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REPORT

Oslo,
Norway,
3-7 June
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European Forestry Commission

Twenty-fifth session



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

PREVIOUS SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION

First Session	Geneva, Switzerland	6-10 July 1948
Second Session	Geneva, Switzerland	5-9 September 1949
Third Session	Geneva, Switzerland	28 August - 1 September 1950
Fourth Session	Rome, Italy	1-6 October 1951
Fifth Session	Geneva, Switzerland	14-25 October 1952
Sixth Session	Rome, Italy	8-16 October 1953
Seventh Session	Geneva, Switzerland	8-13 November 1954
Eighth Session	Rome, Italy	10-15 October 1955
Ninth Session	Rome, Italy	7-14 May 1957
Tenth Session	Rome and Florence, Italy	7-13 July 1959
Eleventh Session	Rome and Catanzaro, Italy	22-30 May 1961
Twelfth Session	Geneva and Zurich, Switzerland	30 September - 7 October 1963
Thirteenth Session	Rome, Italy	15-19 May 1967
Fourteenth Session	Geneva, Switzerland	9-11 October 1968
Fifteenth Session	Rome, Italy	7-11 September 1970
Sixteenth Session	Rome, Italy	3-6 May 1972
Seventeenth Session	Geneva, Switzerland	20-24 October 1975
Eighteenth Session	Rome, Italy	13-17 September 1977
Nineteenth Session	Rome, Italy	24-28 September 1979
Twentieth Session	Innsbruck, Austria	22-26 March 1982
Twenty-first Session	Rome, Italy	5-9 December 1983
Twenty-second Session	Budapest, Hungary	28 October - 1 November 1985
Twenty-third Session	Geneva, Switzerland	12-16 October 1987
Twenty-fourth Session	Rome, Italy	5-8 June 1989

REPORT

of the

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION

of the

EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

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CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) FAO Regional Conference for Europe
The Commission noted that there had been no items on the agenda of the seventeenth Regional Conference for Europe in which forestry matters were treated in a significant way and recommended that forestry receive greater attention by future regional conferences (para. 6).
- (2) Availability of information and recommendations by FAO technical meetings
The Commission requested that the information and recommendations from certain bodies, such as the Pulp and Paper Advisory Committee, be more widely disseminated (para. 11).
- (3) FAO Regular Programme and Budget
The Commission reiterated the recommendation of COFO that a larger share of FAO's Regular Programme Budget be allocated to forestry (para. 13).
- (4) European support for the Tropical Forestry Action Programme (TFAP)
The Commission recommended strongly that FAO continue to perform its three essential functions (international liaison, technical assistance and operational support) but with more resources allocated to improve the prospects of future success of the Programme (para. 15).

It further recommended that FAO take steps to ensure that multidisciplinary technical inputs be applied at all stages of the planning and implementation of the TFAP and that this effort be strengthened by specific budgetary provision for TFAP activities in the units concerned (para. 16). It considered it vital that FAO continue to strengthen and make more effective its present functions to ensure that the TFAP maintain its central and catalytic role (para. 17).

The Commission supported the recommendation in the review of TFAP that increased funding be provided to the Programme, particularly in direct support of tropical countries to implement their national plans and programmes (para. 18). It further supported the idea of an arrangement similar to the Global Environment Facility in support of the TFAP (para. 18).
- (5) Instrument on the conservation and development of forests
The Commission expressed its strong support in principle for the development of such an instrument, which should be based on global consensus, as well as for FAO's continued technical involvement in its preparation (para. 19).
- (6) National Progress Reports
The Commission requested the secretariat to issue a revised version of the synthesis of these reports as soon as possible (para. 35).
- (7) Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training
In view of the Commission's explicitly expressed concern to provide support to the countries of central and eastern Europe in transition, and of the expanded role in this field foreseen for the Joint Committee, it urged FAO to consider all possible ways of providing the resources needed to maintain its current level of activities (para. 37).
- (8) Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
The Commission stressed the need for the collection and dissemination of forest and forest products statistics by international agencies to be coordinated as much as possible and requested the Working Party and the secretariat to explore the possibilities of collaboration with other organizations that were collecting or planning to collect statistics and managing data bases (para. 41).

It agreed that the secretariat's draft proposal for a project to assess long-term changes in the forest resource in temperate-zone regions be submitted to the *ad hoc* meeting on the forest resource assessment (temperate zones) 1990 and the eighteenth session of the Working Party in August 1991 for consideration and possible incorporation in the latter's work programme (para. 43).

- (9) Preparations for the fifth FAO/ECE Study of European Timber Trends and Prospects (ETTS V)
The Commission approved the terms of reference and timetable for ETTS V and the preparatory work accomplished so far (para. 53).

- (10) Outlook for non-wood benefits of the forest
The Commission agreed on the increasing need for a study on the outlook for non-wood benefits of the forest and took a provisional decision to undertake the study. It agreed to convene an *ad hoc* meeting of experts with the mandate to draw up an outline of the study, discuss objectives, methodologies and the availability of information needed to carry it out successfully. The *ad hoc* meeting could also consider the question of the valuation of non-wood benefits (para. 56).

- (11) Assistance to countries of central and eastern Europe in transition
The Commission identified two possible themes on which it could provide assistance to countries in transition - forest policy and legislation, and subsidization and taxation systems in forestry (para. 62).

It proposed that an informal *ad hoc* meeting be convened to discuss strategies and coordinate activities in the forest and forest industry sector (para. 64).

- (12) Programme of Work of the European Forestry Commission, 1992 to 1996
The Commission adopted its programme of work for 1992 to 1996 (para. 70).

It agreed that with regard to Main Problem Area II - Forest technology, management and training - the agreed Joint Committee's programme of work should be added to the Commission's programme of work, in order to bring it as up-to-date as possible (para 71).

It agreed also on the importance of strengthening forestry agencies' activities concerned with public information and dialogue which required substantial improvements in communications skills (para. 77).

It requested the Executive Committee to consider ways in which a project on climate change in relation to forestry could be incorporated in its programme (para. 78).

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. At the invitation of the Government of the Kingdom of Norway, the European Forestry Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations held its twenty-fifth session at the Soria Moria Conference Centre, Oslo, from 3 to 7 June 1991. The session was attended by delegates from the following Member Nations: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Yugoslavia; by observers from Canada, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Holy See, representatives from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the World Meteorological Organization and the European Economic Community, and observers from the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the International Forestry Students Association. The full list of participants is given in Appendix B.

2. The Commission was addressed by the Minister of Agriculture of Norway, Mrs Gunhild Øyangen, who welcomed delegates on behalf of the Government of Norway. Mr C. H. Murray, Assistant Director-General and Head of the Forestry Department of FAO, welcomed participants in the name of the Director-General of FAO and thanked the Government of Norway for providing host country facilities for the session. He presented an *exposé* of the current international forestry situation with special reference to Europe.

