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**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

Seventy-seventh session

Geneva, 4-7 November 2019

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Food and Agriculture Organization

European Forestry Commission

Fortieth session

Geneva, 4-7 November 2019

Annotated provisional agenda for the joint session of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the European Forestry Commission

to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, starting on 4 November 2019 at 10.30 a.m.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Forests and the Circular Economy.
3. Joint Committee/Commission matters:
 - (a) Consideration of the recommendations for item 2 “Forests and the Circular Economy”;
 - (b) Global and Regional Forest Policy Matters;
 - (c) Integrated Programme of Work;
 - (i) Strategic Review of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work;
 - (ii) Report of the Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management;
 - (iii) Management of Teams of Specialists;
 - (iv) Review of 2019 activities, and activities and publications planned for 2020;
 - (v) Guidelines on the Promotion of Green Jobs in Forestry;
 - (vi) Forest Landscape Restoration;
 - (d) Outcomes of the Regional Forum for Sustainable Development and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development;
 - (e) Update on a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe;
 - (f) Market discussions;
 - (g) Any other business.



4. ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry matters:
 - (a) Matters arising from the sixty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe;
 - (b) Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry;
 - (c) ECE Forest Trust Fund;
 - (d) Programme of work of the Forestry and Timber subprogramme;
 - (e) Matters related to the Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe;
 - (f) Election of officers;
 - (g) Date and place of next meeting;
 - (h) Any other business.
5. FAO European Forestry Commission matters:
 - (a) Follow-up to the decisions of the thirty-ninth session of the European Forestry Commission;
 - (b) Presentation of forestry activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia;
 - (c) Progress of Silva Mediterranea;
 - (d) Progress report of EFC Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds;
 - (e) Panel discussion: “Emerging invasive species risk to European forests”;
 - (f) FAO’s work on biodiversity;
 - (g) The role of sustainable wood value chains in achieving the SDGs;
 - (h) Global processes;
 - (i) Implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and collaboration with UNFF, beyond WIPoW;
 - (j) Preparations for RCE 32 and COFO 25 and for the XV World Forestry Congress (FAO governance);
 - (k) Election of officers, date and place of next meeting;
 - (l) Any other business.
6. Adoption of the joint session report and closure of the session.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

For the timing of agenda items, please refer to the schedule on the last two pages of this document.

Opening

The opening of the European Forest Week (EFW) will take place on Monday 4 November 2019 at 10.00 a.m. The official session of the Committee and the Commission will begin at 10.30 a.m.

In accordance with past practice, the Bureaux of the Committee and Commission have suggested that the Chairs of the two bodies co-chair the joint session.

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/1; FO:EFC/2019/1

In accordance with both bodies' rules of procedure, the adoption of the agenda is the first item of the agenda.

2. Forests and the Circular Economy

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/3; FO:EFC/2019/3

Two panel discussions on “Forests and the Circular Economy” will highlight ways to help achieve enhanced forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, in particular related to the UNFF Global Forest Goal 2.

Delegates will also consider recommendations on the topic included in the document above.

3. Joint Committee/Commission matters

(a) Consideration of the recommendations for item 2 “Forests and the Circular Economy”

Delegates will consider recommendations that were presented during two panel sessions on Monday on the topic of Forests and the Circular Economy.

(b) Global and Regional Forest Policy Matters

Delegates will be informed about policy developments at the global and regional level, which have a bearing on the work of the Committee and the Commission. In particular, updates will be provided on:

- (i) The 14th session of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) and the regional input to the UN Strategic Plan on Forests (UNSPF);
- (ii) Forests and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- (iii) Regional processes and activities (e.g. Forest Europe and European Forest Institute).

Delegates are invited to take note of the information provided and to make recommendations for the future work of the Committee and the Commission in this regard.

Outcomes of this agenda item will be subject to decisions taken under agenda item 3(c), which considers the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW).

(c) Integrated Programme of Work

- (i) *Strategic Review of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work*

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/4; FO:EFC/2019/4

Delegates will be informed of plans to conduct the Strategic Review of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work and they will be invited to approve the roadmap and future activities of the review process as described in the associated documentation.

(ii) *Report of the Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2019/2*

The report of the forty-first session of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, which was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 27 to 29 March 2019, will be presented to the Committee and the Commission for their consideration.

