

REPORTS

OF THE

FIFTEENTH SESSION

OF THE EUROPEAN FORESTRY

COMMISSION

AND OF THE SESSION OF THE

AD HOC WORKING PARTY

ON FOREST MANAGEMENT

**Held in Rome, Italy
7-11 September 1970**



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

R E P O R T S

of the

Fifteenth Session

of the

EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

(Rome, Italy, 8-11 September 1970)

and of the Session of the

AD HOC WORKING PARTY
ON FOREST MANAGEMENT

(Rome, Italy, 7-8 September 1970)

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome, 1971

LIST OF PREVIOUS SESSIONS
of the
EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

- First Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 6-10 July 1948
(Chairman : B. Dufay, France)
- Second Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 5-9 September 1949
(Chairman : Mr. Owen J. Sangar, United Kingdom)
- Third Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 28 August - 1 September 1950
(Chairman : Mr. Owen J. Sangar, United Kingdom)
- Fourth Session, Rome, Italy, 1-6 October 1951
(Chairman : Mr. Owen J. Sangar, United Kingdom)
- Fifth Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 14-25 October 1952
(Chairman : Mr. Owen J. Sangar, United Kingdom)
- Sixth Session, Rome, Italy, 8-16 October 1953
(Chairman : Mr. A. Schlatter, Switzerland)
- Seventh Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 8-13 November 1954
(Chairman : Mr. E. Saari, Finland)
- Eighth Session, Rome, Italy, 10-15 October 1955
(Chairman : Sir Henry Beresford-Peirse, United Kingdom)
- Ninth Session, Rome, Italy, 7-14 May 1957
(Chairman : Sir Henry Beresford-Peirse, United Kingdom)
- Tenth Session, Rome and Florence, Italy, 7-13 July 1959
(Chairman : Mr. A. Camaiti, Italy)
- Eleventh Session, Rome and Catanzaro, Italy, 22-30 May 1961
(Chairman : Mr. J. Jungo, Switzerland)
- Twelfth Session, Geneva and Zurich, Switzerland, 30 September-7 October 1963
(Chairman : Mr. W. Plym Forshell, Sweden)
- Thirteenth Session, Rome, Italy, 15-19 May 1967
(Chairman : Mr. O. Eckmüllner, Austria)
- Fourteenth Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 9-11 October 1968
(Chairman : Mr. F. Tomulescu, Romania)

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SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Addressed to Member Governments

1. Countries desirous to make contributions to the revision of the FAO Study on Forest Policy, Law and Administration should send their comments to the Secretariat (par. 36).
2. Post-graduate management training courses for leading foresters should be organized, be attended by most senior officers, include other sectors of the economy, adopt a regional approach and be systematically evaluated. (par. 42-44).

B. Addressed to FAO

1. The Study Group on Methods and Organization of Forest Work of the FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers should intensify its activities in the field of planning and economy (par. 11).
2. As many terms of the Multilingual Glossary of Forest Work Science as possible should be included in the terminology lists of the FAO/IUFRO Committee on Bibliography and Terminology (par. 12).
3. Priority attention should be given to evaluating indirect benefits of the forest and obtaining relevant quantified data series (par. 16).
4. Promote timber substitution studies and devote increased efforts to compiling data on the consumption and trends of timber products (par. 30).
5. Study any developments which might influence the fellings of roundwood in the short term (par. 31).
6. In the revision of the FAO Study on Forest Policy, Law and Administration, consideration should be given to elaborate further on:
 - a) the role of private institutions in the formulation and implementation of forest policies;
 - b) vocational training for both State and private forest workers;
 - c) structural improvement of forest enterprises, particularly small enterprises;
 - d) infrastructural development as a means of implementing forest policy;
 - e) levels at which policy decisions are made and the difference between policies and objectives (par. 35).
7. A one week's symposium should be held on the Coordination between Forestry and Wood-Using Industries (par. 38/39).
8. Foster regional post-graduate training courses on management in various languages (par. 42-43).

9. At future EFC sessions, arrangements should be made for speakers with international experience to give special lectures dealing with subjects of particular interest to forest policy-makers (par. 48).
10. National progress reports, restricted in length and dealing with selected topics only, should be requested from each member country for future EFC sessions (par. 50).
11. Strengthen the FAO Logging and Transportation Branch and give increased attention to the field of logging and timber transport (par. 51).
12. The FAO Advisory Committee on Forestry Education should foster the introduction, at forest faculties, of courses in natural resources and recreational management, including the sociological aspects of the latter (Annex 4 , par. 22).

