

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

R o m e

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4 November 1952

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R E P O R T

of the

FIFTH SESSION

of the

EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 14-25 October, 1952

1. The European Commission on Forestry and Forest Products held its Fifth Session at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 14 to 25 October 1952.

During the Session, the Commission held joint meetings with the Timber Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe on 14, 15, 16 and 20 October.

The following member countries of the Commission were represented at the Session: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia. The United States and Canada sent observers, as did the following international organizations: the International Labour Office, the OEEC, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations and the International Poplar Commission. Messages regretting their inability to send representatives were received from UNESCO, the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. A list of the participants appears in Annex 1.

The Session was opened by Mr. O. J. SANGAR, Chairman of the Commission, in the presence of Mr. M. LELOUP, representing the Director-General of the FAO.

In the absence of Professor SAARI (Finland), Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. OSARA, head of the Finnish delegation, was elected Vice-Chairman and appointed Rapporteur-General for the Session.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The Commission approved the Agenda prepared by the Secretariat in conjunction with the Chairman and, in view of the Chairman's intimation to the Commission that,

under the instructions of his Government, he would be obliged to relinquish his office at the end of the Session, it decided to elect a new chairman on conclusion of the Session, under item 9 of the Agenda, "Other Business".

3. Timber Trends Study

The Commission met in joint session with the Timber Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe to consider the first draft of the Study of Trends in European Timber Consumption, Production and Trade. The report of this joint session is appended to this report (Annex 2).

4. Forest Policy (including afforestation and reforestation)

Delegations offered comments upon their reports of Forest Policy presented to the Commission, drawing particular attention to those points having a direct bearing on the Timber Trends study.

As regards afforestation, reforestation, and forest improvement, the commission approved the recommendations of the Secretariat contained in document FAO/EFC/44 as to the preparation of a questionnaire designed to show the progress achieved in the period 1947 to 1952 and also to the convening of a Working Group before the sixth session of the Commission to examine the replies to the above questionnaire.

The Commission then directed its attention to points bearing specifically upon the Timber Trends Study, ordering the discussion in accordance with the programme annexed (Annex 3). It was hoped that this examination would assist the Secretariat in their revision of Part II of this Study before publication and would also permit Governments to be informed of the opinions of the Commission on those problems which ought to be discussed by the Joint Working Party to be convened in accordance with the recommendations mentioned of the Joint Session.

a) Basic Data The Commission fully recognised the necessity for national inventories and accepted the suggestion by the Secretariat that member governments be asked to include as an annex to their 1953 reports on Forest Policy, reports on the steps which they have taken or propose to take, and on methods which they have employed or propose to use in proceeding to the preparation of national inventories.

b) Production

(i) Forest Area, and Trees outside the Forest.

The Commission requested the Secretariat to assemble all information as regards areas susceptible to afforestation, re-afforestation or improvement and the opening of forests as yet unexploited or little exploited, available from other specialized bodies (Working Group for Torrent Control and Protection from Avalanches, Statistical Working Group, Pilot Committee on Logging Techniques and Training of Forest Workers, European Working Group on Soil and Water Utilisation and Conservation and the 1951 Working Group on Afforestation and Re-forestation) all this information to be placed at the disposal of the Joint Working Party, and

RECOMMENDED that Governments, quite independent of the questionnaire mentioned above in respect of the proposed Working Group on Afforestation and Re-afforestation, provide the Secretariat, before 31st December 1952, in a form which will be established by the Secretariat, and on the understanding that the meaning of the terms is as agreed at the Fourth Session, with information in respect of the period 1951/75 inclusive as to:

Afforestation

Forest Improvement

Re-forestation (other than in the normal
course of management)

Plantings outside the forest

(ii) Growth per unit of area

The Commission noted with satisfaction the work done by the International Union of Forest Research Institutes as regards the study of the influences of exotic species on the soil, and emphasised that efforts to obtain high yields must not neglect essential precautions to ensure the continuity of production and the maintenance of soil fertility.

The Commission also expressed its appreciation of the work of the International Poplar Commission, especially as regards the study of Poplars outside the forest, and drew attention to the importance of distinguishing between any differences in growth when used in conjunction with agriculture, as close stands or avenues, or for improvement. It also requested that the Poplar Commission authorise its secretary to provide the Joint Working Group with all information which might assist their deliberations.

