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**Economic Commission for Europe****Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry****Seventy-second session**

Kazan, 18-21 November 2014

Item 5(b) of the provisional agenda

**Reporting and implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work  
and reporting and implementation of related decisions****Review of 2014 activities and planned activities for 2015****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

This document describes how the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work 2014-2017 was implemented in 2014 and provides a tentative list of activities for 2015, the implementation of which is subject to availability of funds.

**I. Review of 2014 activities****A. Work Area 1: Data, monitoring and assessment****1. Forest resources****(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, functions and services, sustainable forest management and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy**

- Collection of national reports within the framework of the pan-European 2015 reporting.
- Collection of data on pan-European indicators - through international data providers.



- Production of an internal database on pan-European indicators for reporting on Sustainable Forest Management in 2015.

**(b) Analysis and assessment of the state of forests and sustainability of forest management; and monitoring the role of the forest sector in the green economy**

- Reporting on progress made towards the achievement of the global objectives on forests and SFM in the ECE region (for UNFF11): output tables, draft report.
- Pilot reporting on sustainability of forest management: output tables.
- Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ): regional contribution to the final report; participation in the CFRQ stakeholders meeting in Rome, Italy, 25 June 2014 and in the FRA Advisory Group meeting in Salt Lake City, United States, 2-5 October 2014.
- Preparation of a background paper and a concept note on assessing the role of the forest sector in a green economy: initial set of indicators.
- Drafting of a concept note and national questionnaire for a report on forest ownership; establishment of the Core Group on forest ownership reporting; organisation of the meeting of the Group in Geneva, Switzerland, 10 April 2014; organisation of the Round Table Discussion on forest ownership reporting in the UNECE region in Geneva, Switzerland, 18 June 2014.
- Organisation of a workshop for national correspondents and authors to review drafts of the report for UNFF11 and national questionnaire on forest ownership in the UNECE region, Geneva, Switzerland, 21-23 October 2014.

**(c) Cooperation and support to international processes in sustainable forest management, including regional Criteria and Indicators processes**

- Contribution to the work of international processes, including participation in the meeting of the Advisory Group on UNFF reporting in New York, United States, 14-15 January 2014, the meeting of the Forest Europe Advisory Group on SoEF2015 in Madrid, Spain 13 March 2014 and the meeting of the Montreal Process Working Group in Krasnoyarsk, Russian Federation, 16-22 August 2014.
- Support to forest information related work in countries.
- Establishment and organisation of the first meeting of the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, Izmir, Turkey, 13-15 May 2014.

## **2. Forest products and markets**

**(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products**

- Preparation of data on forest products, species trade, prices.
  - Data provided to FAOSTAT in January and July.
  - Unit price statistics published in January.

- Price statistics updated in May and July.
- Long-term data series (1964-2012) published in February in English and Russian language.
- Initial 2013 data collected in summer 2014.
- Increased use of the United Nations COMTRADE database in collaboration with the International Tropical Timber Organization, in order to improve quality of data on trade.
- Development of procedures for estimating wood balance including conversion factors. National wood balance tables were developed in 2013 and mid-2014 and a Discussion Paper is being prepared.

**(b) Analysis of markets for forest products, notably policy relevant aspects, including Forest Products Annual Market Review and annual Market Discussions**

- Publication of the Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR) in August 2014 in advanced draft with hard copy to follow in October.
- Preparation of statistical annex for the FPAMR, including trade flow and forest products production and trade (August 2014).
- Preparation of tables and graphs for Market Forecasts for Kazan and subsequently published on web site.
- Preparation of the Market Discussion and the Market Statement.
- Publication of a discussion paper on national industrial roundwood balances.

**(c) Support to international processes in forest products**

- Participation in the Intersecretariat Working Group for Forest Sector Statistics.
- Review international classifications and provide input to relevant international organizations such as the World Custom Organization and UN Statistical Division.
- Organization of the initial meetings of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics and the Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products on 16 June 2014 in Geneva.

### **3. Wood energy**

**(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on wood energy**

- Dissemination of the 2011 Joint Wood Energy Enquiry data.
- Revision and issuing of the next Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE) Questionnaire (based on 2013 data) with the relevant correspondent manual.

**(b) Support to international processes in wood energy**

- Participation in the World Sustainable Energy Days, from 26 to 28 February 2014, Wels, Austria.

- Organization of the meeting of the Team of Specialists on Wood Energy on 16 June 2014 in Geneva.

