

UNECE-FAO
FORESTRY AND TIMBER SECTION

**Third (28th) meeting of the “UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on
monitoring sustainable forest management”**

*Copenhagen, Denmark, 3-4 December 2019
European Environment Agency*

Report from the meeting



Item 1. Opening and welcome by the representative from European Environment Agency, FAO and UNECE

In absence of Mr. Adrian Lanz, a leader of the Team, Mr. Roman Michalak, a secretary of the Team, presented the agenda of the meeting, which was adopted by the Team without any modifications (Annex I), and invited Ms. Annemarie Bastrup-Birk and Ms. Stefanie Linser, deputy leaders of the Team, to co-chair the meeting. The list of participants is found in Annex II.

Ms. Annemarie Bastrup-Birk welcomed participants on behalf of the European Environment Agency. Mr. Örjan Jonsson, FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) addressed the Team on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Mr. Roman Michalak addressed the Team on behalf of the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and informed the meeting about the decision of the UNECE Executive Committee to extend the mandate of the Team for the next two years (2020-2021).

Ms. Annemarie Bastrup-Birk informed the Team about the decease of Mr. Tor-Björn Larsson earlier this year. Mr. Larsson was a long-time member of the Team and at the same time an officer of the Agency, who made an important contribution to linking the environmental protection, the Agency's work and the activities of the Team. Meeting participants honoured the memory of Tor-Björn, who will be well remembered for his professionalism and friendliness.

Item 2. Update on the progress and plans for the global and regional forest reporting

a. FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)

Mr. Örjan Jonsson (FAO) updated the meeting on the progress of work and plans related to the FRA 2020 reporting. Ten regional workshops, the last one on 2 December 2018, were organized in support of national reporting that were followed by the experts' advice to national correspondents on the finalization of national submissions. Mr. Jonsson noted that despite the deadline for the provision of national reports was the end October 2018, the reporting process was extended by several months. At the time of the ToS meeting, national reports were at the official validation phase. Mr. Jonsson also informed the Team about tentative calendar of events/outputs relevant to the FRA reporting process; key findings (10-15 pages) had been finalized, and some of the findings were intended to be published in the State of the World's Forests (SOFO), and released on the International Day of Forests in March 2020, IDF2020. Main report (120 pages) will be released in June 2020, together with a database and national reports, during the 2020 session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO).

In the follow-up discussion, members of the Team discussed several aspects related to the results of the 2020 national reporting, dissemination process and other components of the FRA programme. Mr. Jonsson informed the Team that despite some challenges and delay in the reporting, the number of countries that provided their national submission increased to 191 from 170 in 2015 cycle (and to 50 from 42 in the UNECE region respectively). In addition to the key outputs (key-findings and main

report), national data will be made available in a format of national reports and through international compilations. In parallel to nationally based reporting, the work on remote sensing-based FRA component was continued, including 20 regional workshops to validate sample plots from remote sensing data. National correspondents will be informed about details of these events; it is envisaged that remote sensing-based data will be aggregated on the biome and region levels and published separately from the outputs planned for March and June 2020.

Members of the Team pointed out the importance of spreading the FRA 2020 results, beyond the traditional circles of users. There are several global and regional events/publications planned for 2020 that are highly relevant to FRA and the launch of 2020 results provides a convenient opportunity for improving forest-related information in related sectors/areas.

b. Joint FOREST EUROPE/UNECE/FAO Pan-European reporting on SFM; development of the State of Europe's Forests 2020

Mr. Rastislav Raši, FOREST EUROPE Liaison Unit Bratislava, provided the Team with information regarding the progress on the joint FAO/UNECE/FOREST EUROPE Pan-European reporting on sustainable forest management and the production of the FOREST EUROPE report "State of Europe's Forests 2020" (presentation available at the meeting [website](#)). The pan-European national reporting on quantitative indicators was carried out in parallel to and jointly with the global one, the qualitative data was reported to separate reporting forms accessible from the common reporting platform managed by the Liaison Unit Bratislava.