The setting up of national working groups for the study of eucalyptus was noted with interest.

Finally, attention was drawn to the importance of genetics; advances in this science might well make it possible to obtain from indigenous species yields comparable to those from quick-growing exotics.

(iii) Useful Production per unit of area.

The Commission drew particular attention to the vital importance of roads and other means of access both in the reduction of waste or for purposes of protection.

The Commission, recognising that an improvement in the quantity and value of wood production could be obtained by intensifying the technical management of forests, and being convinced that, as a rule, the number of technicians is insufficient to permit of all the necessary factors of production being put into operation,

EXPRESSED the wish that this fact be emphasized in the Study of Trends in European Timber Consumption, Production and Trade.

The Commission recognising that thinning is not in general sufficiently widespread, more particularly because thinning is the essential silvicultural means for improving the quality of stands, for hastening the attainment of utilisable diameters and for the attainment of desirable changes in the composition of forests,

RECOMMENDED the Secretariat to amend the Timber Trends Study as regards the meaning of "intensification of thinning", which at present tends to create misunderstanding, and also requested the revision of certain statements on the subject of thinnings, particularly as regards their cost.

The Commission was of the opinion that the phrases "anticipation of future yield" and "shortening of the rotation period" in the Timber Trends Study may be so misunderstood as to involve also "over-cutting". The Commission therefore recommended that the Secretariat should consider the phrases "anticipation of future yield" and "shortening of the rotation period" and amend them in such a way that a misunderstanding would be prevented.

c) Privately-owned forests

The Commission, recognising the importance of the privately-owned forest in most European countries, and estimating that the possibilities of increasing production depend to a great extent on the effectiveness of educative measures carried out with owners and on financial facilities accorded to them,

RECOMMENDED that in its revision of the Timber Trends Study the Secretariat, enlightened by the comments given during the debate by the different delegations, mentioning the difficulties encountered and the means of surmounting them, should give particular attention to this subject, and

RECOMMENDED that the Secretariat should assemble the documentation on the measures taken in each country to help forest owners, should analyse it and communicate it to the Member Governments.

5. Torrent Control and Protection from Avalanches

The report of the Working Group on Torrent Control and Protection from Avalanches, which met in France from 28 June to 8 July 1952 (Document FAO/EFC/TORR.1), was submitted by Mr. RENEUVE, representing Mr. MESSINES, Chairman of the Working Group. Mr. RENEUVE stressed the desirability of close co-operation between all services concerned, especially in connection with the preparation of plans for large dams. He also stressed the value of holding the meeting in 1954 which was to be devoted more especially to the study of protection from avalanches, in a country where work in that field was particularly far advanced, such as Switzerland or Austria.

The Commission unanimously approved the report, together with the amendment formulated by the Secretariat in Document FAO/EFC/TORR/1, Add.1, which includes the Working Party on Mediterranean Pasture and Fodder Development among the bodies with which the Working Group should keep in close touch in connection with soil conservation and utilisation in mountain areas.

The Commission thanked the members of the Working Group for their excellent work and requested the French representative to convey its thanks to the French Government and the Direction Generale des Eaux et Forêts at Paris for the excellent way in which the meeting and the accompanying study tour had been organized and prepared.

6. Sub-Commission on Mediterranean Problems

The report of the Sub-Commission on Mediterranean Problems (Document FAO/EFC/SCM 42) was submitted by Professor A. PAVARI, Chairman of the Sub-Commission, who stressed the importance of holding a joint meeting of the Sub-Commission with countries of a Mediterranean character in the Near Eastern region. He also drew the Commission's attention to the Sub-Commission's recommendation for the setting up of national working teams for studying eucalyptus.

The Commission unanimously approved the report and requested the Turkish representative to convey its thanks to the Turkish Government and the Forest Department at Ankara for the excellent way in which the Sub-Commission's session and the preceding study tour had been organized.

As regards the next Session, the Commission requested the Director-General of FAO to fix the date and place in conjunction with the countries which had already extended invitations or expressed the desire to offer hospitality to the Sub-Commission, taking due account of the importance of holding a joint meeting with countries of a Mediterranean character in the Near East, on the one hand, and of the proposed meetings of the International Chestnut Commission and the Working Group on Cork Oak, on the other.

