party is invited to:
- a. Encourage replies to the JFSQ 2018 in time for the use of data in the FPAMR;*
  - b. Comment on the proposed new format of the Forest Products Annual Market Review;*
  - c. Due to the significant delay in translation of publications into French, the secretariat seeks the approval by the Working Party that no French language version to be produced for recurrent publications;*
  - d. Advise on future work of the Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products, including the extension of its mandate.*

### III. Wood Energy

#### A. Data collection

61. The secretariat presented the results of the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry data for the reference year 2015 (JWEE2015) to member States during the fortieth session of the Joint Working Party. Following the discussion, the secretariat updated the website on wood energy and uploaded the JWEE2015 results to the secretariat website ([www.unece.org/forests/jwee](http://www.unece.org/forests/jwee)). The website contains factsheets on data and trends, country profiles for all countries providing data, a flat file with all data collected from 2005 to 2015, two secretariat presentations, the questionnaire in English and Russian, as well as a manual.
62. The Joint Working Party, during its thirty-first session, asked the secretariat to conduct data collection on wood energy on a two-year cycle (ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2009/10). At the end of 2018, the Secretariat issued the questionnaire for 2017 data, with a requested deadline of February 28, 2019. An assessment of the initial replies will be presented at the Working Party meeting.

#### B. Data assessment

63. The publication “Wood Energy in the ECE Region: Data Trends and Outlook in Europe, CIS and North America” was published in April 2018. The publication contains the latest information from the JWEE2015 and sheds light on the current situation of wood energy, types of wood fuels used, major sources and users, public policy instruments that support (and hinder) its use, and how to sustainably source wood. Moreover, it provides an outlook on how current social, economic and political trends and developments may mould the use of wood for energy and its sustainable production.
64. The secretariat would like to reiterate its gratitude to the Team of Specialists on Wood Energy, all the authors for their contribution, and Finland for the financial and in-kind contribution to the report.
65. The secretariat officially launched the publication on 24 May 2018 with a presentation and a press release. The presentation was given to the thematic session on residential wood combustion and air pollution as part of the fifty-sixth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review under the ECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (Air Convention [www.unece.org/index.php?id=45535](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=45535)). The secretariat expresses its gratitude to the Air Convention for offering this opportunity of presenting during their meeting, which provided an opportunity to reach out to a very different and very relevant audience, especially for discussing the health aspects of wood energy. The press release was titled “Wood energy is no sleeping giant, say UNECE/FAO experts” and was released on the same day of the conference. The publication is also available in Russian, as of December 2018. The publication was presented to the 76<sup>th</sup> session of the ECE COFFI in Vancouver and was also referred to in the *Forest Products Annual Market Review 2017-2018* which provided an update on the wood energy market trends and their drivers in the last twelve months and thus complemented the information of the publication.

#### C. Cross-sectoral cooperation

66. The secretariat contributed to a thematic session on residential heating as a source of air pollution during the Fifty-sixth session of the ECE Working Group on Strategies and Review in May 2018 under the Air Convention. The outcome of the discussion emphasized that wood burning is a significant source of small particles and nitrogen oxides. This was confirmed by the World Health Organization (WHO).
67. The secretariat further cooperated with and provided input to the work of the ECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention). The convention is conducting work on the Water-Food-Energy Nexus in the Drin catchment area and the Drina catchment – both located in the western Balkan ([www.unece.org/env/water/nexus](http://www.unece.org/env/water/nexus)). The nexus term in the context of water, food (agriculture) and energy refers to these sectors being inextricably linked so that actions in one area commonly have impacts on the others, as well as on ecosystems. Wood energy was not the main focus of these two assessments at the beginning of the

project but was brought up as a key area to focus on during the stakeholder consultations. The secretariat provided data and expert input on wood energy and forest resource related matter in the regions to the water convention.

68. The secretariat would like to highlight again the increasing success of the video on “More heat with less wood”. This film on the efficient use of wood for heating in private households was launched on 23 March 2016, during the thirty-eighth session of the Working Party and has now become the second most successful video on UNECE’s Youtube account with more than 82,000 views, increasing 500% since March 2018.