Delegates will be informed of the recommendations of the joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management regarding adjustments to the organization's Teams of Specialists.

(iii) *Management of Teams of Specialists*

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/5; FO:EFC/2019/5

Delegates will be invited to consider recommendations from the Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management on:

- (i) The renewal of mandate of Teams of Specialists;
- (ii) The possible incorporation of the Teams of Specialists on Forest Policy into the Team of Specialist on Forest Sector Outlook;
- (iii) The establishment of a new Team of Specialist on Boreal Forests and approval of its Terms of Reference.

(iv) *Review of 2019 activities, and activities and publications planned for 2020*

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/6; FO:EFC/2019/6

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/7; FO:EFC/2019/7

Delegates will be informed about the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work (WIPoW) activities that were implemented in 2019, including key findings from the study "State of Forest Ownership in the UNECE region". They will also be presented with a provisional list of outputs and publications for 2020.

Delegates will be invited to endorse the document.

(v) *Guidelines on the Promotion of Green Jobs in Forestry*

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/8; FO:EFC/2019/8

Delegates will be invited to adopt the UNECE/FAO/Forest Europe "Guidelines on the Promotion of Green Jobs in Forestry".

(vi) *Forest Landscape Restoration*

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/Inf.2; FO:EFC/2019/Inf. 2

Delegates will be informed about the past and current activities on forest landscape restoration. The Committee and the Commission will be invited to discuss the direction of work and future activities in this area, in the context of the upcoming 2021 – 2030 UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the 30x30 initiative on forest landscape restoration in Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

(d) Outcomes of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Delegates will be informed about the outcome of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE region, which took place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 21-22 March 2019. In particular, they will be informed about the roundtable on "The Power of Knowledge for Change", to which the Joint Section contributed a speaker on forest education

and pedagogy, and the side event celebrating the International Day of Forests. Delegates will also be informed about relevant outcomes of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, which took place from 9 to 18 July 2019 in New York, United States.

Delegates are invited to take note of the information and make recommendations on the possible contribution of the Committee and the Commission to the next session of both for a in 2020.

(e) Update on a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe

The meeting will be updated on the status of the discussions on the possible resumption of the negotiations on the Legally Binding Agreement for Forests in Europe.

Delegates will be invited to take note of the information.

(f) Market discussions

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/9; FO:EFC/2019/9

The Market discussions focus on forest products trends in the region, and the sector's progress towards sustainable development. Delegates are invited to make statements on the latest trends in forest products production and trade and discuss amendments to the draft Market Statement of the joint session (ECE/TIM/2019/9; FO:EFC/2019/9). Discussions will be supported by data and information collected and publications issued by the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, in particular the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2019-2020.

(g) Any other business

None at the time of writing.

4. ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry matters

(a) Matters arising from the sixty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe

Documentation: E/ECE/1488

Delegates will be informed of decisions adopted by ECE at its sixty-eighth session held in Geneva, Switzerland from 8 to 10 April 2019 that are relevant to the Integrated Programme of Work.

Delegates will be invited to take these decisions and developments into account when planning future activities.

(b) Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/10; FO:EFC/2019/10

At the request of a member State, the bureau of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) decided to include an agenda item on the Rules of Procedure as contained in Annex III of document ECE/TIM/2018/2 to discuss the possible amendment of paragraph 9 of the current COFFI Rules of Procedure, and to clarify the standing practice.

Delegates will be invited to consider the proposal and adopt it.

(c) ECE Forest Trust Fund

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/11; FO:EFC/2019/11

Delegates will be informed of the current status of the Trust Fund for the ECE Study on Long-Term European Timber Trends and Prospects (full name of the ECE Forest Trust Fund) and discuss how to streamline funding in line with current UN and UNECE regulations.

(d) Programme of work of the Forestry and Timber subprogramme

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/12; FO:EFC/2019/12

Delegates will be invited to review and adopt the draft programme of work of Forestry and Timber subprogramme for 2020 and recommend it to the Executive Committee for approval.

(e) Matters related to the Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/13; FO:EFC/2019/13

Delegates will be informed about the state of discussions on the possible resumption of the negotiations on the Legally Binding Agreement for Forests in Europe and the implications of this activity for the work of UNECE and COFFI.