7. Logging Technique and Training of Forest Workers

The report of the Pilot Committee on Logging Technique and Training of Forest Workers which met in Geneva from 23 to 29 March, 1952 was presented to the Commission by Mr. H. G. WINKELMANN, Chairman of the Pilot Committee. (Document FAO/EFC/45 Appendix 1.)

The Commission approved this report unanimously and expressed its thanks to the members of the Pilot Committee for the work achieved. It emphasized the importance of progress made in the documentation on this subject particularly as regards the work which has been carried out or has been planned in the different member countries.

The Commission evinced great interest in the work undertaken in connection with the development of tractors for use in forestry operations. It was felt that emphasis should be laid upon the importance of classifying tractors in categories according to the use to be made of them, of testing and reporting

on the same basis, and also upon the paramount importance of data relative to practical use in the field. The proposed inquiries should facilitate the production of tractors specially adapted for forestry work.

The Secretariat was congratulated on the work already carried out and on its collaboration with the International Labour Office, the International Union of Forestry Research Institutes and the Industry and Materials Division of the ECE in this field.

The Commission gratefully noted the suggestion by the delegate of Finland that the next session of the Pilot Committee on Logging Techniques and Wood Workers' Training should be held in that country.

8. Statistics

The Commission unanimously approved the Report of the Statistical Working Group, which met during the Session. This Report constitutes Annex 4 of the present Report.

The Commission congratulated the members of the Working Group for having carried out their task so well in spite of the short time at their disposal.

9. Forestry Excursion

At the invitation of the Inspecteur Général des Forêts of Switzerland and of the Canton de Vaud, the Commission visited the forests of RISOURD.

The visit provided a good illustration of many points discussed in connection with the comments in the Timber Trends Study on the development of virgin or inaccessible forests, particularly the importance of roads and means of access and exploitation generally.

The Commission expressed its gratitude to the forest Services of Switzerland and the Canton, and to all those who organized the visit.

10. Election of the Chairman

The Chairman indicated to the Delegates that in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, the new Chairman must be elected from among the delegates; he called for nomination.

On the proposal of the Delegate of Italy, seconded by the delegate of France, Mr. SCHLATTER, the Delegate of Switzerland, was unanimously elected Chairman for the Sixth Session of the Commission.

The delegate of Sweden expressed to the retiring Chairman, on behalf of all delegations, their regrets at his retirement and their appreciation of his services during the last four sessions.

11. Date and place of the Sixth Session

It was decided that the Chairman, in consultation with the Secretariat, and having regard to the proposal for a further meeting jointly with the ECE Timber Committee, should determine the date and place for the next Session.

LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES

Chairman : Mr. O. J. SANGAR (United Kingdom)
Vice-Chairman a.i. : Mr. N. A. OSARA (Finland)
Secretary : Mr. R. G. FONTAINE (FAO)

Representative of the Director-General of FAO: Mr. M. LELOUP, Director
of the Forestry Division.

DELEGATES:

AUSTRIA:

Mr. S. DUSCHEK, Director of Forests.
Mr. R. ENDER, Ministry Counsellor, Ministry of
Agriculture and Forestry.

BELGIUM:

Mr. H. COLLEAUX, Inspecteur Principal des Eaux et Forêts.

DENMARK:

Mr. A. Howard GRØN, Professor at Royal Agricultural
and Veterinary College.

FINLAND:

Mr. N. A. OSARA, Director-General, State Board of Forestry.

FRANCE:

Mr. F. MERVEILLEUX du VIGNAUX, Directeur Général des Forêts.
Mr. CASTAGNOU, Inspecteur Général des Eaux et Forêts.
Mr. J. de VAISSIERE, Conservateur des Eaux et Forêts,
Chef du Service de la Forêt Privée à la
Direction Générale des Eaux et Forêts.
Mr. P. RENEUVE, Conservateur des Eaux et Forêts, Ecole
Nationale des Eaux et Forêts.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY:

Mr. W. MANN, Ministerial Director, Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry.
Mr. F. EIDMANN, Chief Forester of the "Forsteinrichtungsamt"

IRELAND:

Mr. K. L. SCHORMAN, Principal Officer, Forestry Division,
Department of Lands.
Mr. S. M. O'SULLIVAN, Chief Inspector, Department of Lands,
Forestry Division.