R E P O R T

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The European Forestry Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations held its Fifteenth Session at FAO Headquarters, Rome, from 8 to 11 September 1970.

2. The session was attended by delegates from the following 23 countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia; by representatives of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization (ILO); and by observers of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), the European Economic Community (EEC), and the European Confederation of Agriculture (ECA).

The names of the participants are listed in Annex 1 of the report.

3. The session was attended by Mr. P. Terver, Assistant Director-General, Development Department of FAO; and by Messrs. Jack C. Westoby, Director, Programme Coordination and Operations, and R.G. Fontaine, Director, Forest Resources Division, of the FAO Forestry Department.

Mr. E. Kalkkinen, Director of the ECE/FAO Timber Division, acted as Secretary.

4. Mr. Terver opened the meeting and welcomed, on behalf of the Director-General of FAO, all delegates, and in particular the delegate from Czechoslovakia, which had become a member of the Commission since its last session. Mr. Terver recalled that the foundation of the European Forestry Commission went back to a recommendation formulated at the FAO Forestry Conference held in Marinazské-Lázne (Czechoslovakia) in 1947 and mentioned the great interest with which the Director-General was looking forward to the results of the Commission's deliberations. In his message of welcome, Mr. Westoby stressed the importance of an adequate contribution which forestry is called upon to make to the conservation and improvement of the human environment. The question of human environment has become a highly political issue, making it necessary to resolve the conflicts between short-term, often private, interests and the long-term interests of the community. A prerequisite for a successful contribution of the forestry sector to the solution of the inherent problems is the education of citizens, of politicians, and above all of the foresters themselves. Although, in the past, foresters have often lacked adequate background in social sciences, their professional formation comes closest to what is required for environmental work. The World Consultation on Forestry Education, planned to be held in Sweden in 1974, will provide an opportunity for a thorough discussion of these matters. It may well be that conservation of the human environment will become the most burning issue for forestry in the seventies; though it is a problem of world-wide interest and implications, many of its aspects should be dealt with at a regional level, and this is why the European Forestry Commission, which embraces predominantly countries at an advanced stage of industrialization, should devote great attention to this subject.

5: After having welcomed the delegates, Mr. F. Tomulescu, Chairman of the Commission, thanked FAO for the interest it is taking in forestry affairs, and said that this was most encouraging for its member countries. The excellent representation at this session was a gratifying expression of the importance which member countries attach to the Commission's work and the most solid foundation for successful deliberations at the session.

II: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

6: The Provisional Agenda (Annex 2) was adopted without comments.
The documents listed in Annex 3 were submitted to the delegates for consideration.

III. REPORT OF THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION

7: The Commission adopted the report of the Seventh Session of its Executive Committee (Doc. FO:EFC-70/2) without comments and resolved to defer discussion of the suggested programme of work, since a special item was devoted to it in the agenda of this session.

IV. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

8: The Commission decided to defer any general comments on the structure of subsidiary bodies, which will be required for carrying out its future programme of work, until after the discussions of its own long-term work programme.

a) Joint Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers

9: The Commission considered the activities of the FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers on the basis of the report of the Eighth Session of this Committee (FAO/ECE/LOG/230), which was held in Stuttgart (Federal Republic of Germany) from 15 to 18 June 1970. It reiterated the great importance it attaches to forest working techniques and expressed its great satisfaction at the activities carried out by the Committee in this field.

10: In view of the continuous need for greater skills and more specialization, and in view of the rapid technical progress, meetings, and especially symposia, on forest working techniques were required at frequent intervals. The composition of the Committee made it possible to draw full benefits from the experience gained in some countries, such as Canada and the USSR, which are not members of the Commission but have an important contribution to make to international work in this field.

11: The Commission endorsed the recommendation that the Study Group on Methods and Organization of Forest Work should intensify its activities in the fields of planning and economy, since there was a growing need to plan operations in close relation with economic requirements.

12: The Commission agreed to the proposal that the files on a Multilingual Glossary of Forest Work Science, prepared by a study group which was specially set up to deal with this question, be transmitted to the language groups of the FAO/IUFRO Committee on Bibliography, with the request that as many terms of the Glossary as possible be included in their terminology lists.

13: The Commission concurred that, in view of the preoccupation of all member countries with problems of environment and the increasingly important social role of the forest, these questions should be taken into account when the Committee formulates its suggestions for future activities.