3. The Commission paid tribute to the memory of Mr B. Ben Salem, who had served FAO with distinction for many years in various capacities, including that of secretary of *Silva Mediterranea* and of the Near East Forestry Commission.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Item 1 of the Agenda)

4. The Provisional Agenda (Appendix A) was adopted. A list of documents submitted for consideration by the Commission is given in Appendix C.

POSITION REPORTS (Item 2 of the Agenda)

(a) Matters arising from the tenth session of the Committee on Forestry

5. The recommendations of the tenth session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO) were presented briefly to the Commission, including items concerning forestry research, forestry and the environment, women and forestry, forest conservation and forest resource assessment, FAO's programme in forestry and the Tropical Forestry Action Programme (TFAP). Recognition was made of the proposal by COFO that special attention be given to research needs in Europe dealing with sustainability of forest ecosystems and the effects of air pollution. Note was also taken of the recommendation that the issue of women and development be taken up in the regional forestry commissions. Two of the most important items dealt with by COFO, namely, the TFAP and the preparation of a possible legal instrument on the conservation and development of forests, were discussed by the Commission under the relevant items of the agenda.

(b) Matters arising from the seventeenth FAO Regional Conference for Europe

6. The Commission was informed about the seventeenth FAO Regional Conference for Europe, held in Venice, Italy, in April 1990. It noted that certain of FAO's forestry activities in Europe had been commented on favourably in the national statements to the Conference, including the series of European timber trends and prospects studies, the work of *Silva Mediterranea*, measures to deal with the aftermath of the severe damage to forests in several countries in early spring 1990, the seminar on non-wood products of the Mediterranean forest held in Italy in 1988, and the publication of "Forestry Policies in Europe" in the series of FAO Forestry Papers. It noted with concern, however, that there had been no items on the agenda in which forestry matters were treated in any significant way. Considering the importance of forests and forestry to the environment, as well as to agriculture and to overall rural land use, the Commission recommended that forestry receive greater attention by future regional conferences.

7. The Commission urged member countries to include forestry specialists in their delegations to the regional conferences. It also supported a suggestion that its Executive Committee meet with that of the European Commission for Agriculture with a view to presenting joint proposals on special topics to be dealt with at future regional conferences.

(c) Relevant activities and programmes of the Forestry Department and the Regional Office for Europe

8. On the basis of document FO:EFC/91/4, the Commission was informed about the activities and programmes of the Forestry Department of FAO, of FAO's Regional Office for Europe and of the Joint FAO/ECE Agriculture and Timber Division in Geneva since its twenty-fourth session.

9. Regarding FAO's programme for 1990-91, it was recalled that the TFAP had been selected as one of nine priority areas of FAO's programme of work and budget. Objectives of the forestry programme for 1990-91 included assistance to member countries in reorienting their forestry policies, formulating sectoral plans and strengthening their institutional framework in line with the TFAP concepts and approaches.

10. Details were given of the activities of the Forestry Department in each of the relevant subprogrammes: forest resources and environment, forest industries and trade, and forest investment and institutions. A broad outline was presented of the activities carried out by the Regional Office for Europe (Rome) and by the joint FAO/ECE Division in Geneva. The discussion that followed referred, *inter alia*, to the TFAP and the allocation of funds for the forestry programme of FAO.

11. The Commission requested that the information and recommendations from certain bodies, such as the Pulp and Paper Advisory Committee, be more widely disseminated. The Assistant Director-General stated that it was FAO policy to make such information generally available and undertook to look into the question of distribution of reports of meetings.

12. In response to a suggestion by the Assistant Director-General that the Commission identify priorities in its programme of work, one delegation pointed to the need for developing new activities based on a well-defined strategy, which demonstrated to the public the emphasis placed by the Commission and its member countries on resource conservation and development. Another delegation pointed to the need to improve systems for the collection and dissemination of information relating to the forest and forest industries sector and to reduce the workload on national offices dealing with statistics in this sector. It was noted that some countries were experiencing increasing problems in maintaining the quality of data relating to the sector, and the Commission agreed to consider measures to assist countries overcome this problem.

13. The Commission expressed its satisfaction with the work carried out by FAO since its twenty-fourth session in the field of forestry. It reiterated the recommendation of COFO, which had been endorsed by the FAO Council, that a larger share of FAO's Regular Programme budget be allocated to forestry. It noted that an increase of US\$ 110 000 was proposed for forestry in the 1992-93 biennium. It expressed appreciation for this, but felt that it was inadequate to meet the known demands.

INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO THE EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION
(Item 3 of the Agenda)

(a) Tenth World Forestry Congress

14. The Commission was informed by the Assistant Director-General and by Mr Grammont (France) about the preparations for the tenth World Forestry Congress, to be held in Paris from 17 to 26 September 1991. The theme of the Congress was "Forests: A heritage for the future". It was expected that the Congress would be attended by up to 3 000 delegates. Apart from the formal sessions, there would be numerous satellite meetings and a series of study tours in France and other countries. An innovation would be the issuing in advance of six volumes containing the main papers prepared for the Congress. A seventh, to be issued afterwards, would contain the results. The Commission commended the Government of France and FAO for the extensive work already achieved and expressed its warm wishes for the full success of the Congress which would be a major event in world forestry.

(b) European support for the Tropical Forestry Action Programme

15. The Commission recognized the important role that European countries had played from the beginning in the intellectual and financial support to the TFAP. The Commission was briefed on recent developments in improving the efficiency of the Programme following the decision by the eighty-ninth session of the Council that FAO convene an *ad hoc* expert group to propose measures to strengthen TFAP. The Commission confirmed its support to the approach of country-led TFAP exercises and to country capacity

projects to build up national capacities to plan and implement the TFAP. It noted that there were three essential functions which FAO was performing, namely, international liaison, technical assistance and operational support. It recommended strongly that FAO continue those functions but with more resources allocated to improve the prospects of future success of the programme.

16. The Commission recognized also that the global crisis involving the destruction of tropical forests was not just a forestry problem. In fact, by far the greatest influences which led to the clearance of these forests were the demands for agricultural land and energy in the form of fuelwood. In turn, these reflected socio-economic factors in the countries concerned. The problem was much more one of rural land use than solely one affecting forestry practices. It was felt, therefore, that much more attention needed to be given to technical inputs to the TFAP from those sectors external to forestry through greater and meaningful interdisciplinary and intersectoral arrangements. FAO enjoyed a distinct comparative advantage in this area in that it had expertise in all the land use-related disciplines. This opportunity for FAO to apply multidisciplinary support must be maximized. The Commission, therefore, recommended that FAO take steps to ensure that multidisciplinary technical inputs be applied at all stages of the planning and implementation of the TFAP. As necessary, this effort should be strengthened by specific budgetary provision for TFAP activities in the units concerned, particularly those outside the Forestry Department. Furthermore, the responsibility for the preparation of national plans should, in most cases, be within a multidisciplinary structure.