Focusing on the quantitative indicators reporting, the overall experience was positive, and the arrangement of the reporting merging these two processes proved to be successful, despite already known obstacles, primarily duality of the reporting systems, that posed some difficulties and burden to all parties. In general, the data collection process was assessed better than in the previous cycle. Not all countries were able to report to both processes (39 out of 46 the pan-European countries reported), which can be partly explained by the workload burden posed by request to compile two reports in the same time. Similarly, to the global process, the pan-European reporting struggles with the timeliness, as overall the data collection process extended for several months.

This affected other phases of the process, primarily the production of the State of Europe's Forest report, which faced some delays to initial plans, which however will not affect the expected publication date (end of October 2020). The main change in the 2020 edition, compared to previous ones, is the inclusion of individual overviews of the state of forests and SFM in FOREST EUROPE countries. Mr. Raši informed the Team that in parallel to the data collection and drafting process, the Liaison Unit had completed pilot studies dedicated to the recently added/restructured indicators, namely for: forest land degradation, common forest bird species and forest fragmentation.

In the follow-up discussion, members of the Team pointed positive results of the FAO action to reduce the number of variables of FRA and suggested a similar approach regarding the pan-European reporting. However, it was noted that in the recent review of the pan-European set of indicators the amount of the information demanded had

increased. Further, opposite to the FRA reporting process, where the content is defined at the expert's level, the scope of the pan-European reporting is a subject of the political decision, which affects its elasticity for possible adjustment.

In response to the question from the Team, Mr. Roman Michalak informed the Team about the status and plans for the work on the possible Legally Binding Agreement (LBA) on forests in Europe. The UNECE, in response to the invitation by FOREST EUROPE started an informal consultation on this topic. The next session of this process was scheduled for January 2020.

c. Forest related work of the European Environment Agency

Ms. Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, European Environment Agency, (EEA) presented a snapshot of forest-related work of the European Environment Agency (presentation available at the meeting [website](#)). Although the EEA is an EU agency, its membership also includes several non-EU countries. The EEA's focus is on the environment, but the organization works with and for countries in the wider (policy and economic) context. Coordination of the activities related to information management is carried out through the European environment information and observation network (Eionet), which includes a forest-related group – National Reference Centre (NRC) Forests. The scope of work ranges from data collection, management and dissemination in both forest focused and general outputs of the organization, including State of the Environment and Outlook.

The EEA is developing its analytical capacities, in particular, the information systems to support the development of outputs, share information and satisfy EU reporting obligations. The recent, forest-related development is FISE – Forest Information System for Europe (more information available under item 5). Forest related information work is done with national experts (through NRC Forests) and in collaboration with other EU agencies and other organizations. Ms. Bastrup-Birk acquainted the Team with the EEA plan for the forest-related work for the next period (presentation available at the meeting [website](#)).

In the follow-up discussion, members of the Team underlined the importance of the cooperation on the data collection level, noting differences in national representation in EEA's and other (FAO, UNECE, FAO) networks. This indicates the need for more work on cooperation among them, the organization of the ToS meeting in the EEA headquarters was noted as a good step in this direction. In addition to cooperation, a possibility for coordinated participation in other processes (e.g. in UN Economic Environmental Accounts and System for Environmental and Economic Accounts (SEEA)) was mentioned as a possible direction of cooperation.

d. UNECE/FAO State of Forests in the Caucasus and Central Asia

Mr. Roman Michalak presented key findings from the recently published UNECE/FAO study "State of Forests in the Caucasus and Central Asia (presentation available at the meeting [website](#)). The study was prepared by Mr. Kit Prins and national experts from all countries of the CACAS region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan). Publication (available at: <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=51705&L=0>) is the first overview of forests, forest management and forest policies, and institutions of the countries of the region.