14. The representative of ILO, Mr. P.F. Fano, Director of the ILO Branch Office in Rome, stated that his Organization was very pleased about the excellent and most fruitful cooperation with FAO in the field of logging and training of forest workers, which was largely achieved through the activities of the Joint Committee. The Commission emphasized the importance which it attached to ILO's contribution to international activities in logging and expressed its high appreciation of the efficient manner and the outstanding spirit of cooperation in which ILO has always supported the work of the Joint Committee.

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

15. The Commission was informed of the activities of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest and Forest Products Statistics. It approved the Report of the 8th Session of this Working Party (Doc. FAO/ECE/STATS/98), recognized the importance of the Working Party and expressed its great satisfaction at its activities.

16. The Commission agreed that priority attention should be given to the problem of evaluation of the indirect benefits of the forests and that it was necessary to obtain quantified data series covering the different aspects of indirect benefits. The activities of the Working Party in this respect would, of course, have to be coordinated with further developments in the overall approach of the Commission to this important problem.

17. The Commission further noted the progress made in the coordination of statistical data collection between international organizations, and the improvements made in the statistical coverage of wood-based panels and production capacity.

18. It also agreed that the attention given to the emergence of electronic data processing and information and data retrieval as a new significant factor for increasing productivity in forestry was very much commendable.

19. The Commission recognized that the present limitations in the resources of the Secretariat responsible for dealing with statistical matters would delay progress in this field.

c) Working Party on Torrent Control, Protection from Avalanches and Watershed Management

20. The Commission heard a report on the activities of this Working Party, with particular reference to its Ninth Session held from 1 to 14 June 1970 in Munich (Federal Republic of Germany), which included a seminar as had been recommended by the Executive Committee of the Commission.

21. The Working Party's task evolved from a strictly technical nature into an integrated multidisciplinary function in which due consideration had to be given to the respective socio-economic requirements. Hence, revised and enlarged terms of reference and a new title for the Working Party were proposed by the Seminar.

22. The Commission recalled the importance of forest influences on water and soil conservation and the recent disastrous floods which had occurred in Italy and Romania. It underlined the importance of an integrated watershed management within the framework of a dynamic forest protection in the European mountains.

23. The Commission approved continuation of the Working Party's activities under the following new title and terms of reference:

Title: "EFC Working Party on Management of Mountain Watersheds"

Terms of Reference: i) torrent control; ii) avalanche protection;

iii) soil and water conservation in mountain regions; iv) mountain land-use, with special reference to forest land, in collaboration with the authorities concerned; v) evaluation of the direct and indirect benefits of mountain watershed management.

d) Joint Sub-Commission on Mediterranean Forestry Problems

24. The Commission noted that no session of the AFG/EFC/NEFC Sub-Commission on Mediterranean Forestry Problems had taken place since its last session in 1968. It also noted that the Sub-Commission's Eleventh Session is scheduled to be held from 1 to 3 October 1970 in Ankara (Turkey) and will be preceded by a study tour and session of the Committee on the Coordination of Mediterranean Forestry Research, and be followed by a study tour in Turkey.

25. The Commission took note of the provisional agenda drawn up for the Sub-Commission's forthcoming session which included a special item on the re-orientation of the Sub-Commission's work, change in its title and revision of its terms of reference as recommended by the Commission at its Fourteenth Session, held from 9 to 11 October 1966 in Geneva.

e) Ad hoc Working Party on Forest Management

26. The Commission took note that the Rapporteur of the ad hoc Working Party, Mr. J.A. Spencer, had summarized the salient points of the discussion and the main conclusions of the deliberations at the end of the Working Party's session, which was held on 7 and 8 September 1970 at FAO Headquarters, Rome.

27. A draft report containing the findings of the Working Party's session was presented at the session held jointly by the European Commission on Agriculture and the European Forestry Commission on 10 September 1970 at FAO Headquarters, Rome. This report is attached as Annex 4.

V. COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES

a) European Commission on Agriculture

28. The Commission approved without comments the provisional agenda proposed for its session to be held jointly with the European Commission on Agriculture on 10 September 1970 at FAO Headquarters, Rome.

b) ECE Timber Committee

29. The Commission heard with great interest a report on the activities of the ECE Timber Committee, and in particular on the Committee's Twenty-Fifth Session, held from 7 to 10 October 1969 in Geneva (Switzerland).

30. The Commission welcomed the proposal to promote timber substitution studies and to devote increased efforts to compiling data on the consumption of timber products and its trends.

31. The Commission took note with interest of the proposal that it should, at future sessions, endeavour to study any developments which might influence the fellings of roundwood in the short term, and agreed that its Executive Committee should take this proposal into consideration when preparing the provisional agenda for its next session.