#### **D. Team of Specialists on Wood Energy**

69. The Team did not find it necessary to meet in 2018, following the extensive work on the Wood Energy in the ECE Region publication. The secretariat coordinated with the core group of the team and agreed to hold a meeting of the ToS on Wood Energy in 2019. Umea University kindly agreed to host the next meeting from 3 to 4 June 2019 in Umea, Sweden. The draft agenda and registration for the Umea meeting can be found at ([www.unece.org/index.php?id=51250](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=51250)).
70. The annual report of the Team is in the annex to this document. The ToS highlighted some points for the Working Party and delegates are invited to take these into consideration. The mandate of the Team runs from 2018-2019 and is subject to renewal by the ECE Executive Committee at the request of the joint COFFI/EFC session in November 2019.

#### **E. Key questions on wood energy data assessment for guidance and discussion;**

71. Delegates are invited to:
- a. What are the burning issues related to wood energy in member countries;*
  - b. How to further improve the JWEE data in energy and forestry statistics and reporting (Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire/FAO statistics, Forest Resources Assessment, State of Europe’s Forests, Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, Environmental Performance Reviews, etc.);*
  - c. Provide guidance on any other aspects or the Joint Section’s work on wood energy.*
  - d. Advise on future work of the Team of Specialists on Wood Energy, including the extension of its mandate.*

## IV. Annex

### A. Replies to the Questionnaires

Questionnaire		Year Questionnaire Sent			
		2015	2016	2017	2018
JFSO	Total replies	45	38	37	45
	JQ1 (production) - replies	44	38	37	45
	% of cells filled (of 70/68)*	65	79	72	68
	JQ2 (trade) - replies	38	35	35	39
	% of cells filled (of 248/236)*	86	98	98	94
	JQ3 (sec. prod. trade) – replies	37	29	28	38
	% of cells filled (of 40/36)*	95	95	96	94
	EU/ECE (species trade) – replies	35	23	26	32
	% of cells filled (of 84)	92	95	91	85
TFO	TC1 (roundwood forecast) - replies	35	29	35	34
	% of cells filled (of 21)	81	91	80	81
	TC2 (product forecast) - replies	35	29	35	34
	% of cells filled (of 48)	82	94	81	85
		<b>2014</b>		<b>2016</b>	
JWEE	Total replies	27		33	
	Table 3 (wood fuel) - replies	12		18	
	Average number of cells filled	12		4	
	Table 4 (uses) - replies	26		30	
	Average number of cells filled	17		20	

There are a total of 56 member countries.

The first two tables on JWEE are not included, as they are partially prefilled.

\* The change to a lower number of cells to be filled started in 2018 for JQ1, JQ2 and JQ3.

**B. Indicators of Achievement**

<b>Data for Year</b>	<b>% Satisfactory*</b>
1992	62.2
1993	60.8
1994	61.5
1995	59.6
1996	55.8
1997	55.8
1998	51.9
1999	59.6
2000	63.5
2001	69.2
2002	71.2
2003	65.4
2004	69.2
2005	69.2
2006	75.5
2007	79.2
2008	73.6
2009	69.8
2010	67.9
2011	62.3
2012	75.5
2013	77.4
2014	62.3
2015	58.5
2016	62.3
2017	54.7

\* equal to or more than 80% of cells filled. See paragraph 35 for the explanation of the calculation.

**C. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Management**

This report was not provided as of the time the document was finalized.

**D. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics**

<b>Items for regular reporting to the JWPFSEM</b>	
<b>1. Name:</b>	
Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics Team website <a href="http://www.unece.org/forests/tosfps">http://www.unece.org/forests/tosfps</a>	
<b>2. Period covered:</b>	
April 2018 – March 2019	
<b>3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:</b>	
Leader:	Mr. Branko GLAVONJIC
Deputies:	Ms. Graça LOURO
Secretary:	Mr. Alex McCUSKER
<b>4. Members:</b>	
41	
<b>5. Countries: (List separated by comma)</b>	
26 countries: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Ireland, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.	
<b>6. Meetings held:</b>	
A meeting was held in March 2018. See <a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=47909">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=47909</a> . A meeting will be held in March 2019.	
<b>7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:</b>	
<p>The main ToS outputs in the last year were:</p> <p><b>JFSQ</b></p> <p>The Team agreed the item on post-consumer recovered wood as a single item within JFSQ.</p> <p>The Team supported a trial questionnaire for Engineered Wood Products (Glulam, CLT, LVL, I-beams, production and trade). The results of the questionnaire will be discussed during 2019.</p> <p>The item referring to sawnwood is supplemented with sleepers. The fibreboard definitions have been changed to account for dry production of insulating board.</p> <p>The team agreed that both JQ2 and 3 should be kept instead of using international trade statistics databases to that end, considering national correspondents most suitable to provide or revise raw trade data.</p>	