In addition to the regional analysis of status, trends and challenges of the forest sector, the study includes national overviews for all, eight countries of the CACAS region.

In addition to the English version, a version in Russian will be prepared. The information from this study will also be used for the preparation of the series of national, bilingual publications, to strengthen the dissemination of information on forests and forest sectors of the CACAS countries. The studies extended the series of publications on this region, recently produced by the Joint Section, namely "Forest Landscape Restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia" and "Guidelines for the Development of a Criteria and Indicator Set for Sustainable Forest Management" that are available at <https://www.unece.org/forests/welcome.html>.

e. **Discussion on audience, impact and possible improvements in dissemination of forest related information**

Following the presentation of the plans and outputs related to forest information, the Team discussed possible ways of further improvements of their dissemination. It was noted that the increase in the means of communication does not automatically increase the success of dissemination. While recognizing the key role of professional communicators in this process, the importance of communication among forest information related organizations was noted as an important factor contributing to its success. The Team emphasised the further need for making better use of tools to monitor the use of already published data, in particular users' characteristics. This would allow for better adjusting outputs to the user's profiles and needs. Accumulation of publications, key outputs planned for release in 2020, were identified as convenient opportunities for collaborative dissemination actions to strengthen the visibility of the results, particularly beyond the traditional circles of users of this information.

Item 3. Presentation of main findings of the study and review of the enquiry on forest ownership

As an introduction to this item, Mr. Roman Michalak presented key findings of the UNECE/FAO publication "Forest ownership in the UNECE region" (presentation available at the meeting [website](#)), which was expected to be published by the end of 2019. The study was prepared by the team of analysts within the joint project by the UNECE, the FAO and the COST Action FACESMAP, with the support of the EUSTAFOR and FECOF. The study was drafted with the use of several sources of information, the results of the Joint COST Action FACESMAP/UNECE/FAO Enquiry on Forest Ownership in the UNECE Region, the expert survey on Forest Land Ownership Change in Europe, carried out through the COST Action FACESMAP, other surveys and available literature.

In the follow-up discussion, members of the Team commented on the results and the way of their presentation. Some concerns were raised regarding the presentation of data in the form of composite indicator, that would require revealing the background information used for the construction of combined values. Overall, the study was found as important and certainly widening the knowledge of this topic. Possible organization of the separate workshop dedicated to this issue was recommended.

The next edition of the study and collection of the underlying data is envisaged for 2025. However, in order to benefit from the experience of the current cycle, the Team

was invited to review the content of *Enquiry on Forest Ownership in the UNECE Region* and to provide the feedback that would be used for developing the next version of the *Enquiry*. In this review, the Team focused on the definition of the “forest management” developed specifically for this *Enquiry*; the original and modified wording are attached in the Annex III to this report. Team members were encouraged to share their comments, proposals regarding the content of this *Enquiry* with the secretariat after the meeting.

Item 4. Reporting on forest damage

a. Formats, definitions of the current international reporting systems

Mr Örjan Jonsson, FAO, presented formats, definitions of reporting on forest disturbance under FAO Forest Resources Assessment 2020. Countries are requested to report current damage on a yearly basis starting from 2000, on areas affected by insects, diseases, severe weather events and other agents, as well as on areas affected by fire. Reporting on forest damage posed a serious challenge to countries, as only 30 out of 236 were able to provide the full data series, representing 25% of total area globally. In addition, some 50 countries informed that they monitor degraded forest (FAO does not ask for the area of degraded forest) in the current reporting process but rather collected information on which methods and parameters were used by different countries in order to assess forest degradation.