32. The Commission agreed that the joint sessions of its own Executive Committee and that of the Timber Committee have given most fruitful results and should be continued.

33: The Commission stressed that the FAO/WCE Timber Division in Geneva had provided important and most welcome services in coordinating its activities with those of the Timber Committee. It expressed its appreciation of these services which were all the more noteworthy as they were rendered by a staff that was very small in number indeed.

VI: REVISION OF THE FAO STUDY ON FOREST POLICY, LAW AND ADMINISTRATION

34: The Commission considered the progress report on the revision of the FAO study on "Forest Policy, Law and Administration" (Doc. FO:EFC-70/4). It was, in general, in agreement with the structure and contents of the working paper which had been sent to correspondents and circulated to members of the Commission. In particular, it welcomed the modern approach adopted by the Secretariat in this respect.

35. Some delegates were, however, of the opinion that more emphasis should be given to:

- (a) the role of private institutions in the formulation and implementation of forest policies;
- (b) vocational training for both State and private forest workers;
- (c) structural improvement of forest enterprises, particularly small enterprises;
- (d) infrastructural development as a means of implementing forest policy; and
- (e) levels at which policy decisions are made and difference between policies and objectives.

36: The Commission agreed that those countries which were not named as correspondents at its 14th Session but which desired to make contributions to this important study should be permitted to do so. The Commission also pointed out that it was not too late for contributions to be made by those countries which, though they were named as correspondents, had not yet been able to send their comments to the Secretariat.

VII: SYMPOSIUM ON THE COORDINATION BETWEEN SYLVICULTURE, MANAGEMENT, HARVESTING, TRANSPORT AND INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING OF WOOD RAW MATERIAL

37. The Commission heard with interest a report on the results of the ad hoc preparatory meeting of experts which was held in Geneva (Switzerland) from 9 to 11 February 1970:

38: The Commission agreed on the following title for the Symposium:

"Symposium on the Co-ordination between Forestry and the Wood-using Industries"; it furthermore concurred with the suggestion that the Symposium should be held in the first half of 1972, be of one week's duration and that it might be supplemented by visits to enterprises illustrating the points dealt with at the Symposium.

39: The Commission agreed on the provisional outline for the Symposium, which was suggested to be as follows:

- A: Confrontation and co-ordination between silviculture and the wood-using industries
 - (a) influence on silviculture of the short-, medium- and long-term requirements of industry
 - (b) adaptation of industrial requirements to the possibilities of forest production

- B. Influence of different structural conditions of the forest and the wood-using industries on the supply and industrial requirements of timber
- C. Influence of the rationalization (organization and mechanization) of harvesting and transport
 - (a) on silviculture (and the growing of timber outside the forest)
 - (b) on the wood-using industries
- D. Harmonization of administration (in forestry, harvesting and industries) to improve the financial returns at all levels
- E. Systems of distribution of market information and of marketing
- F. External influences (impact of social, economic and technological factors emanating from outside the forestry and wood-using industry sectors).

The symposium should concentrate on problems concerning the physical treatment of tree crops, including questions of techniques, and economics, as enumerated under A to C above; questions dealing with administrative and organizational matters, as enumerated under D to F, should be taken into account only as background.

- 40. The delegates of Finland and Rumania reiterated the invitations of their Governments to hold the symposium in their respective countries.

VIII. POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION OF LEADING FORESTERS

- 41. The Commission commended Prof. G. Speidel of the Federal Republic of Germany for his authoritative and realistic report on a management training course for German-speaking foresters, held at Freiburg in Spring 1970 in response to a recommendation of the Commission at its last Session.
- 42. It expressed the wish that similar courses in other languages would soon follow and made a strong plea that every effort should be made by Forest Services to send the most senior foresters on those courses.
- 43. The Commission recommended that management training courses for foresters should be broadly-based to include other sectors of the economy. It favoured a regional approach to give such courses an international framework, and, in this context, commended the Federal Republic of Germany for inviting Austria and Switzerland to participate in the course held at Freiburg.
- 44. Finally, the Commission stressed the need for a systematic evaluation of such training courses in terms of changes in the performance of job tasks as envisaged by the training.