17. In discussing the proposed new institutional arrangements for the TFAP, some delegations expressed reservations about the need for a Consultative Group of the type being considered and the possible risk of duplication of functions of existing bodies. The Commission considered it vital that FAO continue to strengthen and make more effective its present functions to ensure that the TFAP maintain its central and catalytic role. In this context the Commission was informed of ongoing activities to strengthen the work of the Coordinating Unit by focusing more sharply on the international liaison function and leaving the operational and technical functions to the specialized FAO units concerned.

18. The Commission supported the recommendation in the review of TFAP that increased funding be provided to the programme, particularly in direct support of tropical countries to implement their national plans and programmes. Based on the initial positive indications of the effectiveness of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) in support of biodiversity and climate control, a proposal was made to consider similar arrangements in support of the TFAP. The Commission supported this idea as an interesting proposal which warranted further study.

(c) Instrument on the conservation and development of forests

19. The Commission took note of the substantial work by FAO to develop ideas and background papers for the formulation of a possible instrument on the conservation and development of forests, within the framework of the preparatory committee (PREPCOM) of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). It expressed its strong support in principle for the development of such an instrument, which should be based on global consensus, as well as for FAO's continued technical involvement in its preparation.

20. The Commission recognized that the nature, content and pace of developing any such instrument had to be based on the capacity and state of readiness of all countries concerned. It noted that a realistic target for UNCED 1992 would be agreement on a number of general principles and on a procedure for the formulation and negotiation of an instrument after the UNCED. In this context it considered that an essential principle, both in agreeing on the need for an instrument and on the instrument itself, was the respect of the sovereign rights of nations to utilize their natural resources for the benefit of their people.

21. The Commission felt that FAO had an important technical role to play at all stages of a process leading up to an instrument on forests; also, that the instrument should be discussed further on the occasion of the World Forestry Congress.

(d) Other international activities

22. The representative of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) informed the Commission of the review carried out in 1990 of his Organization's priorities, structure and methods of work.

The review led to a decision by the UN/ECE which identified sustainable development and support for the economies of central and eastern Europe in transition as general priorities and, as more detailed priorities, the environment, economic analysis and projections, trade facilitation, transport and statistics. Agriculture and timber were among the sectors designated as being of lesser priority. The Timber Committee, one of the UN/ECE's Principal Subsidiary Bodies, had underlined at its forty-eighth session in October 1990 that its activities covered all the above priority areas, with the exception of transport. It was recognized that decisions regarding the Timber Committee were relevant to the Commission, since the Commission shares the same secretariat with the Timber Committee, is joint parent of two subsidiary bodies and carries out other activities jointly with the Timber Committee.

23. The representative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) informed the Commission about its long-standing interest and involvement in the application of meteorological information to help improve conservation and development of forests. WMO contributed to these objectives through various means and activities. He pointed out, in particular, that WMO made available meteorological and hydrological data for silvicultural purposes and carried out studies on the effects of forests on climate and climate on forests; he also drew attention to publications of interest to forestry emerging from the work of the Technical Commission for Agricultural Meteorology, and to a joint WMO/FAO seminar in Morocco in autumn 1991 on meteorological aspects of forest fires and their management. He reiterated the conclusions of the WMO/UNEP Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which concerned aspects of climate change on deforestation and afforestation. In this context he also informed the Commission about the involvement of WMO in the ongoing negotiations on a framework convention on climate change and the active role that WMO would play in the forthcoming World Forestry Congress.

24. The representative of the Commission of the European Economic Communities (EEC) informed the session about the cooperation between the Commission of the EEC and the International Cooperative Programme on evaluation and monitoring of air pollution effects on forests (ICP). He also noted that a working group on the protection of forests against fires was working at the EEC level. He expressed the EEC's interest in strengthening its cooperation with the FAO/ECE working groups active in these matters.

25. Furthermore, the EEC was preparing the setting-up of the "European Forest Information and Communication System" (EFICS). A number of EEC research programmes were related directly or indirectly to areas such as forest protection, development and management, and forest products. He drew attention to the involvement of the EEC Commission in the World Forestry Congress and EEC support to the idea of a forest instrument.

26. The delegate of Finland informed the Commission about the results of the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe (Strasbourg, France, 18-19 December 1990). The Conference had been initiated and organized jointly by the Governments of France and Finland. The Strasbourg Conference aimed at joining the European states in a common defence of forests and their environment; it was meant to make a major contribution to the dialogue and flow of information between policy makers and researchers. Six resolutions and project proposals had emerged from the Conference. The next Ministerial Conference would be held in the first half of 1993 in Finland, organized jointly by Finland and Portugal in cooperation with France and Poland. International coordinators had been named in order to follow up the work in the project areas of the six resolutions of the Strasbourg Conference. The Commission expressed its appreciation of the initiative taken by France and Finland in arranging this conference and considered that it had resulted in the adoption of important recommendations to be taken up by each signatory country.

27. The delegate of Finland informed the Commission also that the next IUFRO (International Union of Forestry Research Organizations) World Congress, and related study tour, would be held in Tampere (Finland) in August 1995.

28. The observer from the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA) described the steps by which the International Forestry Students Symposium had been transformed into the IFSA, and the organizational structure of the Association. He informed the Commission of IFSA's interest in carrying out joint activities and proposed that one such activity should be a survey of the availability in forestry schools of publications of international organizations, their relevance to their curricula, the use currently being made of them and possible ways of making them more accessible and useful. The Commission supported the proposal; it also suggested that other proposals be developed for improved cooperation with the Commission. One would be to invite host countries of meetings, such as the seminars convened by the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO

Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training, to offer a number of fellowships to forestry students to enable them gain international experience through participation. The Commission was also informed that the nineteenth International Forestry Students' Symposium would be held in the Netherlands from 30 September to 7 October 1991, the theme of which would be "Forests, a growing concern".

29. The observer from the Holy See informed the Commission about a campaign that had been promoted for the setting-up of an international tribunal of environment by the United Nations organizations. The campaign aimed, *inter alia*, at the strengthening of international environmental law and at the creation of suitable administrative and legal organs. He gave information on the results of a scientific international seminar on the matter, which had been held in Florence, Italy, in May 1991.

NATIONAL PROGRESS REPORTS (Item 4 of the Agenda)

30. National progress reports were tabled by 24 countries. The reports covered the eight topics selected by the Executive Committee, namely:

- (1) The organizational structure of the agency(ies) responsible for administering the forestry and forest industry sector (including organigramme).
- (2) Recent developments in forestry education, training and extension, with special emphasis on measures to attract workers, especially younger people, to forestry.
- (3) Scope and direction of forestry research, including levels of funding and means used for the dissemination of research results.
- (4) Recent measures to improve forest protection, particularly against fire, air pollution, other (storms, disease, insects, wildlife, etc.).
- (5) Research on the potential effects on forest of, and forestry responses to, climate change.
- (6) The organization of the collection and dissemination of information, including statistics, relating to forests and forestry.
- (7) Links with forestry development in tropical regions, including contributions to the Tropical Forestry Action Programme.
- (8) Other major developments.