**JWEE**

Contribution of ToS members to the new design of JWEE.

**FPAMR and Wood Energy in the ECE region**

Active participation of ToS members in the production of:

- Forest Products Annual Market Review 2017-2018 and
- Wood Energy in the ECE Region: Data, trends and outlook in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and North America

**HS 2022**

The Team appreciated the work undertaken on HS 2022 and the extensive consultations that had taken place during the process. The issue to be considered in the continuation of this process relates to distinguishing chips traded for material use and energy use.

**Updates on ECE/FAO projects**

Two projects were completed in 2018 producing the following guidelines:

- Guidelines for the incorporation of a woodfuel supplementary module into existing household surveys in developing countries
- Guidelines on data collection for national statistics on forest products

Participation in FAO, EUROSTAT, ITTO standing bodies and upgrading of cooperation with other relevant international organizations and institutions with the purpose to further develop the statistical system for monitoring forest products.

**8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:**

1. Work on roundwood removals methodology and information sources.
2. Continuing work on the wood balance. The issue of double counting will also be pursued.
3. Collection of statistics and information
4. Production of JFSQ for 2018
5. Timber Forecast Questionnaire 2019
6. Support to the FPAMR production
7. Study updates for a) Wood Fibre balance and b) Conversion factor study.
8. Capacity building of statistical correspondents and improving statistical system for forest products in South East European countries (workshops, trainings).

**9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party:** (if significant issues, how do we stimulate WP discussion

1. Advise implementation of Work Area 1, its products and publications, and undertaking studies as appropriate.
2. Support the initiatives for capacity building of statistical correspondents and improving of statistical system for forest products in SEEC. A 2019 capacity-building workshop could involve experts and non-experts with separate programmes. It is necessary to determine a host country and financial support for participants.
3. Provide assistance on forest products markets in the UNECE region, especially to central and eastern European countries, through information collection, analysis and dissemination, including workshops.
4. Consider the work of the Team in light of current resources.

**10. Other comments:** (e.g. collaboration with other ToS, justification for not holding a meeting, etc.)

Continuation of discussion within ToS and between ToS and other international organizations and institutions concerning the upgrade of the statistical system for forest products.



**E. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products**

<b>Items for regular reporting to the JWPFSEM</b>	
<b>1. Name:</b>	<p>Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products</p> <p>Team website:  <a href="http://www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/forestsfp/methods-and-processes/team-of-specialists-on-sustainable-forest-products.html">http://www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/forestsfp/methods-and-processes/team-of-specialists-on-sustainable-forest-products.html</a></p>
<b>2. Period covered:</b>	<p>April 2018 – March 2019</p>
<b>3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:</b>	<p>Leader: Mr. Eoin O'DRISCOLL  Deputies: Mr. Delton ALDERMAN, Mr. Jeremy WALL  Secretary: Mr. Matt FONSECA</p> <p>We wish to thank Mr. Branko GLAVONJIC the outgoing Deputy Leader of our ToS in 2018 for his excellent input to our ToS during his term of office.</p>
<b>4. Members:</b>	<p>Eighty-five</p>
<b>5. Countries:</b>	<p>Thirty-one countries: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan.</p>
<b>6. Meetings held:</b>	<p>A meeting of the ToS was held on 5 November 2018, Pan Pacific Hotel, Vancouver, Canada.  <a href="http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2018/20181105/2018-05-11-2018-ToSSFP-Report.pdf">http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2018/20181105/2018-05-11-2018-ToSSFP-Report.pdf</a></p>
<b>7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:</b>	<p>Worked with the Secretariat to update and improve the Forest Products Annual Market Review (2017-2018) including the proof reading of same. This included the provision of photos for publication in the FPAMR.  Worked with the Secretariat to organize market discussion at the Timber Committee Meeting (2018).</p>
<b>8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:</b>	<p>Work with the Secretariat to update and improve the Forest Products Annual Market Review (2018-2019) including the proof reading of same.</p>

Work with the Secretariat to improve the visibility of the FPAMR and other relevant work of the Secretariat on social media platforms.