IX. FAO INDICATIVE WORLD PLAN FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT - ITS FINDINGS AND ITS FUTURE

- 45. The Commission took note of the main findings of the FAO Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development (IWP) and of the directives to evolve the IWP into a Perspective Study of World Agricultural Development, adopting the work towards the objectives of the Second UN Development Decade.
- 46. The importance of a cost-conscious approach in assessing future wood supply was stressed and the delegate of Greece summarized a recently prepared long-term programme for forestry and forest industries development in Greece, based on IWP forecasting methodologies. The plan has been worked out for the period 1967-1985 and is based on studies on the trends and prospects of consumption, trade and production of forest products for the 30 years to come.

X. LONG-TERM PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

47. The Commission considered its programme of work on the basis of the suggestions reproduced in Annex I of document FC:EFC-70/2. It stressed the importance of exercising strict control over its own activities and those of its subsidiary bodies. Meetings of the latter should be held less frequently if the subject-matter allows and more emphasis should be given in future to symposia and seminars.

48. At future sessions of the Commission, arrangements should be made for expert speakers with international experience to give special lectures dealing with subjects of particular interest to forest policy-makers. Such lectures would also constitute a means of keeping foresters abreast with international developments in forestry. The subject selected should be of interest to a great number of member countries and lend itself to discussion in depth during about half-a-day of a point vital for the development of European forestry in line with the changing requirements of society. This discussion should provide an overall picture of the situation, acquainting forest policy-makers with advances in forestry research and techniques, broadening the view of leading technicians and prompting an exchange of concrete experience. It should bring out why and how a certain solution to a specific problem was adopted and thus make it easier for leading foresters to take the right decisions and to allocate the financial means required in this context. The salient features of the lecture, including trends and prospects in the subject-matter dealt with, should be summarized in a note to be circulated to all member countries sufficiently in advance of the meeting to allow thorough preparation of the discussion.

49. The Executive Committee, in cooperation with the Secretariat, was requested to recast the draft programme of work, which should concentrate on a limited number of key issues, to be dealt with in depth. To provide a basis for this new draft, a questionnaire may be circulated to member countries suggesting a few priorities and inviting new ideas. The elaboration of a methodology for assessing the future role of forestry in recreation and the identification of points connected with recreational forestry which require more research, were regarded as subjects suitable for inclusion in this questionnaire.

50. National reports on progress in forestry should continue to be requested from each member country for future sessions of the Commission. However, these reports should be restricted in length and deal with selected topics only. The maximum number of pages and the points to be dealt with should be decided upon by the Executive Committee, it being understood that each country would be free, within the set limit, to report on any other point of general interest. The following topics were regarded as suitable for inclusion in outlines for national progress reports at future sessions: a) Government support to private forestry; b) methods of financing the activities of national forest services; and c) methods of selling timber.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

51. The Commission recalled that at its Fifteenth Session, held in November 1969, the FAO Conference had expressed concern "over the fact that some activities were not receiving, in the programme of work, the attention they deserve", and especially mentioned timber extraction and transportation (para. 463 of its Report). The Conference also expressed concern over the problems caused by "lack of operational efficiency, poor logging equipment and techniques and lack of integrated planning of forest management" (para. 308 of its Report). The Commission stressed that efficiency in forest operations is a decisive factor in the economics of the forest enterprise. It recalled that much progress can be achieved through international work in logging and timber extraction, but noted with concern that it has not yet been possible to give effect to the desirable strengthening of the FAO Logging and Transportation Branch. The Commission therefore recommended to the Director-General of FAO that all possible steps be taken to rectify this situation as soon as possible, and in particular to

give increased attention to the field of logging and timber transport in preparing the FAO Programme of Work for 1972-73. In this context, the Commission noted with satisfaction that logging has found its place in the FAO Area of Concentration on Increasing Yields.

XII. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION

52. The Commission resolved that its Executive Committee should determine the dates to be suggested to the Director-General of FAO for its next session, to be held in Rome. The delegate of Italy informed the Commission that, in connection with this session, his Government would like to arrange a study tour for all delegates; the Commission took note of this invitation and expressed its thanks to the Italian authorities for their generosity.

XIII. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

53. The Commission noted with regret that Mr. Velay would be unable to continue to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Commission and expressed its appreciation of the services he had rendered. It then decided to re-elect the other officers and elected Mr. M. de Coulon (Switzerland) as Vice-Chairman in Mr. Velay's stead, so that the following will hold office until the end of the Commission's Sixteenth Session:

Chairman:	Mr. F. Tomulescu (Rumania)
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. F. Ortuño (Spain)
	Mr. F. Åbeling (Sweden)
	Mr. M. de Coulon (Switzerland).