Mr. Rastislav Raši, FOREST EUROPE LUB, shared with the Team an overview of forest damage assessment under the pan-European reporting (presentation available at the meeting [website](#)). In general, the pan-European system requires information on area (forest, other wooded land) with damage present in the reporting years (1990, 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015), induced by categories and agents of causes. In their reporting, countries decide on thresholds for damage and recovery symptoms to classify the area as damaged. Out of 39 FOREST EUROPE countries for which updated information on quantitative indicators was made available, 29 reported on damages caused by diseases/insects and 31 countries reported areas of forests damaged by fires. National reporting was based on the variety of sources, NFI was mentioned 11 times, other statistics 10, managerial records 9, stand inventory 2 times).

b. Results of the ToS Survey on forest damage assessment

Mr. Stein Tomter, Norway, presented results of the thematic survey on forest damage assessment methods, carried out by the Team. In total, 26 national correspondents provided their responses, indicating a variety of sources used for monitoring forest damage. “National Forest Inventory” was indicated as the most common tool (more than half the respondents), followed by “Dedicated monitoring of forest damage” (above 40%) and “Managerial Records” (above 30% of responses). Results of this survey and details regarding methods applied for the collection of forest damage information can be obtained from the presentation available at the meeting [website](#).

c. National experiences and systems on forest damage reporting in the UNECE region

The general overview of forest damage reporting was followed by the series of presentations (available at the meeting [website](#)) of national experiences and systems on forest damage reporting in the UNECE region. Mr. Christoph Fischer presented forest damage-related monitoring in Switzerland, which covers a variety of aspects monitored by several programmes (including NFI, Sanasilva Inventory and Swiss Forest Protection surveys). Despite the systems are composed of different tools at different scales, combining available data leads to comprehensive results. Mr. Stein Tomter briefed participants on the major characteristics of systems used in Norway, not all of them are used/available for damage area assessment. The system used in Norway allows only for reporting of the accumulated area of damage by various categories since the previous inventory cycle. The short series of national presentations were concluded by Mr. Andrzej Talarczyk, and his presentation of a broad variety of monitoring tools used for forest damage assessment in Poland. Several dedicated and general inventories have been developed over time, most of them for different purposes and independently from each other. However, a trend to their integration is being observed, including the NFI and Forest Health Monitoring, which are carried out on the same plots.

d. Brainstorming on possible approaches on forest damage reporting - discussion on the next steps

Mr. Christoph Fischer, Switzerland, led the discussion on possible approaches on forest damage reporting and the next steps in the work of the Team on this matter. Members underlined that the issue is of growing importance, but the topic has not been much discussed with the required depth and understanding. It was mentioned that before developing forest damage reporting more work on a definition and understanding of forest damage should be carried out. The Team noted that there are many recipients of this information (policy, safety, business, etc.), which their specific needs should be identified/specified before the format and other parameters of this reporting are decided. However not all these needs could be addressed through the current global and pan-European reporting, members of the Team pointed out that timeliness of these data and related frequency of reporting need to be revised to improve the ability of the system in this regard.

The survey carried out through the Team, revealed the availability of system(s) in countries that collect forest damage information tailored to the national needs, however, their transformation to a common format is not always straightforward. The Team mentioned that this could be a task of a new facility under development in the European Forest Institute, but it was not certain if monitoring will be included in its portfolio.

In the light of above, the Team supported the idea of developing an extensive project that will be based on the survey, to carry out the comprehensive analysis on forest damage reporting, which in the end would deliver input to the future reporting formats improvement. This work will be supported by a sub-group, led by Mr. Michael Köhl and composed of Ms. Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, Mr. Marek Jabłoński, Mr. Jaroslav Kubišta, Ms. Ivana Pešut, Mr. Rastislav Raši, Mr. John Redmond and Mr. Friedrich Schmitz.

Item 5. Forest Data Banks Network

a. Overview of the recent developments in countries and organizations

Ms. Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, EEA introduced to the Team the Forest Information System for Europe (FISE), which aims at gathering, processing, visualizing and sharing information about European forests. The information presents aggregated data through the thematic and geographical dimensions at the European and national level (country profiles) and aims at going down to regional level (NUTS 3). The presentation is available at the meeting [website](#), the system can be found at: <https://forest.eea.europa.eu/>.