## **B. Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice**

### **(a) Development of tools for policy making**

- Preparation of a study on policies and incentives to promote wood in construction; results to be presented under agenda item 1b at the 2014 Committee session (Follow-up to the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy).
- Preparation work for outlook studies: meeting of the Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook on 16 June 2014 in Geneva and consultations on relevant policy issues. This work will also be presented under agenda item 3d of the 2014 Committee session (see also item 3d – Policy issues for the next round of outlook studies).

### **Contribution to the policy-related components of studies produced under work area 1, 3 and 4. Organization of, and contribution to policy dialogues on forests and the forest industry, including:**

- Policy Chapter of the Forest Product Annual Markets Review.
- Policy elements of the report on Global Forest Objectives.

### **(b) Follow-up to the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy**

- Publication and printing of the Action Plan as a Study Paper in August 2014 (ECE/TIM/SP/35).
- Organization of a meeting of a Team of Specialists on forest policy, to be held in Krakow, Poland, from 16 to 18 September 2014 (see ECE/TIM/2014/INF.1).

### **(c) Support to international processes relevant for policy making in the forest sector**

- Organization of workshops on “Forests and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): a regional view” in two parts held in Geneva on 22 - 23 January and 16 June 2014. Report by member States to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in February 2014. Report to the UNECE-FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, bureaux of the COFFI and EFC and the FAO Committee on Forestry COFO in June 2014. Participation in the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2014 in New York. Showcasing of data monitoring and evaluation work in forest resources and SFM to the UNECE Regional Ministerial Consultation on Monitoring and Accountability for the Post-2015 Development Agenda 15 – 16 September 2014.
- Contribution to the workshop of the Alpine Convention on, "A green infrastructure for growth: the potential role of the Alpine forests in a European Green Economy"(workshop held in Galbiate, Italy on March 2014).
- Contribution to Forest Europe work on social issues and green jobs (workshop held in Santander, Spain, in April 2014 and follow-up).

- Contribution to the PhD course on, "International Forestry and Global Issues" in May 2014 in Nancy, France.
- Participation and contribution to side-events at the FAO Committee on Forestry in Rome, in June 2014.
- Contribution to the sixty-eighth international convention of the Forest Product Society in Quebec City in August 2014.

**(d) Contribution to Safeguarding Sustainable Forest Management in the UNECE Region through International Cooperation in Fire Management**

- Preparation of the final report of the UNECE/FAO Regional Forum on Cross-boundary Fire Management (held in November 2013 in Geneva).
- Follow-up of the recommendations of the Regional Forum with emphasis on (i) seeking the interest of UN and other international organizations to ensure the continuation and expansion of the work as part of the phasing out of the Team of Specialists on Forest Fire; (ii) finalization of the International Voluntary Fire Aviation Guidelines; and (iii) establishment of an interim secretariat for the International Wildfire Support Mechanism (IWSM).
- Organization of a follow-up Specialist meeting on 28 June 2014 in Freiburg, Germany.

**C. Work Area 3: Communications and outreach**

**(a) Organization of events and campaigns in support of sustainable forest management and forest products and services**

- International Day of Forests: 21 March 2014. The celebration was organized around the cross-sectoral "Forests for Fashion" event based on the idea of raising awareness of the issues and synergies between forest management and fashion. This initiative achieved a high degree of international exposure and brought great visibility to the Committee work.
- International day of Biodiversity: 22 May 2014. Tree-planting ceremony to underline the crucial importance of pursuing biodiversity and improving the environment for future generations.
- World Environment Day: 5 June 2014. A lunch lecture was organized to take the pulse of the current situation of world forests in a changing environment. The event also explored a hypothesis formulated by leading scholars on how forests will look in 300 years.

**(b) Dissemination of information via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies**

- Preparation of outreach material in the form of a leaflet with key messages on the role of forests, forest products and their role in a green economy.
- Regular update of the Media/Public Relation contact list.
- Maintenance of the website and improvement of its design.
- Preparation and dissemination of press briefs/releases and newsletters on relevant topics developed in 2014.

**(c) Outreach activities beyond the forest sector disseminating information that highlights the relevance of forests and forest products to other sectors (e.g. energy events, biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and building, etc.)**

- Preparation and dissemination of press releases on forest products markets.
- Organization of the meetings of the Teams of Specialists on Forest Communication, which took place in Berlin, Germany, from 23 to 25 April 2014.
- Development of follow-up publication for the Forests for Fashion initiative.