31. The Commission's discussions were based on a synthesis prepared by the secretariat [FO:EFC/91/8(a)]. On topic (1), several delegations provided supplementary information on the organizational structures of their forestry administrations and legislation, in particular changes in the countries of central and eastern Europe in transition.

32. On topic (3), Finland and Sweden corrected the figures of the share of state funding of forestry research; Poland gave details of its research activities.

33. On topic (4), France, Greece and Spain provided supplementary details on, respectively, prevention and control of forest fires, the importance of soil protection as a conservation function and problems associated with the deterioration of cork oak forests. It was stated that the extent of forest decline in Europe as a whole had increased according to the results of the 1990 forest damage survey; it was not correct to speak of a stabilization in the level of damage.

34. On topic (8), Sweden provided further details of its wide-scale education campaign to increase awareness of biological diversity and environmental issues, especially among forest owners. The United Kingdom drew attention to the need for putting a value on non-wood benefits. Austria stressed the protective role of forests in mountain watersheds and the damage caused by air pollution and game.

35. The Commission acknowledged with appreciation the most informative reports and the secretariat's synthesis of them. It invited all countries to provide the secretariat with corrections and additions to the

synthesis, in writing, by 30 June 1991, and requested the secretariat to issue a revised version of it as soon as possible thereafter.

ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES (Item 5 of the Agenda)

(a) Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training

36. The Commission was informed of the activities and programmes of the Joint Committee, including its eighteenth session held in Munich, Germany, in July 1990. It endorsed the Committee's report (TIM/EFC/WP.1/20) and expressed appreciation for the valuable work carried out in the seminars and by the teams of specialists over the past two years. In particular, it warmly thanked the Governments of Belgium, Germany, Hungary, Turkey and the United Kingdom for providing host country facilities for Joint Committee meetings over the past two years. It welcomed the initiative to develop activities in support of the economies of central and eastern Europe in transition, including the holding of a workshop in Hungary in autumn 1991 on the organization and management of forestry under market economy conditions. It considered this more informal and flexible method of work to be an appropriate means of dealing with certain types of problem.

37. The Commission expressed grave concern over the proposal in the FAO Programme of Work and Budget for 1992-93 to eliminate the post in the Joint FAO/ECE Division which provided the main secretariat support for the Joint Committee. It noted the constraints on reallocating secretariat resources to fill the gap. It underlined the importance it attached to the work of the Joint Committee as a vehicle for the generation and dissemination of information in its sphere of operation and for international cooperation. Furthermore, in view of the Commission's explicitly expressed concern to provide support to the countries in transition and of the expanded role in this field foreseen for the Joint Committee, it urged FAO to consider all possible ways of providing the resources needed to maintain its current level of activity.

38. Recognizing that the Joint Committee would have to operate within the limits of whatever resources were allocated to it, the Commission proposed that it undertake an enquiry amongst its member countries to determine the priorities they attached to the various activities in its current work programme, the degree of importance they attached to these activities and their proposals for new activities. This enquiry, which could be initiated by the Joint Committee's Steering Committee at its session in June 1991, would form the basis for a possible restructuring or streamlining of the Joint Committee's work programme. Consideration should also be given to the possibility of transferring certain activities to other bodies.

39. With regard to the conclusions and recommendations of Joint Committee seminars of concern to its parent bodies [TIM/EFC/WP.1/R.96 Rev.1]), the Commission took note of the themes identified by the Joint Committee as deserving particular attention: sustainable development; protection of the forest resource from external threats; planning and management; impact of mechanization on the forest environment; the working conditions of forest workers; training; and research. It agreed to carry out an enquiry using the draft form in annex II of FO:EFC/91/9 with the objective, as proposed by the Joint Committee, of determining the extent to which the seminars' recommendations were already covered in existing policies and legislation and whether the resources were available for implementing them.

(b) Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics

40. The Commission reviewed the activities of the Joint Working Party, including its seventeenth session, the report of which it endorsed (TIM/EFC/WP.2/19). It noted with satisfaction the progress made in the World Forest Resource Assessment 1990, the temperate-zone developed country component of which was being carried out as part of the Working Party's work programme. It supported the steps being taken to initiate, within the Working Party's area of responsibility, activities in support of the countries in transition.

41. The Commission stressed the need for the collection and dissemination of forest and forest products statistics by international agencies to be coordinated as much as possible in order to reduce the workload of national reporting agencies, to avoid duplication and to ensure comparability of the information. Accordingly, the Commission requested the Working Party and the secretariat to explore the possibilities of collaboration with other organizations that were collecting or planning to collect statistics and managing data bases, notably the European Community and Eurostat. It noted with satisfaction that informal contacts

already existed with the Commission of the European Community, but considered that cooperation needed to be put on a more formal and regular basis.

42. The Commission invited the Working Party to look into the possibilities for undertaking a project to give monetary values to the provision of non-wood goods and services (non-wood benefits). It recognized the complexity of the problem but stressed the importance for managers and policy-makers to have value information about the output of non-wood benefits, the importance of which was increasing in all countries. Possible activities in this field should be linked to the projects dealing with forest resource assessment and the outlook for non-wood benefits.

43. The Commission noted with interest the secretariat's draft proposal for a project to assess long-term changes in the forest resource in temperate-zone regions and concurred that a historical review of such changes could be a valuable contribution to the debate on global forestry developments and the factors explaining them. Accordingly, it agreed that the proposal be submitted to the *ad hoc* meeting on the forest resource assessment (temperate zones) 1990 and the eighteenth session of the Working Party in August 1991 for consideration and possible incorporation in the latter's work programme.

(c) AFWC/EFC/NEFC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions - *Silva Mediterranea*

44. The Commission endorsed the report of the fourteenth session of the AFWC/EFC/NEFC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions - *Silva Mediterranea*, held in Athens, Greece, in October 1989, and thanked the Government of Greece for hosting the session. The Committee had identified the following priorities: (i) guidelines on the evaluation of damage caused by forest fires; (ii) non-wood products; (iii) case studies on non-wood products and identification of the areas where joint action could be taken; (iv) alfa grassland and relevant alternatives; (v) prevention of tourist-generated forest fires; and (vi) preparation of forestry curricula for schools. The Commission welcomed the proposal for an action plan for the Mediterranean region based on the TFAP objectives and approach. The next session of the Committee would be held in Portugal from 16 to 20 March 1992.

(d) Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds

45. The Commission was informed of the results of the seventeenth session of the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds held in Vicenza, Italy, in March 1990. It endorsed the Working Party's report and expressed deep appreciation to the Government of Italy for organizing the session. The main items discussed were: integrated upland management, torrent and avalanche control, and monitoring and early warning systems.

46. The Commission noted the agenda for the eighteenth session to be held in Obertsdorf, Germany, from 15 to 19 June 1992: technical topics including research; institutional aspects of watershed development; and an in-session FAO/IUFRO symposium on "New progress in torrent hydraulics". The Commission expressed its appreciation of the achievements of the Working Party and their application to member countries.