Delegates are invited to take note of the information and advise accordingly.

(f) Election of officers

The Committee is expected to elect its Chair and Vice-Chairs, who will hold office until the end of the seventy-eighth session. At the seventy-sixth session, the following individuals were elected to hold office until the end of the seventy-seventh session: Mr. Guy Robertson (United States) as Chair; and Ms. Marta Gaworska (Poland), Mr. Christoph Dürr (Switzerland), and Ms. Maria Sokolenko (Russian Federation) as Vice-Chairs.

(g) Date and place of next meeting

Provided that conference services are available, the week of 2 to 6 November 2020 has been provisionally reserved for the seventy-eighth session of the Committee, to be held in Geneva if no country offers to host the meeting.

(h) Any other business

None at the time of writing.

5. FAO European Forestry Commission matters

(a) Follow-up to the decisions of the thirty-ninth session of the European Forestry Commission

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/14; FO:EFC/2019/14

Delegates will be informed about how the decisions taken by the Commission at the thirty-ninth session (ECE/TIM/2017/2; FO:EFC/2017/2) have been implemented. The review of progress in implementing previous decisions pays special attention to some key issues, including global and regional developments, forest invasive species, forest landscape restoration, implementation of forestry related SDGs in the region, and forestry and food security.

(b) Presentation of forestry activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/15; FO:EFC/2019/15

Delegates will be informed on FAO's regional forestry works and activities implemented/planned by the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (FAO-REU), and by the sub-regional Office for Central Asia (FAO-SEC).

Delegates will be invited to provide guidance to FAO's forestry work in the region.

(c) Progress of Silva Mediterranea

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/16; FO:EFC/2019/16

Delegates will be briefed on the activities conducted under the auspices of Silva Mediterranea, including the State of Mediterranean Forests, the Strategic Framework for Mediterranean Forests, and the 6th Mediterranean Forest Week with the twenty-third session of the Committee therein.

(d) Progress report of EFC Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/17; FO:EFC/2019/17

Delegates will be briefed on the activities of the European Forestry Commission Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds including its most recent initiative on the protective functions of forests in a changing climate.

Delegates will be invited to provide guidance to the Working Party work in the region.

(e) Panel discussion: “Emerging invasive species risk to European forests”

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/18; FO:EFC/2019/18

The ecological, economic and public health damage caused by invasive forest species is growing every year. Nowadays, policies of globalization, especially increasing intercontinental trade, widening of travel possibilities and climate change are the major factors accelerating the introduction and establishment of invasive species and associated problems.

The panel will discuss the several multiple dimensions of the problem in the region and provide guidance to the relevant work in the region.

(f) FAO’s work on biodiversity

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/19; FO:EFC/2019/19

Delegates will be informed about the possible implications of the currently developed FAO Biodiversity Strategy, biodiversity mainstreaming in forestry, forest-relevant outcome of the session of the Commission on Genetic Resources, the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources, and the World’s Forest Genetic Resources report preparations.

Delegates will be invited to provide inputs to the relevant work FAO at global, regional and national levels.

(g) The role of sustainable wood value chains in achieving the SDGs

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/23; FO:EFC/2019/23

The secretariat will inform commission members about FAO global initiative on Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World (SW4SW) and the role of sustainable wood value chain in achieving the SDGs.

Delegates will be invited to provide inputs to the FAO initiative SW4SW at global, regional and national levels.

(h) Global processes

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/20; FO:EFC/2019/20

Outcomes of UNFCCC COP24, World Forum on Urban Forests, UNCCD COP13-14, CBD COP14, 4th Agroforestry Congress, HLPF 2019, SG Climate Summit, UN Decades (Family Farming, Ecosystem Restoration), implications of the UN reform and the International Poplar Commission reforms will be brought to the attention of the Commission.

Delegates will be invited to provide inputs to FAO contributions to the global process.

(i) Implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and collaboration with UNFF, beyond WIPoW

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/21; FO:EFC/2019/21

The 24th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO) “*recommended deeper collaboration between regional forestry commissions and the Forum through its regional dimension and suggested that this collaboration be flexible and fit to different regional circumstances.*”

Delegates will be informed about outcomes of UNFF14 including the Forum’s deliberations on the regional dimension as well as global and regional FAO actions in support of the UNSPF. Delegates will be invited to provide inputs for the implementation of UNSPF by FAO at the global and regional level, beyond the joint work program of EFC/COFFI, as well as on opportunities for further collaboration with UNFF.