The presentation was followed by a discussion on the sources of information, used tools as well as plans for the development of the system. It was explained that FISE would be further developed following the "Data-Information-Knowledge-Insight-Wisdom" approach, going beyond the mere presentation of source data. Team's members underlined the importance of participation of member countries, to ensure the clarity and coherence in terms of ownership of data and the authorship of analysis and conclusions.

Mr. Örjan Jonsson, presented FAO plans for developing the FRA 2020 data analysis and dissemination platform, which for the first time will be presented together with Joint UNECE/FAO/FOREST EUROPE platform on the pan-European information. The global part of the platform will be launched together with the main FRA 2020 report (envisaged for June 2020), while the pan-European platform will be released in the autumn of 2020. The new platform should provide the possibility of insight into aggregated data and an interactive interface to provide access to national data. Mr. Roman Michalak added that the pan-European platform, which replaces the ones developed by FOREST EUROPE and UNECE/FAO Section, will be physically placed next to the FAO FRA database, however, at this stage, both datasets will be presented and functioning in an independent way.

Mr. Roman Michalak (UNECE/FAO FTS) informed the Team about the ongoing project aiming at improving the visibility of forest sector information gathered through the Joint Section. Currently, this information is scattered under thematic datasets and not easily accessed, especially to generalists and experts that are not familiar with the work of the Section. The project aims at improving this situation and tailoring presented information to the groups of recipients: (a) general public, (b) interested professionals (forest and non-forests), (c) specialists on individual issues. The Team was encouraged to support the implementation of the project and development of the UNECE/FAO website.

Mr. James Westfall (United States) presented the Engagement Portfolio – a tool developed by the U.S. Forest Service to provide forest information for the public and to make forestry data available to resource professionals and other users. More information about the Portfolio can be found [here](#).

b. Scope and direction of future work of the Forest Data Banks Network

(b) Mr. Andrzej Talarczyk, Poland, the coordinator of the Team's Forest Data Banks Network introduced ideas for the scope and direction of future work. In addition to providing advice and support to the Joint Section's work on the development of forest dissemination systems, the main activity proposed was to develop a survey on national forest information systems. Mr. Talarczyk presented a draft questionnaire (Annex IV) for Team's review. Participants shared detailed comments and supported the idea. It is intended that some of the information gathered through the questionnaire, will be used for creating a website for sharing information about national electronic tools for the dissemination of forest information.

Item 6. Updates from Team Members and Secretariat

Team members had an opportunity to participate in the online launch of the State and Outlook of Europe's Environment 2020 (SOER), presented by Mr. Hans Bruynincks, Director of the EEA (more information can be found [here](#)). Mr. Markus Lier (LUKE) shared with the Team the information on the newly launched project "Supporting Central and Eastern European countries in their bioeconomy strategy development – the H2020 CSA BIOEASTsUP" (more information available [here](#)). Mr. Roman Michalak updated the Team on the plans for the extension and finalization of the UNECE/FAO/UNDA project "Accountability systems for sustainable forest management in Caucasus and Central Asian countries".

Item 7. Date and place of the next meeting

The secretariat shared with the Team a kind invitation from Cyprus to host the next meeting of the Team, which was accepted by the Team with great appreciation. The Team members suggested organizing the next meeting before summer 2020.

Item 8. Closure of the meeting

The Team of Specialists expressed its gratitude to the European Environment Agency for the kind invitation, hosting and support to the organization of the meeting, at the premises of the Agency. The exceptional venue, friendly atmosphere, excellent conditions as well as commitment and helpfulness of the Agency team were critical for making the meeting a success.

Special thanks and appreciation were expressed to Ms. Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, Deputy Leader of the Team, for her excellent contribution and engagement in the preparation and organization of this event.