(e) Ad hoc Working Group "Impact of air pollution on forests"
and

(f) Ad hoc meeting of experts on the practical application of satellite sensing for forest damage assessment

47. On the basis of documents FO:EFC/91/13, 13(a) and 13(b), the Commission was informed about joint activities of the EFC *ad hoc* Working Group and the ECE Timber Committee team of specialists. It took note of the report of the joint meeting of both bodies, held in Freiburg in February 1991 at the invitation of the Federal Republic of Germany [document FO:EFC/91/13(b)], which it thanked warmly for providing host country facilities. It also thanked the Governments of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and of Poland for organizing meetings of experts on the practical application of satellite sensing for forest damage assessment.

48. As pointed out in document FO:EFC/91/13(a), the two bodies had asked the Commission to consider proposals for follow-up action in:

- (1) Preparation of a harmonized methodology for the assessment of increment changes to be included in the already existing ECE manual on methodologies and criteria for harmonized sampling, assessment and monitoring of air pollution effects on forests;
- (2) Practical application of satellite sensing for forest damage assessment, to be carried out in the framework of a proposed large-scale operational experiment in three European countries (Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Germany, Poland).

49. With regard to (2), the Commission agreed to proceed as follows: (i) invite UNEP-GRID to include the elements necessary for the countries concerned to make estimates of their costs in the project proposal; (ii) invite the three countries concerned to examine the cost of implementation of the proposed project, inform the secretariat by 30 September 1991 of their readiness to participate in the proposed experiment and assume their share of the costs involved. If the three countries concerned were to give a positive reply, the further steps could be the following; (iii) the Chairman of the *ad hoc* Working Group would convene a meeting of the Group as soon as possible to examine the proposals and plans for implementation of the experiment prepared by UNEP-GRID; (iv) the Chairman would consult with the Executive Committee in the event that difficulties should arise; (v) the *ad hoc* Working Group would be invested with the authority to implement the plan; (vi) the Chairman would be requested to consult at all stages, if appropriate, with the leader of the Timber Committee team of specialists; (vii) progress of the experiment would be reviewed by the Commission at its twenty-sixth session.

50. With regard to (1), the Commission agreed to postpone consideration of the matter until the ICP Task Force had completed its review of the proposals for a harmonized methodology, thereby avoiding the risk of duplication.

51. The Commission supported the proposal of the *ad hoc* Working Group that it continue to work in a flexible way, addressing questions within its area of competence as and when the need arose.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIFTH FAO/ECE STUDY OF EUROPEAN TIMBER TRENDS AND PROSPECTS (ETTS V) (Item 6 of the Agenda)

52. The Commission was informed about the preparations for ETTS V, including the discussions at the meeting in May 1991 of the team of specialists on methodologies and data bases for long-term outlook studies. The meeting had dealt with, *inter alia*: methodology of product supply projection; methodology of roundwood supply forecasting; treatment of the outlook for economies in transition; policy aspects of ETTS V; treatment of consequences of forest damage; information base for ETTS V; resources to carry out the study; and the draft timetable.

53. The Commission approved the terms of reference and timetable for ETTS V, as set out in document FO:EFC/91/14, and the preparatory work accomplished so far. It noted with deep appreciation the offers of resources from several countries and repeated its invitation to other countries to come forward with offers of assistance, either by the loan of experts or contributions to the ETTS Trust Fund. It requested the secretariat to consider other possibilities of assistance, for example expertise available in other organizations such as GATT for trade questions, or UNEP for the impact of climate change on forestry (items 3 and 7, respectively, of the list in the annex to document FO:EFC/91/4).

54. The Commission agreed with the team of specialists that an *ad hoc* meeting of experts be reconvened at a relatively early stage of the preparation of ETTS V to identify emerging policy issues which needed to be considered, not only forestry policies but also those for other sectors which influenced forestry and forest industries, notably agriculture, land use, industry, environment, housing, trade, employment, etc.

55. The Commission requested the secretariat to submit to its joint session with the Timber Committee in October 1993, i.e. before the main task of drafting ETTS V would have begun, a detailed proposal for the outline of ETTS V.

56. With regard to the proposal to carry out a separate study on the outlook for non-wood benefits of the forest, the Commission agreed on the great and increasing need for such a study. It recognized, however, the considerable problems that would have to be overcome in developing suitable methodologies and providing the necessary information. Consequently, it took a provisional decision to undertake the study,

but, before making a final decision at its twenty-sixth session, it agreed to convene an *ad hoc* meeting of experts with the mandate to draw up an outline of the study, discuss objectives, methodologies and the availability of information needed to carry it out successfully and advise the Commission of its practicability, taking into account likely availability of resources. The *ad hoc* meeting, which should be held under the auspices of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, could also consider the question of the valuation of non-wood benefits, as discussed under item 5(b) of the agenda (see para. 42).

SPECIAL TOPICS (Item 7 of the Agenda)

(a) Recent economic and political developments in eastern Europe and their impact on forestry in the region

57. As announced in document FO:EFC/91/15(a), a general review of the economic and political developments in eastern Europe was presented by Mr K. Grefermann, IFO-Institute, Munich. He pointed out the rapid and fundamental changes that were affecting the social, political and economic sectors of the countries in transition. Main tendencies were the process towards democratization and structural reform; and differences in the types of reform in each of these countries. Some common problems may be identified in all countries concerned. They relate to:

- inappropriate production facilities
- structural problems in trade originating from the former economic systems
- problems in cost calculation and pricing
- low productivity of labour and insufficient efficiency of investment
- insufficient competitiveness under free market conditions.

58. Growing unemployment constituted one of the crucial economic and social problems, as well as ecological problems linked to the former economic structure.

59. Turning to the needs and aims for further reform in order to achieve the objectives of the ongoing structural changes, Mr Grefermann pointed out that the introduction of market-oriented mechanisms would constitute the main tool. He summarized three items as being of fundamental importance for successful reform:

- setting up of an appropriate economic framework in each country
- monetary reform, including price reform, taxation system, social security and other
- stimulation of private entrepreneurship.

60. Mr Grefermann stressed that considerable and effective assistance from external sources would be needed by the transition countries in order to achieve their objectives of moving from a centrally-planned to a market-oriented economy.

61. During the discussion that followed, delegations of the countries concerned expressed their particular views on the subject. Detailed reports contributed to a better understanding of the situation in the forestry sector of each country and of the steps envisaged to implement the reforms.

62. On the question of how the Commission could assist in the solution of forestry-related problems of transition, it identified two possible themes on which it could itself provide assistance to these countries - forest policy and legislation, and subsidization and taxation systems in forestry - taking into account also aspects relating to the provision of non-wood benefits.

63. The Commission expressed satisfaction with the proposals worked out by a team of specialists in Hungary in October 1990 for Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee activities. It noted that the Timber Committee had also drawn up plans for a number of workshops in the field of wood-processing industries and forest products markets, while the eighteenth session of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics in August 1991 would also be invited to undertake activities in its sphere of interest.