(j) Preparations for RCE 32 and COFO 25 and for the XV World Forestry Congress (FAO governance)

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/22; FO:EFC/2019/22

The Commission will be requested to recommend topics to be considered at the 32nd session of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe (ERC) and the twenty-fifth session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO) in 2020 and the Commission will identify its regional priorities for the FAO Forestry programme. Delegates will also be informed and updated about preparations for the XV World Forestry Congress.

(k) Election of officers, date and place of next meeting

In accordance with its rules of procedure and established practice, the Commission is expected to elect a Chairperson and three Vice-Chairpersons, who will hold office until the end of the forty-first session. At the thirty-ninth session, the following individuals/representatives were (re-)elected to hold office until the end of the fortieth session: Ms. Christine Farcy (Belgium) as Chairperson, and Mr. Rob Busink (Netherlands), Mr. Kenan Kilic (Turkey), and Ms. Liubov Poliakova (Ukraine) as Vice-Chairpersons.

(l) Any other business

None at the time of writing.

6. Adoption of the joint session report and closure of the session

The Committee and the Commission will be invited to adopt the report on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

III. Tentative timetable

Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, seventy-seventh session and European Forestry Commission, fortieth session

Monday, 4 November 2019

<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title</i>
10:00 – 10:30		Opening of the European Forest Week
10:30 – 11:20		Official opening of the joint session and welcome remarks
11:20 – 11:30	Item 1	Adoption of the agenda
11:30 – 13:00	Item 2	Forests and the Circular Economy
15:00 – 18:00	Item 2	Forests and the Circular Economy

Tuesday, 5 November 2019

<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title</i>
10:00 – 10:15	Item 3(a)	Consideration of the recommendations for item 2 “Forests and the Circular Economy”
10:15 – 10:45	Item 3(b)	Global and Regional Forest Policy Matters
10:45 – 12:30	Item 3(c)	Integrated Programme of Work
12:30 – 12:45	Item 3(d)	Outcomes of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
12:45 – 13:00	Item 3(e)	Update on a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe
15:00 – 17:45	Item 3(f)	Market Discussions
17:45 – 18:00	Item 3(g)	Any other business

Wednesday, 6 November 2019

<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Item 4(a)	Matters arising from the sixty-eighth session of the Economic Commission for Europe
10:30 – 11:00	Item 4(b)	Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry
11:00 – 11:30	Item 4(c)	ECE Forest Trust Fund
11:30 – 12:00	Item 4(d)	Programme of work of the Forestry and Timber subprogramme
12:00 – 12:15	Item 4(e)	Matters related to the Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe
12:15 – 12:30	Item 4(f)	Election of officers
12:30 – 12:45	Item 4(g)	Date and place of next meeting
12:45 – 13:00	Item 4(h)	Any other business
15:00 – 15:30	Item 5(a)	Follow-up to the decisions of the thirty-ninth session of the European Forestry Commission
15:30 – 17:30	Item 5(b)	Presentation of forestry activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
17:30 – 17:45	Item 5(c)	Progress of Silva Mediterranea
17:45 – 18:00	Item 5(d)	Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds

Thursday, 7 November 2019

<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title</i>
10:00 – 11:20	Item 5(e)	Panel discussion “Emerging invasive species risks to European forests”
11:20 – 11:50	Item 5(f)	FAO’s work on biodiversity
11:50 – 12:15	Item 5(g)	The role of sustainable wood value chains in achieving the SDGs
12:15 – 12:40	Item 5(h)	Global processes
12:40 – 13:00	Item 5(i)	Implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and collaboration with UNFF, beyond WIPoW
15:00 – 15:25	Item 5(j)	Preparations for RCE 32 and COFO 25 and for the XV World Forestry Congress (FAO governance)
15:25 – 15:40	Item 5(k)	Election of officers, date and place of next meeting
15:40 – 15:50	Item 5(l)	Any other business
15:50 – 18:00	Item 6	Adoption of the joint session report and closure of the session