ITALY:

- Mr. G. SACCHI, Directeur Général des Forêts.
Mr. A. PAVARI, Directeur de la Station de Recherches Forestières de Florence.
Mr. F. SARCHIAPONE, Chef de Section auprès de l'Institut Central de Statistiques.
Mr. L. FUNICIELLO, Inspecteur Supérieur des Forêts.

NETHERLANDS:

- Mr. F. W. MALSCH, Director of the State Forest Service.
Mr. P. de FREMERY, Président de la Section Forestière de la Fédération de l'Agriculture.

NORWAY:

- Mr. A. LANGSAETER, Director-General of Forestry.

PORTUGAL:

- Mr. J. ALVES, Chef de Division à la Direction Générale des Eaux et Forêts.

SWEDEN:

- Mr. M. NAESLUND, Professor and Director of the Forest Research Institute of Sweden.
Mr. W. PLYM FORSHELL, Deputy Chief of the Royal Board of Private Forestry.

SWITZERLAND:

- Mr. A. SCHLATTER, Inspecteur Général des Forêts.
Mr. J. KELLER, Inspecteur fédéral des Forêts.
Mr. H. G. WINKELMANN, Directeur de l'Office Forestier Central Suisse.

TURKEY:

- Mr. " " Ozen, Inspecteur forestier à la Direction Générale des Forêts.

UNITED KINGDOM:

- Mr. O.J. SANGAR, Director of Forestry for England, Forestry Commission.
Mr. R.H. SMITH, Conservator of Forests, Forestry Commission.
Mr. A. WATT, Conservator of Forests, Forestry Commission.

YUGOSLAVIA:

- Mr. L. MARKOVIC, Directeur de Recherches.

OBSERVERS:

a) Countries:

CANADA:

Mr. W. R. HICKMAN, Assistant Commercial Secretary,
Canadian Delegation, Berne.

UNITED STATES:

Mr. Avery B. COHAN, U.S. Permanent Delegation.
Mr. Elmer C. PARKER, Assistant Chief, Forest Products
Branch, Mutual Security Agency.
Mr. R. W. TYSON, Chief, Special Committee, Mutual
Security Agency.

b) International Organizations:

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE:

Mr. ENSEMAT ENRIQUE

ORGANIZATION FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION:

Mr. R. P. FEVRIER, Administrateur Principal au Comité du Bois.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FOREST RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS:

Mr. A. PAVARI, Vice-chairman of the Union.

COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE DU PEUPLIER:

Mr. R. G. FONTAINE, Secrétaire.

JOINT MEETING
of the TIMBER COMMITTEE of the ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE and the EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON FORESTRY
AND FOREST PRODUCTS of the FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Geneva, 14-20 October 1952

F I N A L R E P O R T

Submitted by the Rapporteur General

The ECE Timber Committee and the European Commission on Forestry and Forest Products of FAO had a joint meeting from 14 to 20 October 1952 to examine the Study, submitted by the Secretariats of these bodies, on timber production and consumption trends in Europe.

After hearing the opening statements by Mr. G. MYRDAL, Executive Secretary of ECE, Mr. LELOUP, Director of the Forestry Division of FAO and Mr. GLESINGER, in charge of the Study, the Joint Meeting elected Mr. O. J. SANGAR, Chairman of the European Commission on Forestry and Forest Products, as its Chairman, and Mr. F. du VIGNAUX, Chairman of the ECE Timber Committee, as its Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur General.

Delegations were unanimous in congratulating the Secretariats on the work accomplished. Commended for its structure and scope and for the quality of its documentation, the Study was regarded as a document of the highest value, which could undoubtedly be of great assistance in the formulation of medium-term policies for timber production, consumption and trade and related investment programmes (the year 1960 being taken as typifying a medium-term).

Nevertheless, in view of the complexity of the problems raised in the Study and the inadequate time available for detailed consideration of all its parts, certain delegates questioned the advisability of publishing the document at the present time.

Since the Secretariat did not wish to delay publication, however, the Joint Meeting noted with satisfaction that the recommendations appearing at the end of Part IV would be omitted, that this part, after revision, would be entitled

"Summary", that the document would be published on the sole responsibility of the Secretariats, and that this fact would be stressed in the published study and given prominence in any statements to the Press. In particular it should be stressed that the delegates to the European Forestry Commission and the Timber Committee had not had sufficient time to consider the study in detail and to draw their own conclusions.

