



Economic and Social Council

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
TIMBER COMMITTEE
Fifty-seventh session
27-30 September 1999

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION
to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 1500 hrs on Monday, 27 September 1999

1. Adoption of the agenda ECE/TIM/92
2. Matters arising from the fifty-fourth session of the Economic Commission for Europe of relevance to the Committee TIM/1999/1
3. Sustainable forest management in the region: follow-up to the Lisbon Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe; follow-up to CSD/IPF and contribution to IFF TIM/1999/2
4. Market developments in 1999 and prospects for 2000 TIM/1999/3
ECE/TIM/BULL/52/3
5. Special topic: Trade and Environment Issues in the Forest and Forest Products Sector TIM/1999/4

ACCESS - Security at the Palais des Nations has been significantly tightened and personal badges are needed to give access. The procedure for this is accelerated if the Timber Section receives in advance the names of delegates, for further details see the annex.

DOCUMENTS - Timber Committee documents will be distributed by mail and will also be posted at the Committee's website:
<http://www.unece.org/trade/timber>

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6. Review of activities since the fifty-sixth session and programme of work for 2000 to 2004 TIM/1999/5
TIM/1999/6

7. Fifty-eighth session of the Committee in joint session with the FAO European Forestry Commission, thirtieth session TIM/1999/7
8. Election of officers
9. Any other business
10. Adoption of the report

TENTATIVE TIMETABLE

	Agenda item	Morning session	Agenda item	Afternoon session
Monday, 27 September		-	1. 2. 3.	Adoption of the agenda Matters arising from the 54th session of ECE Sustainable forest management in the region
Tuesday, 28 September	4.	Market discussion	4. (cont)	Market discussion
Wednesday, 29 September	5.	Special topic	6.	Review of activities and programme of work
Thursday, 30 September		Drafting Committee Technical briefings	7. 8. 9. 10.	Joint session of the Committee with the EFC Election of officers Any other business Adoption of the report

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda (ECE/TIM/92)

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the adoption of the agenda is the first item of the agenda.

Item 2. Matters arising from the fifty-fourth session of the Economic Commission for Europe of relevance to the Committee (TIM/1999/1)

The Committee will be informed about the decisions adopted by the Commission at its fifty-fourth session, held in May 1999, which have a bearing on the work of the Committee. The Committee will be invited to take these decisions into account when adopting its programme of work under provisional agenda item 6.

Item 3. Sustainable forest management in the region: follow-up to the Lisbon Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe; follow-up to CSD/IPF and contribution to IFF (TIM/1999/2)

The Committee will be invited to consider how it should contribute to the follow-up to the Lisbon Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, the follow-up to the Commission on Sustainable Development / Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (CSD/IPF) and contribution to the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF), on the basis of a secretariat note.

Item 4 Market developments in 1999 and prospects for 2000 (TIM/1999/3; ECE/TIM/BULL/52/3)

Delegations will be invited to review developments in 1999 and prospects for 2000 on the basis of the *Annual Forest Products Market Review (Timber Bulletin, ECE/TIM/BULL/52/3)*, countries' written statements and forecasts. An agreed statement synthesizing the discussions and forecasts will be prepared during the session and later published. A note by the secretariat will provide further information for the market discussion.

Market discussions

The market discussion will be organized along the following lines:

1. General introduction;
2. Roundwood;
3. Softwoods (sawnwood and logs);
4. Hardwoods (sawnwood and logs), temperate and tropical zones;
5. Wood-based panels: particle board, plywood and fibreboard;
6. Certified forest products.

- Market statements (printed and *electronic format*)

Delegations are reminded that their country market statements in English, French or Russian, are expected to reach the secretariat¹ by 13 September 1999. In preparing statements, please refer to specific instructions in the session announcement letter or on the website. Reports are requested in both printed and electronic format. The printed report (120 copies) will be distributed on

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the first day of the session, and an electronic copy for pre-distribution on the Timber Committee website.

- Country forecasts for 1999 and 2000 (prepared on the basis of a questionnaire to be sent out by the secretariat in July 1999) should be submitted not later than 1 September 1999. Supplementary copies of the questionnaire may be obtained from the secretariat on request, or from the Committee's website.

- Drafting Committee. It is proposed that the Drafting Committee meet at 0900 hours on Thursday, 30 September to consider the draft of the report concerning market developments and prospects, which will be approved by the Committee under item 10 of the provisional agenda.

Item 5. Special topic: Trade and Environment Issues in the Forest and Forest Products Sector (TIM/1999/4)

The Committee's office holders agreed that the special topic be Trade and Environment Issues in the Forest and Forest Products Sector. Speakers have been invited from the World Trade Organization (WTO), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. In the light of the discussion which will follow, the Committee will be invited to agree whether further work on this topic should be undertaken under ECE/FAO auspices.

Item 6. Review of activities in 1999 and programme of work for 2000 to 2004

The Committee will be invited to review its activities and adopt its programme of work, on the basis of a summary document (TIM/1999/5) which will draw decision items to the attention of the Committee and present a draft programme of work.

