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**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

Economic Commission for Europe**Food and Agriculture Organization**

Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

European Forestry Commission

Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics,**Economics and Management****Forty-third session**

Geneva, 1-3 June 2022

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

**Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-third session of
the Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and
Management**

Session to be held at the Palais des Nations Geneva, starting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 1 June 2022

Summary

In accordance with its terms of reference, the Joint United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (Joint Working Party) is invited to provide guidance on the implementation of all areas of the Integrated Programme of Work 2022-2025, supervise the work of Teams of Specialists, facilitate the exchange of information on their work, and identify priorities for action and relevant emerging issues. The Joint Working Party is also invited to propose specific recommendations to the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry. Based on the background documents prepared by the secretariat, the Joint Working Party is invited to review the activities undertaken under each Work Area during the past and current year, as well as the plans for the forthcoming year.

All meeting documents and information on the work delivered by the secretariat and the Teams of Specialists since the forty-second session of the Joint Working Party can be found on the meeting page website (<https://unece.org/forests/jwpssem2022>).



I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Matters arising since the last session:
 - (a) United Nations, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and subsidiary bodies;
 - (b) Recent developments in other organizations.
3. Revision of the Rules of Procedure for the Joint Working Party.
4. Forests and the circular economy:
 - (a) Presentation by the secretariat about its past, current and future work on forests in the circular economy;
 - (b) Updates and examples from member States;
 - (c) Review of the circular economy approach for the forest sector.
5. Guidance on Work Areas:
 - (a) Work Area 1: Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment;
 - (b) Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice;
 - (c) Work Area 3: Communication and outreach;
 - (d) Work Area 4: Capacity-building.
6. Overview on forest and forest sector related work by the Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and a draft list of Integrated Programme of Work activities planned for 2023:
 - (a) Activities on forests and forest products in the region that are not covered by the Integrated Programme of work;
 - (b) Initial list of activities for 2023;
 - (c) Feedback on Nexus work.
7. Election of officers.
8. Date and place of next meeting.
9. Any other business.
10. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/1

The delegations will adopt the agenda.

2. Matters arising since the last session

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2021/2–FO:EFC/2021/2

Documentation: E/ECE/1494

(a) United Nations, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and subsidiary bodies

The secretariat will present developments at the United Nations, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the joint seventy-ninth session of the Economic Commission for Europe, Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the forty-first session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), European Forestry Commission (EFC) having an impact on the work of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management.

The secretariat will also inform on forest-related decisions of the sixty-ninth session of the Economic Commission for Europe that was held under the topic “Promoting circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources in the ECE region” and will preview possible forest related topics at the 70th session.

(b) Recent developments in other organizations

Other organizations will provide information about their activities and latest developments, with an impact on forest statistics, economics and management in the ECE region including the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the FAO, Forest Europe and others.

The Joint Working Party will be invited to consider their possible impact on the future work of the Joint Working Party.

3. Revision of the Rules of Procedure for the Joint Working Party

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/Inf.1

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2021/2

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2019/2

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/2–FO:EFC/2019/2

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2018/2

At its forty-first session in March 2019, the secretariat informed the Joint Working Party that COFFI approved new Rules of Procedure for COFFI during its seventy-sixth session, held in Vancouver, Canada in November 2018. The secretariat further explained that these Rules could also be applied to the Joint Working Party, should its membership decide so. The Joint Working Party decided that, given the ongoing discussions to amend the COFFI Rules of Procedure, it preferred to defer the decision to the 42nd session of the Joint Working Party. In 2019, the COFFI further refined and adopted the final set of the COFFI Rules of Procedure during the seventy-seventh session of the ECE COFFI and FAO EFC (see Annex of document ECE/TIM/2019/2–FO:EFC/2019/2).

At its 42nd session in March 2021, and in line with the “Guidelines on procedures and practices for ECE bodies” adopted by the Economic Commission for Europe at the fifth meeting of its sixty-fifth session on 11 April 2013 (E/ECE/1464), the Joint Working Party had been invited to decide on whether to be governed by the “Rules of Procedure of the ECE

COFFI” and, where applicable, “Rules of Procedure of ECE” (E/ECE/778/Rev.5) mutatis mutandis.