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Officers

Chairman : - F. Tomulescu (Romania)
Vice-Chairman : - F. Ebeling (Sweden)
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EUROPEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION
Fifteenth Session

FO:EFC-70/Rep.
Annex 2

AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda
2. Report of the Seventh Session of the Executive Committee of the Commission
3. Activities of subsidiary bodies:
 - a) FAO/ECE/ILO Committee of Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers
 - b) FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest and Forest Products Statistics
 - c) Working Party on Torrent Control, Protection from Avalanches and Watershed Management
 - d) AFC/EFC/NEFC Sub-Commission on Mediterranean Forestry Problems - 'Silva Mediterranea'
 - e) Ad hoc Working Party on Forest Management
4. Cooperation with other international bodies:
 - a) European Commission on Agriculture
 - b) ECE Timber Committee
5. Revision of the FAO study on "Forest Policy, Law and Administration" (progress report)
6. Symposium on the Coordination between Sylviculture, Management, Harvesting, Transport and Industrial Processing of Wood Raw Material (Report of the preparatory meeting of experts)
7. Post-graduate training of leading foresters
8. FAO Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development
9. Long-term programme of work of the Commission
10. Other business
11. Date and place of the next session
12. Election of Officers
13. Adoption of Report

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<u>Item of Agenda</u>	<u>Document Code Number</u>	<u>Title of Document</u>
1	-- FO:EFC-70/1	: -- Provisional Agenda
2	-- FO:EFC-70/2	: -- Report of the Seventh Session of the Executive Committee of the European Forestry Commission
8	-- FO:EFC-70/3	: -- FAO Indicative World Plan for Agricultural Development - Its Findings and its Future - Secretariat Note
5	-- FO:EFC-70/4	: -- Revision of the FAO Study on Forest Policy, Law and Administration - Secretariat Note
3-a)	-- FAO/ECE/LOG/239	: -- Report of the Eighth Session of the FAO/ECE/ILO Joint Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers
3-b)	-- FAO/ECE/STATS/98	: -- Report of the ECE/FAO Joint Working Party on Forest and Forest Products Statistics
"	-- FAO/ECE/STATS/98 Corr.1	: -- Corrigenda to Doc. FAO/ECE/STATS/98
6	-- FAO/ECE/CO-ORDINATION/3	: -- Symposium on the co-ordination of silviculture, harvesting, transport and industrial processing of wood raw materials, 1971/72 : Report of the <u>Ad hoc</u> preparatory meeting of experts
3-c)	-- ECA/EFC:70(6-d)	: -- Report of the Ninth Session of the EFC Working Party on Torrent Control, Protection from Avalanches and Watershed Management - Secretariat Note
3-e)	ECA/EFC:70(6-c)	: -- Report of the session of the <u>Ad hoc</u> Working Party on Forest Management
7	-- (without code No.)	: -- Report on Post-Graduate Training Courses for Leading Foresters, by G. Speidel, Freiburg (Federal Republic of Germany)

R E P O R T

I. INTRODUCTION

1. A session of the Ad hoc Working Party on Forest Management of the European Forestry Commission was held at FAO Headquarters, Rome, on 7-8 September 1970 and attended by delegates from the following twenty countries : Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia, and by an observer from the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations. The names of participants are listed in Annex 4-a.

Mr. R.G. Fontaine, Director of FAO's Forest Resources Division represented the Director-General of FAO and Messrs. M. Andersen and E. Kalkkinen acted as Secretaries.

II. AGENDA AND DOCUMENTS

2. The agenda was adopted as per Annex 4-b and the documents listed in Annex 4-c were presented to the delegates for consideration.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

3. In accordance with the provisions of Rule IX-7 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Forestry Commission, the Working Party elected the following officers:

Chairman	:	Mr. M. Blanc (France)
Vice-Chairmen	:	Mr. A. Stoffels (Netherlands) Mr. A.O. Nyyssönen (Finland)
Rapporteur	:	Mr. J.A. Spencer (United Kingdom)

IV. SITUATION AND TRENDS OF RECREATION IN EUROPE - METHODOLOGIES FOR ASSESSING POTENTIALS AND FUTURE NEEDS

4. The Working Party agreed that its discussions could not cover the general field of recreation; for this, cooperation and advice from several other professional sectors would be required. The discussion was therefore limited essentially to those aspects of recreation which had a bearing on forest management. Nonetheless, some general trends were highlighted as a necessary background.