**D. Work Area 4: Capacity-building**

**(a) Provision of policy advice and promotion of dialogues**

- Development of a concept note for a forest policy short course designed for middle level policy officers (on going, subject to availability of funds).

**(b) Organization of capacity-building workshops on:**

- Forest products data: national correspondents meeting for CIS Countries, Ankara, Turkey, 27-28 May 2014.

**(c) Implementation of the UNDA<sup>1</sup> project: Sustainable forest management for greener economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia**

- Development of training guidelines.
- First regional workshop for all seven project countries, 8-11 April, Astana, Kazakhstan; national workshop and coaching workshop in Astana, Kazakhstan; from 14 to 18 April 2014.
- National workshop and coaching workshop in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 9 to 11 and on 13 June 2014.
- National workshop and coaching workshop in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, from 23 to 25 and on 27 June 2014.
- National workshop in Yerevan, Armenia, from 10 to 12 September 2014.
- National workshop in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, from 30 September to 2 October 2014.
- National workshop in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 19 to 21 November 2014.
- Development of national action plans for the forest sector in a green economy for pilot countries Georgia, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan.
- Four local participatory workshops following the national workshops in all project countries, and two additional coaching workshops to support the action plan development in each pilot country.

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<sup>1</sup> UNDA : United Nations Development Account

**(d) Support to international processes relevant for policy making for the forest sector**

- Organization of the meeting of the Team of Specialists for Green Jobs in the Forest Sector (ILO/ECE/FAO Joint Expert Network) on 16 June 2014 in Geneva.

**E. Monitoring and management of the Programme of Work**

**(a) Intergovernmental Meetings**

- Organization of the meeting of the Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, held on 17 and 18 June 2014 in Geneva.
- Organization of the seventy-second session of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, from 18 to 21 November 2014 in Kazan, the Russian Federation.

**(b) Bureaux Meetings**

- Organization of Bureaux meetings: on 20 March 2014 in Geneva and on 24 and 25 June in Rome in the margins of the FAO Committee on Forestry.

**II. Tentative list of activities for 2015**

**A. Work Area 1: Data, monitoring and assessment**

**1. Forest resources**

**(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on forest resources, functions and services, sustainable forest management and the contribution of the forest sector to a green economy**

- Reporting on forest ownership in the UNECE region: final national questionnaire, reporting interface, set of national reports within the framework of reporting on forest ownership in the UNECE region; initial database.
- Development of a concept for an electronic repository, enhancing the efficiency of data collection, management and dissemination.
- Interactive database on the pan-European reporting on Sustainable Forest Management 2015 (quantitative indicators).

**(b) Analysis and assessment of the state of forests and sustainability of forest management; and monitoring the role of the forest sector in the green economy**

- Reporting on progress made towards the achievement of the global objectives on forests and SFM in the ECE region (for UNFF11): production of the final report.
- Pilot reporting on sustainability of forest management: production of the final report.

- Assessing the role of the forest sector in a green economy: organization of a thematic workshop; production of the advanced set of indicators.
- Reporting on forest ownership in the UNECE region: production of the advanced draft of the study.

**(c) Cooperation and support to international processes in sustainable forest management, including regional Criteria and Indicators processes**

- Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ): regional contribution to the dissemination of final results;
- Contribution to the work of international processes (e.g. Forest Europe, Montréal Process, etc.), including by attending international meetings.
- Support to forest information related work in countries, including by attending national meetings.
- Meeting(s) of the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management.

**2. Forest products and markets**

**(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on the production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products**

- Preparation of data on forest products, species trade, prices.

**(b) Analysis of markets for forest products, notably policy relevant aspects, including Forest Products Annual Market Review and annual Market Discussions**

- Publication of the Forest Products Annual Market Review (FPAMR).
- Preparation of data and statistical annex for the FPAMR.
- Preparation of tables and graphs for Market Forecasts.
- Preparation of the Market Discussion and the Market Statement.
- Publication of forest product conversion factors.

**(c) Support to international processes in forest products**

- Participation in the Intersecretariat Working Group for Forest Sector Statistics and attendance at other international meetings.
- Review international classifications applicable to forest products, such as Harmonized System, Standard International Trade Classification, International Standard Industrial Classification and Central Product Classification.
- Organization of the meetings of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics and the Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products.



### 3. Wood energy

#### (a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics on wood energy

- Processing of the data collected for the next round of JWEE to be based on 2013 data.