The Joint Meeting studied the document submitted and considered the following points:

- (a) fundamental assumptions on which the Study was based;
- (b) estimates of requirements for 1960;
- (c) estimated wood production in 1960 under traditional felling policies;
- (d) upper limit to extra-European supplies;
- (e) possible increases in reforestation programmes;
- (f) possibilities of immediate increases in fellings;
- (g) possibilities of better utilization of the forest crop;
- (h) composition by wood categories of estimated production in 1960 under a dynamic forest policy;
- (i) possibilities of investment in new pulp capacity and co-ordination of sawmill and pulp industries;
- (j) possibilities of investment in fibreboard and plywood capacity, and of improving the quality of sawmill output;
- (k) trade estimates for 1960;
- (l) possibilities of trade with the USSR and North America;
- (m) implications of a timber shortage;
- (n) necessary action by producers and consumers.

On all these points constructive criticisms and penetrating comments were submitted by the various delegations.

The Joint Meeting, therefore:

(1) most warmly congratulates Mr. G. MYRDAL, Executive Secretary of ECE, and Mr. N. E. DODD, Director-General of FAO, on the high scientific quality and the great value of the Study submitted to it and thanks the staff of the two Organizations who took part in the preparation of the Study for the excellent performance.

(2) RECOMMENDS that before publication the Study be revised in the light of the comments and criticisms made at the Joint Meeting and of any observations subsequently submitted by Governments and experts;

(3) RECOMMENDS the establishment of a Working Party composed of eminent experts in the fields of forest policy, timber production, woodworking industry and timber trade, to be selected by the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECE, after consultation with member Governments, on the grounds of their personal qualifications and with due regard to achieving a fair geographical distribution.

The Working Party should be convened early in 1953 by the Director-General of FAO and the Executive Secretary of ECE, and should consider, with the assistance of the Secretariat and on the basis of the information contained in the Timber Trends Study and of the discussions at the previous session, proposals for future action, so that the Secretariat may make recommendations for submission to member Governments well in advance of the next joint session, at which the report will be considered and implemented as required.

It is understood that, prior to consideration by the Joint Session, the proposals of the Working Party will not commit the FAO European Forestry Commission, the ECE Timber Committee or member Governments.

(4) DECIDES to hold its next meeting in Rome in the autumn of 1953.

TIMBER TRENDS STUDY
(re Agenda Items 2 and 3)

ORDER OF DISCUSSION

Principal References
Timber Trends Study

1.) Basic Data

Forest Inventories, including
Statistics of Production and
Consumption and Estimates of
Possibilité.

II 16, 17, 64

2.) Production

The early achievement and future
maintenance of increased production
in both State and Private Forests
by means of increases in:-

II 5, 6, 9
II 57/68

(a) Forest area and trees outside
the forest

- (i) Total
- (ii) Under exploitation
- (iii) Under management

IV 21 par. 29
II 57 and 62
II 5

(b) Growth per unit of area, by:-

- (i) Use of satisfactory
quick-growing species
- (ii) Planned priorities in
schemes for afforestation
and reforestation

II 9
II 2
Para. B

(c) Useful Production per unit
area by:-

- (i) Reduction of waste, including
protection
- (ii) Intensified thinning
- (iii) Heavier Fellings, justified
by shorter rotation and
increased areas and future
growth per unit area
- (iv) Adjustment of current pro-
duction and future availability
to current and future probable
requirements of consumers

II 62, 67, 68
II 61, 62
II 61
II 58
II 61/63 and 65
II 65
IV 25

3.) Privately-owned woods

Special problems as to Incentives,)
Execution and Control:--)

- (a) Financial)
- (b) Legislation)
- (c) Execution)
- (d) Lack of Interest and Knowledge)

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REPORT OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP
ON FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS STATISTICS

Membership of the Working Group

Mr. H. Keller (Switzerland)	Chairman
Mr. R. Smith (United Kingdom)	Rapporteur

Members:

Mr. S. Duschek	(Austria)
Mr. H. Colleaux	(Belgium)
Mr. N. Osara	(Finland)
Mr. M. Naeslund	(Sweden)
Mr. F. Eidmann	(Federal Republic of Germany)
Mr. J. de Vaissiere	(France)
Mr. P. Reneuve	(France)
Mr. L. Funicello	(Italy)
Mr. F. Sarchiapone	(Italy)

Secretariat:

Mr. J.C. Westoby	(FAO)
Mr. H. Tromp	(FAO)

Professor Streyffert (Sweden), Consultant to the Secretariats,
also attended.