Work with the Secretariat and with the organisers of 2019 COFFI to hold a one-day market discussion and to build on the success of the 2018 market discussions by holding a similar one day event at COFFI 2019.

<https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=51124>

#### **9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party:**

What would the Working Party like to see in the way of ToS work looking ahead which is not included in item 8. (outputs and impacts expected in the coming year)?

Related to this, does the Working Party foresee any specific needs for workshops on forest products related topics?

Are there any possibilities for providing funding for specific activities of the ToS?

#### **10. Other comments:** (collaboration with other ToS)

We wish to build links with other Divisions within the UNECE to include Housing and Energy Divisions.

**F. Report of ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy**

<b>Items for regular reporting to the JWPFSEM</b>	
<b>1. Name:</b>	
	Team of Specialists on Wood Energy Team website <a href="http://www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/forestswood-energy/team-of-specialists-on-wood-energy.html">www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/forestswood-energy/team-of-specialists-on-wood-energy.html</a>
<b>2. Period covered:</b>	
	April 2018 – March 2019
<b>3. Leader/Deputies and Secretary:</b>	
Leader:	Mr. Dinko VUSIC
Deputies:	Mr. Francisco AGUILAR, Mr. Matthias DEES
Secretary:	Mr. Florian STEIERER
<b>4. Members:</b>	
	36
<b>5. Countries: (List separated by comma)</b>	
	12 countries: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America,
<b>6. Meetings held:</b>	
	No meetings held during the reporting period. One Telephone Conference held on 18 January 2018 to coordinate upcoming 3-4 June 2019 meeting in Sweden.
<b>7. Outputs and impacts achieved during last year:</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and release of the publication “<i>Wood Energy in the ECE Region: Data, Trends and Outlook in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and North America</i>”, with the support of the Government of Finland and the UNECEFAO Secretariat.</li> <li>• In addition to press releases, the publication was shared at the 2018 ECE COFFI meeting in Vancouver, Canada.</li> <li>• Other efforts within the ToS continued in 2018 with various members from Germany and the US completing an econometric analysis of wood energy consumption within the German residential sector. The study has been submitted for publication in a scholarly outlet.</li> </ul>

**8. Outputs and impacts expected for coming year:**

- Complete ToS meeting in Umeå on 3-4 June 2019 hosted by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.
- Discuss data collection and level of responses to the most recent Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE)
- Complete publication of study of German residential wood energy consumption
- Outline and initiative analysis of UNECE member countries' wood energy consumption using longitudinal data from the JWEE

**9. Issues for the attention of the Working Party:** (if significant issues, how do we stimulate WP discussion)

The ToS on Wood Energy has made it a priority to add value to the data collected over the years by the JWEE. We are interested in learning about overall trends, identifying and quantifying factors that influence wood energy consumption and trade. Hence, participation in the JWEE responses is instrumental to our ability to accomplish these tasks.

**10. Other comments:** (e.g. collaboration with other ToS, justification for not holding a meeting, etc.)

- The ToS on Wood Energy did not meet in 2018. The ToS instead invested heavily in the development and release of the publication "*Wood Energy in the ECE Region: Data, Trends and Outlook in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and North America*", with the support of the Government of Finland, and the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Wood Energy.
- Issues regarding the carbon neutrality of wood energy and other material wood products continue to be raised across the energy and construction sectors, among others. The Team of Specialists on Wood Energy seeks the guidance of the Joint Working Party on the topic and proposes to closely cooperate with the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products to develop practical guidelines on how to maximize the carbon reduction potential of forest-based products.

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