#### (b) Analysis of energy-related issues, including demand and supply for wood energy

- Preparation of a publication on wood energy in the ECE region showcasing the 2013 JWEE data.

#### (c) Support to international processes in wood energy

- Participation in relevant international meetings.
- Organization of the meetings of Team of Specialists on Wood Energy.

## B. Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice

#### (a) Development of tools for policy making

- Publication of the study on policies and incentives to promote wood in construction;
- Study on forest policies, institutions and instruments in the UNECE region (linked with WA1), assessing whether they are appropriate for a green economy and leading to proposals for improvement;
- Study analysing the advantages and disadvantages of the “cascade” approach to wood use;
- Preparation work for outlook studies: meeting of the Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook and consultation on policy issues.

#### (b) Contribution to the policy-related components of studies produced under work area 1, 3 and 4. Organization of, and contribution to policy dialogues on forests and the forest industry

- Review of the Policy Chapter of the Forest Product Annual Markets Review.
- Support National Forest Policy Dialogues: subject to request from member States.
- Organisation of a workshop to consider policy frameworks for unified/harmonized labelling and certification systems for forest products.

#### (c) Follow-up to the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy

- Monitoring of the implementation of the Action Plan in the region.
- Organization of a meeting of a Team of Specialists on forest policy.
- Contribution to the regional dialogue (forecast for 2014 and postponed) through a meeting to promote international cooperation and experience sharing on the development of specific adaptive management regimes in the context of climate change. Thematic seminar/workshop on a topic to be decided.

**(d) Support to international processes relevant for policy making for the forest sector**

- Contribution and organization of a side event at the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests in May 2015 in New York.
- Cooperation with Forest Europe on Green Economy related matters.
- Contribution to forest-related international meetings as appropriate.

**C. Work Area 3: Communications and outreach**

**(a) Organization of events and campaigns in support of sustainable forest management and forest products and services**

- International Day of Forests: 21 March 2015. An event is being developed to explore the linkages between forests and food.
- European Forest Week and Silva2015: from 2 to 6 November 2015. The next joint session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission, will be held in the town of Engelberg, in the Swiss Alps, in conjunction with the third European Forest Week.
- Other relevant events to improve the visibility of forests and sustainable forest management within the post-2015 debate (including on SDGs) and the green economy.

**(b) Dissemination of information via policy briefs, press briefs and ad hoc studies**

- Development of ad hoc outreach material to illustrate the importance and role of sustainable forest management in sustainable development and, consequently, in the post-2015 Development Agenda.
- Regular update of the Media/Public Relation contact list.
- Maintenance of the website and improvement of its design.
- Increased use of social media/networks and videos.
- Preparation and dissemination of press briefs/releases and newsletters on relevant topics developed in 2015.

**(c) Outreach activities beyond the forest sector disseminating information that highlights the relevance of forests and forest products to other sectors (e.g. energy events, biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and building, etc.)**

- Development of cross-sectoral events in occasion of Silva2015/European Forest Week.
- Organization of the meetings of the Teams of Specialists on Forest Communication, which is expected to take place in Barcelona, Spain, in late Spring.

**D. Work Area 4: Capacity-building**

**(a) Provision of policy advice and promotion of dialogues**

- National Forest Policy Dialogues.

- Development of a concept note for a forest policy short course designed for middle level policy officers (on going, subject to availability of funds).

**(b) Organization of capacity-building workshops on:**

- Improving wood energy data for better policy making.

**(c) Implementation of the UNDA project: Sustainable forest management for greener economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia**

- Establishment of a web-based hub for knowledge management.
- Remaining local workshops in project countries (if any)
- Finalization of action plans in the three pilot countries (Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan) and documentation of the action plans development.
- Second regional workshop for all project countries, April 2015.

**(d) Support to international processes relevant for policy making for the forest sector.**

- Meeting(s) of the Team of Specialists on Green Jobs in the Forest Sector (ILO/ECE/FAO Joint Expert Network)

**E. Monitoring and management of the Programme of Work**

**(a) Intergovernmental Meetings**

- Organization of the meeting of the Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, scheduled 18-20 March 2015.
- Organization of the joint session of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the European Forestry Commission to be held in Engelberg under the name “Silva2015”, Switzerland, during the week from 2 to 6 November 2015

**(b) Bureaux Meetings**

- Organization of Bureaux meetings as appropriate.

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