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Joint Committee/Commission matters: Integrated

Programme of Work

Food and Agriculture Organization**European Forestry Commission****Fortieth session**

Geneva, 4-7 November 2019

**Establishment and renewal of the ECE/FAO Teams of
Specialists****Note by the Secretariat***Summary*

This document contains guidance and recommendations provided by the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management at its forty-first session, concerning the establishment and renewal of Terms of Reference of ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists.

The Committee and the Commission are invited to review the proposals and adopt the relevant Terms of Reference.



I. Background

1. The Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work 2018 – 2021 contains the Terms of Reference for eight Teams of Specialist, which were established for a four-year term.
2. According to the guidelines for the establishment and functioning of Teams of Specialists within ECE as contained in document ECE/EX/2/rev.1, the Teams of Specialists are reviewed after two years, and the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party of Forest Statistics, Economics and Management provides recommendations to the Committee and the Commission for updating the Terms of Reference of the Teams of Specialists and for their extension or discontinuation.

II. Establishment of a new Team of Specialists

3. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management at its forty-first session recommended the establishment of a Team of Specialist on Boreal Forests, in accordance with the draft terms of reference as outlined in Annex I of its report and included below.
4. Delegates are invited to agree on the establishment of the ToS and review and approve its draft terms of reference.

III. Draft Terms of Reference of the ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests

Reference to the Integrated Programme of Work: Work Area 1, “Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment”, and Work Area 2, “Policy dialogue and advice”

A. Objective(s)¹

- Contribute to science and policy cooperation on boreal forests, while reducing duplication of effort and encouraging the pursuit of cost-effective approaches for circumboreal cooperation;
- Increase collaboration with the International Boreal Forest Research Association (IBFRA) and other boreal-related research organizations, in order to strengthen science and policy cooperation with regards to the boreal biome;
- Improve awareness and understanding of the role boreal forests play in global issues such as climate change and the bioeconomy, as well as in addressing the challenges reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Advise the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section on any matters related to boreal forests within the integrated programme of work.

B. Activities and functions

- Contribute to the exchange of information, experiences and best practices on boreal forests;
- Facilitate a science policy dialogue on boreal forest issues;
- Where appropriate, contribute to identifying knowledge gaps that – when addressed – can provide policy responses to international challenges;
- Work with other international bodies, including the International Boreal Forest Research Association (IBFRA), with a view to achieving coordination of initiatives;

¹ As outlined in the Haparanda Declaration of 2018.

- Collaborate with other ECE/ FAO Teams of Specialists on cross-cutting issues.

C. Expected Major Outputs

5. The Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests will identify priority issues for the sustainable management of boreal forests, taking into account regional realities and differences. The Team will focus on increasing knowledge and understanding of issues related to boreal forests.

6. It will:

- Produce (and contribute to the production of) information products that reflect collaborative efforts on boreal forest issues, e.g. in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, and the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work;
- Produce, based on existing information, assessment and scoping documents, presentations and other information products describing existing conditions in boreal forests, and identifying important issues and opportunities in their management;
- Provide consultation and advice on boreal-related issues as needed.

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint Sessions of ECE COFFI and FAO EFC, Geneva, Switzerland, 2019.
Duration:	From January 2020 to December 2021.
Methods of work:	Annual meeting or other methods to be determined by the Team.
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first Team meeting

IV. Extension of mandate for existing Teams of Specialists

7. In order to support the implementation of the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work, the Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management recommends extending the mandate of the following Teams of Specialists (ToS):

<i>Name of the Team</i>	<i>Contribution to IPoW</i>	<i>Recommendations by JWP</i>
ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)	WA1: to focus on SFM monitoring for different ECE and FAO studies and reviews, SFM assessment and work on criteria and indicators	Extension of mandate ToR unchanged as contained in Document ECE/TIM/2017/2-FO:EFC/2017/2
ToS on Sustainable Forest Products	WA1: to focus on forest products and markets, market statements	Extension of mandate ToR unchanged as contained in Document ECE/TIM/2017/2-FO:EFC/2017/2
ToS on Forest Products Statistics	WA 1 and WA4: to support the work on statistics in the JWP, in order for the JWP to focus on its coordinating	Extension of mandate

<i>Name of the Team</i>	<i>Contribution to IPoW</i>	<i>Recommendations by JWP</i>
	function for ToS and work area review.	ToR unchanged as contained in Document ECE/TIM/2017/2-FO:EFC/2017/2
ToS on Wood Energy	WA1, WA2 and WA4: to support the development of data and relevant policy advice on wood energy in the region.	Extension of mandate ToR unchanged as contained in Document ECE/TIM/2017/2-FO:EFC/2017/2
ToS on the Forest Sector Outlook	WA1 and WA2: to support the development of Outlook Studies	Extension of mandate and integration of ToS on Forest Policy Revised ToR attached
ToS on Forest Policy	WA2 and WA4: to focus on the development of forest policies in the region and provide capacity building	Integration into ToS on the Forest Sector Outlook
ToS on Forest Communication - Forest Communicators Network	WA1, WA2 and WA4: to provide advice to the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section in support of relevant events, campaigns and public relations efforts, support the dissemination of results of other ToS	FAO to increase its support to the ToS by providing its secretary, thereby decreasing the burden on the Joint Section ToR unchanged as contained in Document ECE/TIM/2017/2-FO:EFC/2017/2
ToS on Green Jobs - Joint ILO/ECE/FAO Expert Network	WA4: to focus on green jobs and capacity-building activities in support of SFM	Extension of mandate ToR unchanged as contained in Document ECE/TIM/2017/2-FO:EFC/2017/2

V. ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook

Reference to the *Integrated Programme of Work*: Work Area 1, “Data, monitoring and assessment”, Work Area 2, “Policy dialogue and advice” and Work Area 4, “Capacity-building”

A. Objectives

8. To advise and support the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section on the methodology, preparation and implementation of outlook studies. Serve as a repository of global, regional, sub-regional and national forest sector outlook studies; and forest policy developments; and facilitate exchange of knowledge.

B. Activities and functions

9. Provide support and expertise to the secretariat to conduct a forest sector outlook study and related documents.

10. Present the findings of the studies in public forums, such as scientific and professional meetings.

11. Provide guidance on methods, analysis and conduct of forest sector outlook studies.

12. Provide support to the secretariat for enhancing member States’ capacities on forest sector outlook studies.

13. Identify scenarios based on: structural developments in the forest sector; long-term supply and demand of wood and other goods and services; as well as impacts and implications of international and national policy developments.
14. Advise on timeline for new outlook studies and identify potential contributors and donors.
15. Undertake research in support of forest sector outlook studies.
16. Provide an overview on alternative forest sector models.
17. Contribute to strengthen policy-related components of the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section's work and publications and disseminate information in support of decision-making processes with regards to outlook studies and international forest policy developments (creation of policy briefs, sharing of informative materials).

C. Expected major outputs and contributions

18. Publication of the ECE/FAO Forest Sector Outlook Study and related documents.
19. Provide national level results of outlook studies, if resources are made available.

D. Background

Established/ Approved by:	Joint Sessions of ECE COFFI and FAO EFC, Geneva, Switzerland, 2019.
Duration:	From January 2020 to December 2021.
Methods of work:	Annual meeting or other methods to be determined by the Team.
Reporting:	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
Team leader:	To be elected at first Team meeting