64. In view of the build-up of activities by the Commission, the Timber Committee and their joint subsidiary bodies in support of countries in transition, the Commission proposed that an informal *ad hoc* meeting be convened to discuss strategies and coordinate activities in the forest and forest industry sector. The

delegation of Austria made a provisional offer to host the meeting, which was accepted with appreciation by the Commission.

(b) "Our Common Future" - Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development and its application to European forestry

65. Mr Karl Baadsvik, Director of the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, made a presentation to the Commission regarding the implications for European forestry of "Our Common Future". He stressed the need for a multisectoral and flexible definition of the sustainability concept. He pointed out the paradox of increasing yields in some parts of Europe, while others were experiencing forest decline due to air pollution. The latter was considered a serious threat to forests with effects on the whole forest ecosystem. He referred to a general agreement that European forestry could offer little contribution to slow down climate change. He recognized nature reserves and multipurpose forestry as two approaches for sustainable development. The former would pose little difficulty since they represented such a small part of the total forest area. The latter had initiated a fundamental philosophical shift for the majority of foresters. Lastly, he recognized that any forestry development programme was doomed to failure unless it was perceived as beneficial to the local community.

66. During the discussion a number of delegates expressed the view that concepts of multipurpose forestry which recognized the non-wood values of forests were in fact not new to many countries in Europe. A great deal of the theory and practice of multipurpose forestry had been developed in these countries since the eighteenth century and many foresters were well trained in these concepts. However, it was acknowledged that there was a need for foresters to communicate much more effectively with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and with the general public to promote a better understanding of multipurpose forestry and this was one of the very important challenges facing foresters in the years ahead.

67. The Commission recognized that there was often a wide gap in the perception of sustainable forest development between the general public and the forestry profession. The problem was to a large extent caused by poor communications, both in terms of lack of foresters' receptivity to social demands and concerns and inability to present a convincing case for forest practices. Substantial improvements in communication skills as well as adaptation of technologies in response to justified public concerns were required.

68. The Commission noted that sustainable forestry required consideration in a wide sense of the concept. Sustainable management of forests should include the multiple use, the ecology and the necessary time perspective. Furthermore, the concept should take into account the possible protection of forests against anthropogenic calamities; protection of special interest forest areas; and recognition of the social functions of the forest. These principles should also be contained within the proposed forestry instrument mentioned in paragraphs 19 to 21.

69. The Commission expressed its warm thanks to Mr Grefermann and Mr Baadsvik for their most interesting papers, which had stimulated lively discussion.

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION, 1992 to 1996
(Item 8 of the Agenda)

70. The Commission considered its programme of work for the years 1992 to 1996, on the basis of the draft prepared by the secretariat. It adopted its programme with the changes it had agreed upon incorporated (Appendix D).

71. The Commission agreed that with regard to Main Problem Area II - Forest technology, management and training - proposals for the updating of the Joint Committee's programme of work, agreed upon by the tenth session of its Steering Committee on 29-30 June 1991, should be added to the Commission's programme of work, in order to bring it as up-to-date as possible.

72. The Commission welcomed the proposal that the study tour in the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (CSFR) in May 1992 on the topic of forest regeneration in areas exposed to air pollution should be held under joint Timber Committee/European Forestry Commission auspices. It also invited the CSFR authorities to modify the draft programme contained in document FO:EFC/91/16(a) to accommodate a one-day

workshop. This would provide an opportunity for those countries, including the CSFR, with experience in the restoration of severely damaged forests to share their experience.

73. The Commission agreed that the topics of the three seminars proposed in document FO:EFC/91/16 (paras. 3, 5 and 7) were of topical importance, namely: (1) Exotic species; (2) Planning and management of forests requiring special treatment; (3) Forest policy in the context of integrated land use policies.

74. The delegations of the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia offered to explore with their authorities the possibility of providing host country facilities for seminars (1) and (2), respectively. These offers were welcomed by the Commission. With regard to (2), the Commission invited the Joint Committee's Steering Committee to consider whether the seminar might be included in its programme of work, e.g. integrated with the Joint Committee's proposed seminar on forest operations necessary and admissible in protected areas.

75. The Commission referred to the Executive Committee for further consideration a suggestion that seminar (3) be held in conjunction with its twenty-sixth session.

76. The Commission supported a proposal from Finland for a seminar on the impact on the environment of silvicultural measures. It invited the Joint Committee to consider whether this proposal could be incorporated in its programme.

77. The Commission agreed on the importance of strengthening forestry agencies' activities concerned with public information and dialogue which, as noted in para. 67 above, required substantial improvements in communications skills. It welcomed the offer of the Netherlands and United Kingdom delegations to inform the secretariat of the outcome of discussions on this question, to be held in July 1991, and invited the Executive Committee to consider, on the basis of this information, what activities might be undertaken by the Commission.

78. The Commission requested the Executive Committee to consider ways in which a project on climate change in relation to forestry could be incorporated in its programme. It welcomed the offer of the Netherlands to look into the possibility of contributing to activities in this field.

FORESTRY IN NORWAY (Item 9 of the Agenda)

79. Mr T. Opheim, Deputy Director-General of Forestry, presented an outline of Norwegian forestry. He gave up-to-date information on aspects covering geography, forest resources, structure of forest ownership, the role of forestry in the Norwegian economy, forest policy matters, the administrative structure and systems of forest management in Norway. He concluded his presentation by pointing out that the role of forestry had changed during this century and that forest policies had constantly been adapted to the changing needs and possibilities. Also, in future, the objectives and policies would have to be considered in the light of changing requirements linked to the concept of multiple use of forests.

80. Participants took part in an excursion into the "Oslo Marka", the forest area surrounding Oslo, organized jointly by the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture, the Forest Service of Oslo and the privately-owned forest company, Løvenskiold-Vækerø. During the bus trip, participants were informed about practical solutions and viable concepts for multiple use of forests in a forest area surrounding the densely populated, urbanized area of Oslo. The presentations and detailed information given by the highly-qualified experts gave a deep impression of how successful the flexible application of concepts for multiple use of forests can be implemented in forests which were under public, communal or private ownership and management.

81. During the excursion, participants also enjoyed the warm hospitality of the estate owner, family Løvenskiold-Vækerø, a presentation of folk music and folk dance as well as culinary specialities of Norway.

82. Participants expressed their deep appreciation and gratitude to the organizers and hosts of this most successful excursion, as well as to Mr Opheim for his excellent presentation.

MATTERS TO BE REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY (Item 10 of the Agenda)

83. The Commission decided that its conclusions and recommendations be drawn to the attention of the Committee on Forestry.

OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11 of the Agenda)

84. The Commission was informed about the joint EFC/Timber Committee study tours held in Hungary in 1990 and in Portugal in 1991. The Commission noted that both tours had been of considerable interest, very well organized and well attended. It expressed its warm appreciation to the two countries.