5. The rise of the standard of living in most European countries, and the increased spare time available, had enhanced the interest of the city dweller in the forest environment, also beyond national boundaries. Information was incomplete with regard to the motivations of people, and those of the young generation was of particular importance. Methodologies for the assessment of recreational demands were

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under study in several countries, most developed in North America, but also notable in some European countries, e.g. the Netherlands and Romania. The many different forms of recreational activities as well as their seasonal variations made it necessary to introduce definitions and classifications, both for the activities and for the areas most suitable for their performance. Zonation schemes had been drawn up around major centres in some countries;

6. Two particular features were singled out during the discussion. An increasing number of people now possessed a secondary residence, a second home. This movement was most popular in Scandinavia and France; e.g. in Sweden close to half a million families owned a second home. These residences were very often situated in forest areas and clearly affected local territorial planning. The other point was motoring. Casual family activities, such as picnics and pleasure driving was undertaken by some two-thirds of the population in Sweden, the Netherlands and Great Britain. This had raised the problem of which roads in forest areas should be open to motor traffic. The Working Party was in agreement that at least the minor forest roads could not be opened without reducing the value of the forest environment to other groups of recreationists (as well as hindering logging operations),

7. Land-use planning in a given area, region or country must evidently take recreational needs into account and should incorporate the necessary anti-speculation measures. Obviously forestry was a partner in such planning, and a senior partner in mainly forested areas as well as in afforestation schemes such as might be a consequence of e.g. the so-called Mansholt Plan which would release large areas hitherto under agriculture.

8. There was often doubt with regard to what recreationists in forest areas really wanted. It was mentioned that many inhabitants in a major city visited forests located more than 200 km away on ordinary week-ends. Distance was not always a problem nowadays. The forest environment offered many different kinds of attraction, and there was a great need for more research into these matters. A kind of market research, with the supporting statistics, appeared essential, and it was proposed that the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations undertake such projects, in cooperation with other groups, as required.

9. References were made to some recent meetings which had dealt in some detail with related subjects (Bucarest, Zölllikofen/Switzerland, Askov/Denmark).

V. INFLUENCE ON FOREST MANAGEMENT

10. Many countries had established a classification for production resp. protection forests, not in an absolute sense but indicating management priorities. To this should be added recreation forests, areas in which recreational activities should be given priority. Criteria for the determination of such areas depended on local investigations and local policies. The Working Party considered the question of administration of forests in which certain areas were given recreational priority, and was in agreement regarding the conclusion that a unified administration was the only feasible solution in most cases. This would require some expansion of the silvicultural or forestry technology of earlier days, to comprise more of what may be termed a social technology.

11. The forest administration, forest owner, or forest manager were often in doubt as to how far to go in meeting recreational demands, or inviting such demands. This pointed to the necessity of a quantification and evaluation of demands and services. General methodologies and individual input/output or cost/revenue investigations were required for planning and decision making. Into this entered also the assessment of the physical capacity of the forest to absorb the recreational pressures which were sometimes very heavy and could totally change the forest

environment. The nature of such environmental deterioration depended much on the character and scope of the recreational activities performed.

12. Recreational measures would be reflected in the management plan for the forest enterprise concerned, in the short as well as in the long term, and should ideally be accompanied by an analysis of the costs, both investment and maintenance. Measures such as change of species or prolongation of the rotation might be involved. While all demands were increasing, on forest production, protection and recreation, it was the task of the forest administration to balance the conflicting interests and to find the optimum combination for the given area. A unified administration was required for this. The productive forest might also be the most attractive - this was sometimes a question of educating the visitors. Recreational measures, facilities or services in forests were, however, in most cases involving losses in timber production, directly or indirectly.

13. Forest production was characterized, in recent decades, by an increasing degree of mechanization, in soil preparation, planting, thinning, felling, transportation and protection measures. The number of man-days spent on such activities had therefore decreased. On the contrary, the types of work involved in the installation and maintenance of recreational facilities and services did not lend themselves easily to mechanization and the number of man-days involved had increased both in a relative and an absolute sense.

14. As could be expected, the increased tourism in forest areas had led to an increase in forest fire occurrence, and the forest administration had to plan and budget for a strengthening of their fire prevention, detection and suppression facilities. The Working Party noted, however, that in some countries there was no such increase in forest fires; this was ascribed to the greater number of visitors in given small areas with the consequent likelihood of someone taking action to suppress small, initiating fires.