The meeting was closed at 16:00 on 4 December 2019.

Meeting's website: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=53042>

Annex I

Third (28th) meeting of the “UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on monitoring sustainable forest management”

*Copenhagen, Denmark, 3-4 December 2019
European Environment Agency*

Preliminary Agenda

Tuesday, 3 December 2019

1. Opening and welcome by the representative from European Environment Agency, FAO and UNECE
2. Update on the progress and plans for the global and regional forest reporting:
 - a. FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA):
 - Örjan Jonsson, FAO
 - b. Joint FOREST EUROPE/UNECE/FAO Pan-European reporting on SFM; development of the State of Europe's Forests 2020:
 - Rastislav Raši, LUB FOREST EUROPE
 - c. Forest related work of the European Environment Agency:
 - Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, EEA
 - d. UNECE/FAO State of Forests in the Caucasus and Central Asia:
 - Roman Michalak, UNECE/FAO FTS
 - e. Discussion on audience, impact and possible improvements in dissemination of forest related information
3. Presentation of main findings of the study and review of the enquiry on forest ownership:
 - Roman Michalak, UNECE/FAO FTS

Wednesday, 4 December 2019

4. Reporting on forest damage:
 - a. Formats, definitions of the current international reporting systems:
 - Örjan Jonsson, FAO
 - Rastislav Raši, LUB FOREST EUROPE
 - b. Results of the ToS Survey on forest damage assessment
 - Stein Tomter, Norway
 - c. National experiences and systems on forest damage reporting in the UNECE region:
 - Christoph Fischer, Switzerland
 - Stein Tomter, Norway
 - Andrzej Talarczyk, Poland
 - d. Brainstorming on possible approaches on forest damage reporting - discussion on the next steps:
 - Christoph Fischer, Switzerland

5. Forest Data Banks Network
 - a. Overview of the recent developments in countries and organizations:
 - Forest Information System Europe (FISE); DG ENV D1, presented by Annemarie Bastrup-Birk, EEA
 - FAO Information Platform, Joint UNECE/FAO/FOREST EUROPE Information Platform: Örjan Jonsson, FAO
 - Forest information storage and management in the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section: Roman Michalak, UNECE/FAO FTS
 - b. Scope and direction of future work of the Forest Data Banks Network:
 - Andrzej Talarczyk, Poland
6. Updates from Team Members and Secretariat
 - SOER 2020 (State and Outlook of Europe's environment): Hans Bruynincks, EEA (live-stream)
 - Supporting Central and Eastern European countries in their bioeconomy strategy development – the H2020 CSA BIOEASTsUP: Markus Lier, Luke, Finland
 - UNDA project “Accountability systems for sustainable forest management in Caucasus and Central Asian countries” next steps: Roman Michalak, UNECE/FAO FTS
7. Date and place of the next meeting
8. Closure of the meeting

Venue:	European Environment Agency (EEA) Kongens Nytorv 6 DK - 1050 Copenhagen K Denmark		
Currency:	1 DKR = approx. 0.15 USD		
Logistics:	List of hotels is provided separately. Participants will be requested to register at the entry of the EEA and present their Passport/ID with photograph		
Meeting hours:	Tuesday, 3 December 2019	10:00 – 13:00:	Items 1-2
		14.00 – 17.00:	Item 3
	Wednesday, 4 December 2019	09:00 – 12:00:	Item 4
		13.00 – 16.00:	Items 5-8
Dinner:	There will be an opportunity for have dinner (self-paid) together on Tuesday, 3 December 2019, in the restaurant “ <i>Det Lille apotek</i> ” (http://detlilleapotek.dk/en/), offering in this period traditional Christmas menu. More information about the event will be provided to participants during the meeting.		