85. The Commission took note of the draft of a brochure on the activities of the European Forestry Commission and its subsidiary bodies. It welcomed this initiative, since the brochure would fill a need to disseminate information more widely about its activities. It invited the secretariat to finalize and issue the brochure as soon as possible in the three working languages and agreed with the proposal that it be updated biennially.

86. The Commission heard with sorrow that Mr Mariani, delegate of Italy, had had to return to Italy before the opening of the session because of a family bereavement. It asked Mr Bernardi, representative of the Holy See, to transmit its sincere condolences to Mr Mariani.

87. The Commission offered its heartfelt thanks to the Government and people of Norway, and in particular to the Ministry of Agriculture and its Department of Forestry, for the warm and friendly hospitality and the excellent organization of the session and the study visits.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Item 12 of the Agenda)

88. The Commission elected Mr E. Wermann (Germany) as Chairman, and Mr J. Heino (Finland), Mr V. Frangos (Greece) and Mr K. Rykowski (Poland) as Vice-Chairmen. It expressed to Mr O. Aalde, outgoing Chairman, and Mr B. Berdar (Hungary) and Mr J. M. A. Soares (Portugal), outgoing Vice-Chairmen, its deep appreciation for their most valuable contributions to its work during their terms of office.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION (Item 13 of the Agenda)

89. The Commission confirmed its decision to hold its twenty-sixth session as a joint session with the ECE Timber Committee in 1993. It invited its Executive Committee, in cooperation with the Timber Committee office-holders and the secretariats of FAO and ECE, to consider whether the session should be held in Geneva or Rome, propose suitable dates and draw up proposals for the agenda. In this connection, it agreed that one topic should be the implications for European forestry and forest industries of the results of the World Forest Resource Assessment 1990.

ADOPTION OF REPORT (Item 14 of the Agenda)

90. The draft report, presented by the secretariat, was adopted with some modifications which have been incorporated in the present document.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. **POSITION REPORTS**
 - (a) Matters arising from the tenth session of the Committee on Forestry
 - (b) Matters arising from the seventeenth FAO Regional Conference for Europe
 - (c) Relevant activities and programmes of the Forestry Department and the Regional Office for Europe
3. **INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO THE EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION**
 - (a) Tenth World Forestry Congress (Paris, September 1991)
 - (b) European support for the Tropical Forestry Action Programme
 - (c) Instrument on the conservation and development of forests
 - (d) Other international activities
4. National progress reports on forestry
5. **ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES**
 - (a) Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training
 - (i) General
 - (ii) Conclusions and recommendations of Joint Committee seminars
 - (b) Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
 - (c) AFWC/EFC/NEFC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions
Silva Mediterranea
 - (d) Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds
 - (e) *Ad hoc* Working Group "Impact of Air Pollution on Forests"
 - (f) *Ad hoc* meeting of experts on the practical application of satellite sensing for forest damage assessment
6. Preparations for the fifth FAO/ECE study of European Timber Trends and Prospects (ETTS V)

7. **SPECIAL TOPICS**

- (a) Recent economic and political developments in Eastern Europe and their impact on forestry in the region
 - (b) "Our Common Future", as propounded by the Brundtland World Commission on Environment and Development, and its relevance to European forestry
- 8. Programme of work of the European Forestry Commission, 1992 to 1996
 - 9. Forestry in Norway (including excursion)
 - 10. Matters to be referred to the Committee on Forestry
 - 11. Other business
 - 12. Election of Officers
 - 13. Date and place of next session
 - 14. Adoption of the Report

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LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>
1	FO:EFC/91/1	Provisional Agenda
2(a)	FO:EFC/91/2	Matters arising from the tenth session of the Committee on Forestry
2(b)	FO:EFC/91/3	Matters arising from the seventeenth FAO Regional Conference for Europe
2(c)	FO:EFC/91/4	Relevant activities and programmes of the Forestry Department and the Regional Office for Europe
3(a)	FO:EFC/91/5	Tenth World Forestry Congress
3(b)	FO:EFC/91/6	European support for the Tropical Forestry Action Programme
3(c)	FO:EFC/91/7	Instrument on the conservation and development of forests
4	FO:EFC/91/8 FO:EFC/91/8(a)	National progress reports on forestry
5(a)	FO:EFC/91/9	Activities of subsidiary bodies: Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training
5(b)	FO:EFC/91/10	Activities of subsidiary bodies: Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
5(c)	FO:EFC/91/11	Activities relating to the AFWC/EFC/NEFC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions "Silva Mediterranea"
5(d)	FO:EFC/91/12	Activities relating to the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds
5(e) & (f)	FO:EFC/91/13 FO:EFC/91/13(a)	Activities of subsidiary bodies: <i>Ad hoc</i> Working Group "Impact of Air Pollution on Forests" and <i>ad hoc</i> meeting of experts on the practical application of satellite sensing for forest damage
	FO:EFC/91/13(b)	Report of the joint meeting of the team of specialists on the impact of air pollution and other damage to forest for wood supply and markets and the <i>ad hoc</i> group "Impact of air pollution on forests"

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6	FO:EFC/91/14	Preparations for the fifth FAO/ECE study of European Timber Trends and Prospects (ETTS V)
7	FO:EFC/91/15	Special topics
	FO:EFC/91/15(a)	Special topic: Recent economic and political developments in eastern Europe and their impact on forestry in the region
8	FO:EFC/91/16	Programme of Work of the European Forestry Commission, 1992 to 1996
	FO:EFC/91/16(a)	Study tour in the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic in 1992
9	FO:EFC/91/17	Forestry in Norway

Information documents

FO:EFC/91/Inf. 1	Information Note
FO:EFC/91/Inf. 2	Provisional Timetable
FO:EFC/91/Inf. 3	List of documents

PROGRAMME OF WORK, 1992 TO 1996

MAIN PROBLEM AREA	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
I. EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION	18th session of the Executive Committee	26th session (jointly with Timber Committee)	19th session of the Executive Committee	27th session in Turkey ²	20th session of the Executive Committee
1. Policies relating to public and private forestry, including administration, legislation and institutions	Informal meeting on public information and dialogue	Review of developments at 26th session		Review of developments at 27th session	
2. Role of forests in providing forest products and environmental and social services		Review of related topic at 26th session	Seminar on exotic species (United Kingdom ²)	Review of related topic at 27th session	
3. Protection of forests:		Review of related topic at 26th session		Review of related topic at 27th session	
3.1 - from fire					
3.2 - from air pollution	Activities as decided by ad hoc Working Group on Impact of Air Pollution on Forests Study tour and workshop (jointly with Timber Committee) on forest regeneration in areas exposed to air pollution, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic				
3.3 - from other causes of damage (storms, insects, diseases, game, etc.)		Review of related topic at 26th session		Review of related topic at 27th session	