15. The Working Party considered that foresters should channel and guide the recreational activities in the forest, rather than simply cede to demands. The recreation seeking public should be educated, but the question arose as to which activities forest managers should try to stimulate. It was agreed that foresters should encourage forest-based recreation, intended to mean recreational activities which depend for their quality on being performed in the forest, such as sporting, peace and quiet, nature studies, walking, etc. as opposed to, for example, fair ground or Luna Park recreation types which, after all, can take place anywhere. Foresters have tended to neglect public relations and have too often had only an incomplete understanding of the sociological research for peoples' recreational behaviour. Much was to be gained through public educational measures towards greater public understanding of forestry and the forest environment.

16. The manager of a forest must see to it that his enterprise is biologically and physically, but also financially, sound. There were times when for a number of reasons financial considerations were not given priority in forestry. In recent decades, product prices had tended to be rather static while costs were increasing, and profits were dwindling or became negative. The forest enterprise of today must take its income from all available sources. Services and measures for recreation could not any more be taken for granted, free of charge.

17. On the other hand, forest owners and the forestry profession had often been inclined to be influenced by past traditions and to isolate themselves from other sectors of society. Forestry must realize that full integration with society is required, also in order to be able to carry through its justified financial claims.

VI. POLICY AND FINANCING

18. Public ownership of forests ranged in European countries between a small percentage and 100 percent. While the principles of what was said in the preceding paragraphs were equally valid for all forest enterprises the practical expressions and measures were different. For the public forests, the government or the administration might set and modify the purposes of management and accept expenditures such as those incurred for recreational activities. For the private forests, limitations to management would be through legislative measures, and problems of reimbursement for service costs arise.

19. It was not uncommon that politicians and non-foresters believed that indirect benefits and the services rendered by the forests were accessory and without costs to the forest enterprise. It was up to the forest managers to demonstrate that this is not the case. Evidently the financial implications of recreational services in the forests varied considerably from place to place; e.g. in a small forest near a big city ten times the number of man days were spent on recreational services than on productive forestry. If the community wanted these services, it must cover the costs. The necessity of being able to express the services in financial terms were of evident importance to the forest manager.

20. Under certain circumstances, the forest enterprise might apply direct charges for recreational services, for example for access to fenced areas, particular stretches of roads, look-out towers, controlled camping sites, etc. More commonly, direct charges were not feasible, but more indirect measures might be taken, such as running a restaurant on the spot most frequented by excursionists, etc. However, while such measures might help to cover certain specific costs, they did not represent a general solution to the problem, and most forest districts were in any case unable to maintain a staff for issuing tickets - nor was this in many cases a desirable procedure.

21. The fact remained that the community - s the state, a city, etc. - desiring the services should in principle accept the responsibility for the costs. This could be done by public subventions, by tax alleviations etc., for private forests, and by accepting the corresponding expenses for public forests.

22. Forest managers should adjust themselves to become also qualified managers of forest areas in which recreational activities, of any kind, had priority. To ensure that this particular field be given sufficient emphasis, forestry faculties should introduce, where this was not already the case, courses in natural resources management and recreational management, including its sociological aspects. Depending on circumstances, these could be obligatory courses, or they might take the character of post-graduate specializations. The attention of the FAO Advisory Committee on Forestry Education should be drawn to this.

VII. FOLLOW-UP

23. In drawing the attention of the European Forestry Commission to the several recommendations that are implicit in the preceding paragraphs, the Working Party would also recommend that the Commission invite the Member Governments to give urgent attention to the problems of recreational uses of forest environments and the needs of urban populations and international tourism, including also the required investigations and the pertinent technical, administrative and financial legislative measures.

24. The Working Party further wished to draw the attention of the Commission to the fact that there were many problems facing forest management in Europe, of which only a part had been considered in this and the preceding sessions of the Working Party.

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AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda
 2. Election of Officers
 3. Situation and trends of recreation in Europe -
Methodologies for assessing potentials and future needs
 4. The impact of recreation on forest management planning
 5. Other business
-

AD HOC WORKING PARTY ON FOREST MANAGEMENT

FO:EFC-70/Rep.
Annex 4-c

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<u>Item of Agenda</u>	<u>Document Code Number</u>	<u>Title of document</u>
1	- FO:EFC/FM-70/1 :	- Provisional Agenda
2	- FO:EFC/FM-70/2 :	- The trends in outdoor recreation in Europe and methodologies used for assessing parks needs and protection, by A. de Vos (FAO)
3	- FO:EFC/FM-70/3 :	- Influence of recreation on forest management in Great Britain, by M.H. Orrom and J.A. Spencer (Forestry Commission of Great Britain)
3	- FO:EFC/FM-70/4 :	- The impact of recreation on forest management planning, by H. Steinlin (Federal Republic of Germany)