Annex II

Third (28th) meeting of the “UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on monitoring sustainable forest management”

Copenhagen, Denmark, 3-4 December 2019

European Environment Agency

List of participants

Title	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Country
Dr.	Annemarie	Bastrup-Birk	European Environment Agency (EEA)	
Dr.	Andrea	Camia	European Commission - Joint Research Centre	
Dr.	Christoph	Fischer	Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL	Switzerland
Mr.	Johannes	Hangler	Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (BMNT)	Austria
Dr.	Marek	Jabłoński	Forest Research Institute	Poland
Mr.	Orjan	Jonsson	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	
Ms.	Hélène	Koch	Confederation of European Forest Owners	
Prof.	Michael	Köhl	University of Hamburg	Germany
Mr.	Jaroslav	Kubišta	Forest Management Institute (FMI)	Czech Republic
Mr.	Markus	Lier	Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)	Finland
Dr.	Stefanie	Linser	European Forest Institute, Forest Policy Research Network, c/o University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)	
Mr.	Roman	Michalak	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	
Ms.	Ivana	Pešut	Ministry of Agriculture	Croatia
Mr.	Rastislav	Raši	FOREST EUROPE - Liaison Unit Bratislava	
Mr.	John	Redmond	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	Ireland
Mr.	Friedrich	Schmitz	Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture	Germany
Ms.	Jana	Tafi	European Environment Agency (EEA)	
Dr.	Andrzej	Talarczyk	Bureau for Forest Management and Geodesy	Poland
Dr.	Stein Michael	Tomter	Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research	Norway
Mr.	Mati	Valgepea	Estonian Environment Agency	Estonia
Dr.	James	Westfall	U.S: Forest Service	United States of America
Mr.	Nihat	Zal	European Environment Agency (EEA)	

Annex III

Joint COST Action FACESMAP/UNECE/FAO Enquiry on Forest Ownership in the ECE Region – Definition of forest management

Original version

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest management is a system of measures to protect, maintain, establish and tend forest; ensure provision of goods and services; protect forest against fire, pest and diseases; regulate forest production; check the use of forest resources; and monitor forests; as well as to plan, organize and carry out the above-mentioned measures.

Explanatory notes:

1. The management of forests can be done by either forest owners or wholly or partly delegated to others (e.g. public (state) administration, private companies, individuals, etc.).
2. Forest management is often organized, implemented in accordance with a formal or an informal plan applied regularly over a sufficiently long period; however, the existence of a forest management plan is not a prerequisite for forest management.
3. *Includes:* set aside forest area.

Modified version

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Forest management is a system of measures to ensure provision of goods and services; protect, maintain, establish and tend forest; as well as to plan, organize and carry out the above-mentioned measures.

Explanatory notes:

1. *Includes:* protection of forest against fire, pest and diseases; regulation forest production; checking the use of forest resources; and forests monitoring.
2. The management of forests can be done by either forest owners or wholly or partly delegated to others (e.g. public (state) administration, private companies, individuals, etc.).
3. Forest management is often organized, implemented in accordance with a formal or an informal plan applied regularly over a sufficiently long period; however, the existence of a forest management plan is not a prerequisite for forest management.
4. *Includes:* set aside forest area.

Annex IV

Questionnaire on providing data and public communication on forests in member States (draft)

1. Is there a national forest information portal? Provide URL if possible.
2. Is there an interactive web map containing spatial information on forests? Provide URL if possible.
3. Is it possible to generate detailed reports on forests on a web site? Are these reports available in machine-readable formats? Provide URL if possible. Name format types.
4. Is it possible to download detailed information on forests (stand inventory data, GIS information layers, NFI sample plot data) from a web page? Provide URL if possible.
5. Is there a national set of C&I of SFM? Is it used in public communication? Provide URL if possible.
6. Is there a national core set of SFM indicators used in public communication? If possible, provide a list or publication example (leaflet, report, web page, video link etc.)
7. Is there a national forest state report? Provide example if possible.
8. Can you provide some good examples of clear, attractive and successful means of communication of forest-related information in your country or on an international level?