¹ Host country to be decided

² Subject to confirmation

MAIN PROBLEM AREA	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
4. Long-term European forestry and timber trends and prospects (jointly with the ECE Timber Committee 4.1 - Methodologies, including projections and modelling techniques, and data base for long-term outlook studies for the forest and forest products sector (former III.8) 4.2 - Fifth European Timber Trends and Prospects Study (ETTS V) 4.3 - Outlook for non-wood benefits	Preparatory work on Fifth European Timber Trends and Prospects Study (ETTS V) Ad hoc meeting to prepare proposals on methodologies and practicability of study	Ad hoc meeting of experts on the policy framework for ETTS V ¹	Activities as decided by EFC 26th session	Ad hoc meeting of experts to review draft of ETTS V	Publication of ETTS V
5. Activities in support of countries of central and eastern Europe in transition	Informal ad hoc FAO/ECE meeting in Austria ² to coordinate activities (if not in 1991)	Further activities as proposed by the ad hoc meeting			
II. FOREST TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING	Covered by the activities of the joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training (Programme reference TIM/EFC/WP.1/20)				
	19th session of the Joint Committee ¹	11th session of the Steering Committee ¹	20th session of the Joint Committee ¹	12th session of the Steering Committee ¹	21st session of the Joint Committee ¹

¹ Host country to be decided

² Subject to confirmation

MAIN PROBLEM AREA	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
A. SILVICULTURAL OPERATIONS AND GENERAL MANAGEMENT ASPECTS					
1. Development and use of methods and equipment for silvicultural operations, including stand establishment and multiple use forestry		Seminar in France on forest seed collection, treatment and storage			
1.1 - Afforestation techniques on land	Team of specialists to draw up programme for the seminar in 1994 for approval by 19th session of Joint Committee		Seminar in Poland ² on afforestation techniques on abandoned agricultural land	Seminar in ... ¹ on techniques for safeguarding the survival and recovery of forests threatened by air pollution	
1.2 - Site damage risks	Team of specialists to prepare progress report for the 19th session of Joint Committee and complete the project in 1994				
1.3 - Model Forest Damage Manual	Team of specialists will complete the Manual for publication in 1992				
2. Forest fire prevention and control	Biannual publication of "International Forest Fire News"				
	Further activities to be decided by 19th session of Joint Committee				
3. Methods and procedures for the preparation and implementation of forest management plans	Seminar in Sweden on use of information systems in forest management				
4. Impact of nuclear accidents on forest ecosystems	Team of specialists to prepare report for 19th session of Joint Committee with recommendations for further activities	Further activities as decided by 19th session of Joint Committee	Seminar in ... ¹ on management in forests exposed to radioactive contamination		

¹ Host country to be decided

² Subject to confirmation

MAIN PROBLEM AREA	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
<p>B. WOOD HARVESTING AND TRANSPORT</p> <p>1. Development and use of logging machinery</p>	<p>Seminar in USSR on the use of multifunctional machinery and equipment in logging operations</p>	<p>Seminar in ...¹ on forest operations necessary and admissible in protected areas</p>		<p>Seminar in ...¹ on (topic to be decided within work area B)</p>	<p>Seminar in ...¹ on (topic to be decided within work area b)</p>
<p>2. Forest roads and transport of wood raw material</p> <p>2.1.- Team of specialists on forest roads as a basis for integrated forest management</p> <p>2.2.- Study on the impact of road transport legislation on forest road construction, transport equipment and log transport</p>	<p>Team of specialists to prepare proposals for 19th session of Joint Committee</p> <p>Study to be prepared for 11th session of Steering Committee (interim report to 19th session of Joint Committee)</p>	<p>Further activities as decided by 19th session of Joint Committee</p>			
<p>3. Workshop on commercial and economic aspects of wood raw material supply under market economy conditions</p>	<p>Workshop in Sweden²</p>				

¹ Host country to be decided

² Subject to confirmation

MAIN PROBLEM AREA	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
C. VOCATIONAL TRAINING, APPLIED ERGONOMICS, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH					
1. Vocational training in forestry	Seminar in USA ² on the future of the forestry work-force in the ECE region Study to be presented to 19th session of Joint Committee, comparing the certification of accreditation of forest workers in different countries		Seminar in ... ¹ on (topic to be decided within work area C)		Seminar in ... ¹ on (topic to be decided within work area C)
2. Applied ergonomics, safety and health in forestry operations		Seminar in ... ¹ on personal protective equipment		Seminar in Switzerland ² on topic to be decided (or in 1996)	
3. Workshop on questions relating to the forest labour force under market economy conditions		Workshop in Poland ²			
4. Transfer of technical information and experience	Publication of seminar proceedings; provision by seminar host countries of fellowships for participants from developing countries and for forestry students				
III. FOREST ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS	Covered by the activities of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (WP) (Programme reference TIM/EFC/WP.2/19)				
1. Forest resource analysis	Publication of Forest Resource Assessment (temperate-zone) 1990 Survey of long-term changes in temperate-zone forest resources (subject to confirmation by WP)			19th session of the WP	20th session of the WP
				Follow-up to Forest Resource Assessment 1990, as decided by Working Party, including preparations for Forest Resource Assessment (temperate-zone) 2000	

¹ Host country to be decided

² Subject to confirmation

MAIN PROBLEM AREA	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
2. Quantification and evaluation of the environmental benefits of the forest	As for III.1 (the two activities are linked)				
3. Productivity in the forest sector	Further work as decided by 18th session of the WP				
4. Publication of <u>Timber Bulletin</u>	Volume XLV	Volume XLVI	Volume XLVII	Volume XLVIII	Volume XLIX
	Nine issues a year, two containing annual and quarterly statistics on production and trade, one containing trade flow data, two containing price data, two containing market reviews, one the Timber Committee Yearbook and one special issue				
5. Organization and periodicity of statistical data collection and dissemination	Continuing review at each session of the WP				
6. Conversion factors			Four-yearly survey at the 19th session and publication in 1994		
7. Forest fire statistics	Annual survey of number, area, causes, value of damage, etc.				
8. Roundwood price statistics and specifications	Regular collection and publication of roundwood prices by secretariat (subject to approval by WP of recommendations by team of specialists)				
9. Workshops in support of countries of central and eastern Europe in transition on topics related to forest economics and statistics	Programme to be proposed by 18th session of WP				
10. Transfer of economic and statistical methods and experience in the forest products sector	Participation of experts in WP activities, notably in III.1 and 2, will be encouraged				

¹ Host country to be decided

² Subject to confirmation

MAIN PROBLEM AREA		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
IV. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT	1. Working Party sessions	Covered by the activities of the Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds 18th session in Germany New progress in torrent hydraulics (in conjunction with 18th session)		19th session in ... ¹		20th session in ... ¹
	2. Seminars					
V. MEDITERRANEAN FORESTRY QUESTIONS	1. Sessions of "Silva Mediterranea"	Covered by the activities of the AFWC/EFC/NEFC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions - "Silva Mediterranea" 15th session in Portugal		16th session in ... ¹		17th session in ... ¹
	2. Seminars					

¹ Host country to be decided

² Subject to confirmation

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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