Documents

The Working Group had before it the following documents:

FAO/EFC/46 Rev.1	Proposal concerning Forest Fire Statistics submitted by Finland
FAO/EFC/46 Add.1	Proposal concerning Forest Fire Statistics submitted by France
FAO/EFC/47	Secretariat Note on Forest Inventories
FAO/EFC/48	Secretariat Note on Conversion Factors

Forest Fire Statistics

The Working Group considered that many of the factors affecting the incidence of forest fires, as well as the fire prevention and control methods adopted by Member countries, are of common interest. It would therefore be of considerable value if statistics of the number and extent of forest fires, analysed by season and cause, were available on an internationally comparable basis. Whilst agreeing that statistics of the estimated damage caused by forest fires would also be of value, it considered that there was at the present stage no possibility of collecting this information on an accurate or comparable basis. The Working Group therefore recommends

That Member Governments, in submitting their forest policy progress reports to FAO

- a) Furnish annually statistics of forest fires in accordance with the draft questionnaire attached (Appendix A)
- b) Include from time to time an account of the methods of fire prevention and control adopted, with special reference to -
 - (i) the various services invoked, including personnel and equipment not normally connected with the forest;
 - (ii) the stage reached in the preparation of forest fire plans;
 - (iii) the effectiveness of the various measures adopted;
 - (iv) any notable changes in prevention and control measures which have taken place, or are planned, as a result of experience gained.

In submitting the information under (b) which the Working Group recommends should be furnished at five-yearly intervals commencing in 1953, Member Governments should be requested to mention any special climatic or topographical features which affect either the incidence of fires or the methods adopted to control them.

Conversion Factors

The Working Group considers that the time has come to undertake a review of the conversion factors at present officially adopted by FAO. Such a review should aim, not at formulating factors for universal application, but at establishing several sets of conversion factors applicable to individual countries or country groups. To do this, it would be necessary to seek the aid of governments,

and through them of appropriate experts, in establishing factors applicable to their own countries.

The Working Group therefore recommends -

(a) That the Secretariat, after corresponding with statistical experts, prepare a questionnaire on this subject, to be circulated to Member Governments, and -

(b) That the Secretariat be requested to prepare and publish, on the basis of the information collected, a "Handbook of Conversion Factors for Forest Products", providing that, in its view, the information collected is sufficiently comprehensive.

Forest Inventories

The Working Group took note of the following recommendation contained in the report of the Sixth Session of the FAO Conference held in Rome in November and December 1951:

"The Organization should at five year intervals, collect and publish available information on the forest resources of all countries of the world. The results of the first study had been published in 1948; the next project should be undertaken in 1953 and, to this end, an agreement of experts on relevant definitions and descriptions should be sought."

It considered in detail the draft questionnaire submitted by the Secretariat and recommends

That this questionnaire be adopted subject to the following amendments:

Table 1 Land Categories

That swamps and bogs be distinguished from other unproductive land.

That the note relating to forest dwellings be deleted.

Table 2 Classification of Accessible Forests

That in the classification by ownership heading 1 (c) "Forests owned by churches" be deleted, and

That heading 2 "Forests owned by institutions" be sub-divided as follows:

- (a) Religious Institutions
- (b) Other Institutions

That heading 3 (a) be amended to read "owned by industrial corporations, cooperative societies, etc."

That in Note B "Forests of predominantly economic character" be defined as "forests yielding usable wood and where the protective function is of less importance than the economic function".

That Note D be amended to read as follows:

"Forests in which there is no cut. (Include forests in which the cut is prohibited. Include national parks and other recreational forests if this condition is fulfilled.)"

That Note G be amended to read "Forests belonging to towns, villages and communes. Include any other publicly-owned forests not elsewhere specified."

That Note L be deleted.

Table 3 Classification of Forests in Use

That heading I 2. be amended to read "All other forests in use," and that the corresponding Note B be deleted.

That in tables II and III an additional heading be provided for open areas, and that an appropriate note be inserted in the definitions.

That Note G be amended to read "Forests entirely composed of seedling trees. Include other silvicultural systems in process of transformation to High Forests"

That Note H be amended to read "Forests composed of seedling trees and stool-shoots. Include Coppices in process of transformation."

