FOREST PRODUCTS
TRENDS & DEVELOPMENTS

Scope and objective of the session

The UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section organizes annual market discussions to present and discuss trends for forest products in Europe, North America and the Commonwealth of Independent States. The main objective of these discussions is to share knowledge on market trends and policies and the potential impacts on production, trade, consumption and outlook for forest products in the region.

The session will be moderated by Silvia Melegari, Secretary General of the European Organisation of the Sawmill Industry. Experts will provide an overview on recent market developments, current trends and possible developments of the markets in the coming year. They will also discuss how forest products markets in their respective subregions (Europe, North America and CIS) are influenced by developments in countries in other regions. Meeting participants are invited to discuss the items raised and to provide statements. A wide range of stakeholders, including official delegations from UNECE member States, representatives of the private sector, forest stakeholders, academia and the media will participate in the discussion.

The UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section provides a current dataset before the discussion, which includes: data on forest products production, trade and consumption for 2018 (collected in May/June 2019), the country forecast tables which provide an outlook until the end of 2020 (collected in October 2019), individual country reports, and the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2018-2019.
Short Bios of speakers:

**Mr. Russ Vaagen** is the founder and CEO at Vaagen Timbers. Russ has been working in the family's Forest Industry business his entire professional life. Most recently Russ assembled a team to build Vaagen Timbers, an automated mass timber manufacturer. Their focus is on utilizing fire-prone over-stocked forests to produce cross laminated and glue laminated timber products.

**Mr. Igor Novoselov** is founder and consultant of WhatWood Research & Analytics, a Moscow based forest product markets consulting agency founded in 2012. He has also worked for the Russian Timber Group, the Federal Forestry Agency at Roslesinforg, the Scientific Centre of Timber Industry on Technologies and Energetics. He graduated from Moscow State Forest University as a Forest Engineer.

**Mr. Richard Steindl** is Cross Laminated Timber Product Manager for Stora Enso. In the past, Mr. Steindl held various positions for Stora Enso and also for Hess Timber. Mr. Steindl is a trained carpenter and alumni of the Technical University of Rosenheim with a degree in Engineering for Timber Construction.
Professor Eduard Akim  Professor Eduard Akim is Head of the Department of Cellulose Technology and Composite Materials at St. Petersburg State University of Industrial Technology and Design. Prof. Akim is Vice President of RAO Bumprom and Member of the Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences on Forests and Forestry. Prof. Akim is full member of the Russian Engineering Academy and holds a Doctor of Technical Sciences.

Mr. Aleksandr Pekaretc is the Technical Director of Forest Technology Company LLC, Irkutsk, Mr. Pekaretc is also Vice President of RAO Bumprom. He is a physicist by training, graduated from the Physics Department of Irkutsk State University.

The session will be moderated by:

Ms. Silvia Melegari is the Secretary General of the European Organisation of the Sawmill Industry and worked for the European Panel Federation before. In past years Mrs Melegari has been nominated expert for the European Economic and Social Committee on several wood product related questions (i.e. carbon balances and competitiveness of the woodworking sector). Ms. Melegari holds a Master degree from the European College of Parma.
## PROGRAMME

*Forest product markets in the UNECE - coping with global change*

**15:00-18:00**

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<th>Time</th>
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<th>Speaker/Institution</th>
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| 15:10-15:40 | North American market perspective  
*Turning burning forests into renewable cities* | Mr. Russ VAAGEN, Vaagen Brothers lumber                      |
| 15:50-16:25 | Perspective from the Commonwealth of Independent States  
*Adding more value to wood and forests* | Mr. Igor NOVOSELOV, Whatwood                              |
| 16:30-17:00 | European market perspective  
*Massive wood construction in Europe on the example of CLT: history & outlook* | Mr. Richard Steindl, Stora Enso                          |
| 17:10-17:30 | **Panel discussion**                                                   |                                                          |
| 17:30-17:40 | Short update on the Russian Pulp and Paper markets and  
*Innovative technology for the production of charcoal briquettes in the Russian Federation* | Prof. Eduard Akim, St. Petersburg University                     |
| 17:40-17:50 | **Panel discussion**                                                   |                                                          |

**Acknowledgements:**

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