Another document (TIM/1999/6) will provide information, notably on the activities of other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies. Time will be allotted to presenting the activities of FAO and other international organizations of relevance to the Timber Committee. In this connection, representatives of the international organizations are invited to provide 120 copies of brief written statements on their activities in English, French or Russian for distribution to delegations.

Item 7. Fifty-eighth session of the Committee in joint session with the FAO European Forestry Commission, thirtieth session (TIM/1999/7)

The Committee will be invited to discuss preparations for the joint session with the EFC in Rome from 9 to 13 October 2000, including main topics in the provisional agenda. As 2000 is Holy Year, accommodation in Rome will be difficult to arrange so delegates are strongly advised to book hotel rooms well in advance, preferably in 1999.

Item 8. Election of officers

In accordance with its Rules of Procedure and established practice, the

Committee is expected to elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen, who will hold office until the end of the fifty-eighth session. At the fifty-sixth session, Ms. A. Bergquist (Sweden) was elected Chairman and Messrs. N.A. Burdin (Russian Federation) and J. Serveau (Canada) Vice-Chairmen to hold office until the end of the fifty-seventh session.

Item 9. Any other business

At the time of writing, the secretariat had no points to propose under this item. However, it is proposed to devote part of the morning of Thursday, 30 September to technical briefings by secretariat members on certain priority activities.

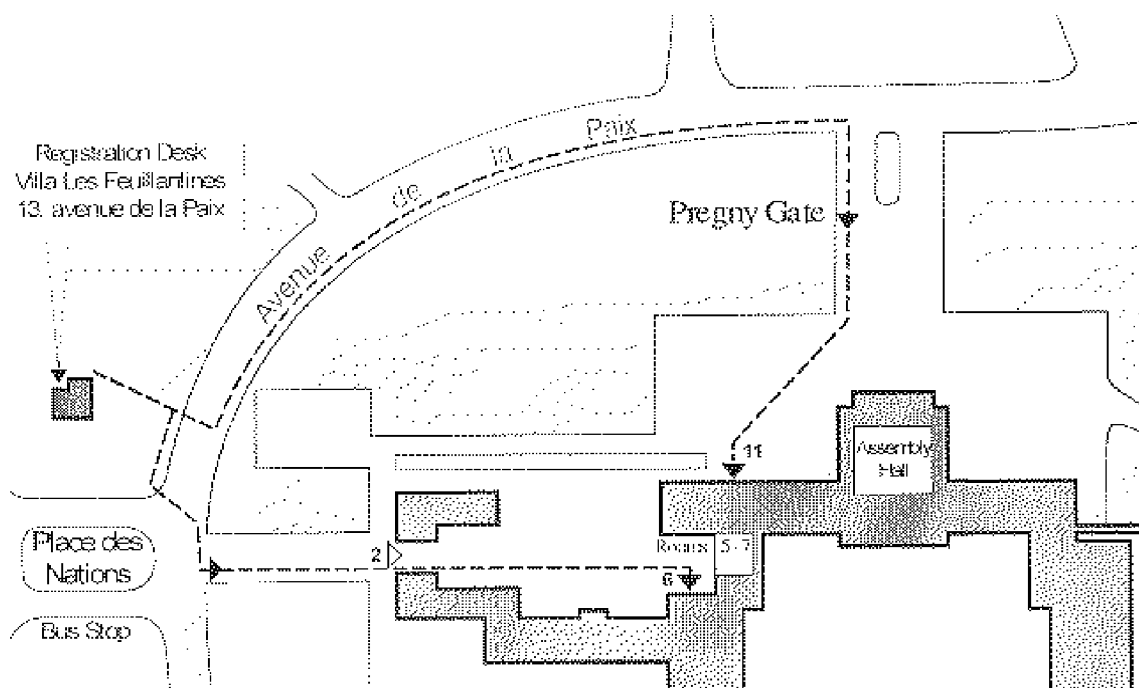
Item 10. Adoption of the report

The Committee will be invited to adopt its report on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat. According to the ECE Plan of Action, the report will be short and decision oriented. Accounts of discussions e.g. under item 2 will be prepared separately, and finalized in cooperation with the office-holders after the session. However, the Committee will be invited to approve formally the market statement based on the discussions under item 4, and approved by the drafting Committee on Thursday morning.

ANNEX

REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES
Access to the Palais des Nations

Security measures have been strengthened at the Palais des Nations and delegates attending meetings are required to have badges issued by the Security Unit and bearing their names, which will give access to Palais grounds. In order to avoid long waiting lines, delegates are invited to fill in and send to the Timber Section² the attached registration form before coming to Geneva. Once in Geneva delegates will be required to collect their badges at the villa Les Feuillantines (see map below) before the meeting. They should count about an hour to obtain the badge and reach the meeting room.



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See address, fax number and E-mail on page 4.