Table 4 Size Distribution of Privately-Owned Forests

That this table be presented as in the 1947 inventory with the annotation used in that year.

Table 5 Growing Stock in Forests in Use

That Birch (Betula spp.) be added to the non-conifers specified in the table, and that a further footnote be added to the table to read as follows: "Please specify separately, if possible, any other species which accounts for more than 10% of the total growing stock."

Table 6 Annual Growth and Allowable Cut in Forests in Use

That the present footnote to the table be deleted and replaced by the following notes:

- (1) If it is not possible to furnish separate figures for the various natural losses, please give an estimate of the total loss. Similarly, if separate figures cannot be furnished for conifers and non-conifers, please estimate the total.
- (2) State here the period covered ... (see corresponding note to Table 7)

That the Note relating to the basis of estimation be revised, to conform with the corresponding Note in table 5.

Table 7 Annual Fellings in Forests in Use

That wood for charcoal production be included with fuelwood and Notes E and F revised accordingly.

Table 9 Classification of Inaccessible Forests

That in table I an additional heading be introduced for "open areas" and a corresponding note inserted in the definitions.

Table 10 Area of Inaccessible Forests

That figures relating to formerly inaccessible forests which have become accessible since 1947 be furnished for the period 1948-1952.

That table II relate to the period 1953-1957.

The Working Group recommends

That Table 11 Area of Reforestation and Afforestation be completed by the Secretariat in the light of the discussions on reforestation which took place in the Plenary Session, that information in this category be collected for each year from 1947 to date together with planned figures for the period 1953-57, and that particulars of forest area lost to other uses since 1947 be also collected.

The foregoing amendments relate to the original (English) text. The Secretariat is requested to bring the French text into conformity with the original English text as now amended.

The Working Group, in submitting these recommendations, noted that it will be necessary for the Secretariat, before deciding the final form of the questionnaires for a World Inventory, to take into account the views of the other Regional Commission or Offices.

The Working Group hopes that all Member countries will be able to furnish particulars of their forest resources in the year 1953.

Labour Statistics

Attention was drawn to the increasing importance of labour problems in forestry work. The Working Group recommends

That the Secretariat be invited in consultation with the International Labour Office to study the existing state of forestry labour statistics and present a note on this subject to a future meeting of the Commission.

FOREST FIRE STATISTICS

DEFINITIONS

(a) Consider as forests all lands bearing vegetative associations dominated by trees of any size, exploited or not, capable of producing wood or of exerting an influence on the climatic or the water regime. Include lands from which forests have been recently clear cut, but which will be reforested. Exclude permanently open and grassy areas.

(b) A forest fire is any wild fire, started by causes known or unknown, which has burnt down forests included under the definition above, regardless of the size of the burnt area. (Controlled burning of slash etc. for cultivation or reforestation purposes is not to be considered as a forest fire.)

(c) Causes of forest fires:

1. Carelessness - Camp or other fires, smokers, blasting of stumps, cleaning of railway areas by burning, moor burning, and other careless or unskilful handling of fire.*
2. Lightning - Direct or indirect (e.g. burning building set on fire by lightning).
3. Railways - Sparks from railway engines.
4. Arson - Intentional forest fires, except those for purposes of warfare.
5. Other reasons - Military training (outbreaks caused by practice shoots, signal-rockets, illuminating bombs, etc. which cannot be considered as carelessness), miscellaneous (burning buildings, sparks from ships, traction engines, cars, aeroplanes etc.)
6. Unknown - Cause unknown or uncertain.

* NOTE

All forest fires originating from controlled burning (slash, fire rides, railway embankments etc.) which get out of hand are to be included under the heading of Carelessness.

Country
 Forest Fire Statistics
 Year

Reason	Causes of forest fire, number and area													
	Carelessness		Lightning		Railways		Arson		Other reasons		Unknown		Total	
	Num-ber	Area ha.	Num-ber	Area ha.	Num-ber	Area ha.	Num-ber	Area ha.	Num-ber	Area ha.	Num-ber	Area ha.	Num-ber	Area ha.
* Month														
Spring _____ to _____														
Summer _____ to _____														
Autumn _____ to _____														
Winter _____ to _____														
Total														

* Please insert months to which season corresponds.
 Please state here estimated burnt area as percentage of total forest area per cent.