During the ensuing discussions, the Joint Working Party highlighted that while the ECE Rules of Procedure applied to the Joint Working Party, these might not be fully suited to the Joint Working Party. Therefore, the delegations requested the secretariat to develop new draft Rules of Procedure for its consideration and their possible adoption.

Document ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/Inf.1 outlines suggestions and specific areas to be addressed by the draft rules of procedure. This document was prepared by the secretariat with input by the member States for review and discussion by the Joint Working Party and made available on the meeting website prior to the session.

The Joint Working Party will be invited to discuss the proposed amendments and decide on the way forward.

4. Forests and the circular economy

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/Inf.2

(a) Presentation by the secretariat about its past, current and future work on forests in the circular economy;

The secretariat will inform the Joint Working Party of their work on forests and the circular economy since the forty-second session of the Joint Working Party in March 2021, including current and planned activities, reports and activities related to this topic.

The Joint Working Party will be invited to comment on the work presented as well as upcoming activities in this area.

(b) Updates and examples from member States

Based on guidance received by the bureau of the Joint Working Party, member States will hold small group discussions on their experiences with the forest and forest products’ sector in a circular economy to facilitate peer learning among member States.

(c) Review of the circular economy approach for the forest sector

At the proposal of the bureau of the Joint Working Party to have a balanced approach to the circular economy mechanisms and policies, Member States are invited to review and discuss possible challenges in addition to opportunities at national, regional and international levels.

5. Guidance on Work Areas

Delegates are invited to review activities since the last session, as well as comment on future work plans for 2022. The guidance provided should relate to the work of the Teams of Specialists and the secretariat.

The Information Notes by the Team of Specialists to be submitted to the secretariat will be published on the meeting website. The leader or a designated member of each Team will present the work under the designated Work Area in the IPoW 2022-2023.

The meeting documents prepared by the secretariat on Work Areas 1 to 4 outline in detail the work by the secretariat since the forty-second session of the Joint Working Party and will be presented by the secretariat under this agenda item. Discussion of items with high relevance for the work in the coming year and for which guidance is sought will follow. The main points for discussion are outlined in the secretariat reports of the specific Work Area.

(a) Work Area 1: Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/3

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/Inf.3

The secretariat will update the Joint Working Party on the progress of ongoing work and planned activities for 2022, in the areas of reporting on forests, forest management, forest

products, wood energy statistics and markets and the analysis of these data.

The secretariat's overview of items outlined in the "Report by the secretariat – Work Area 1" will be followed by member States' comments on this Work Area.

Under this agenda item, the Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management, the Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics and the Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products will be invited to present the results of work completed since the previous session of the Joint Working Party, and plans for work under the new mandate (until 2023):

(b) Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/4

The secretariat will update the Joint Working Party on the progress of ongoing forest policies and forest sector outlook work and planned activities for 2022.

The secretariat's overview of items outlined in the "Report by the secretariat – Work Area 2" will be followed by member States' comments on this Work Area.

Under this agenda item, the Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests will be invited to present the results of their work completed since the previous session and plans for work under the new mandate (until 2023).

(c) Work Area 3: Communication and outreach

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/5

The secretariat will update the Joint Working Party on progress of ongoing communication and outreach work and planned activities for 2022.

The secretariat will provide an update its activities on the International Day of Forests 2022 "Forests and sustainable production and consumption" which the Joint Section celebrated with two roundtable discussions under the topic "Forests for sustainable lifestyles and a circular economy". The secretariat will further provide an overview on the items outlined in "Report by the secretariat – Work Area 3". Member States will be given the possibility to comment on the Work Area in general and the list provided in the report.

The Team of Specialists on Forest Communication (Forest Communicators' Network) will be invited to present the results of work that have been completed since the previous session and plans for work under the new mandate (until 2023).

(d) Work Area 4: Capacity-building

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/6

The secretariat will update the Joint Working Party on progress of capacity-building work and planned activities for 2022.

The secretariat's overview of items outlined in the "Report by the secretariat – Work Area 4" will be followed by member States' comments on this Work Area.

6. Overview on forest and forest sector related work by the Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and a draft list of Integrated Programme of Work activities that are planned for 2022

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/Inf.4

Documentation: ECE/INF/2020/5

(a) Activities on forests and forest products in the region that are not covered by the Integrated Programme of work

The joint seventy-fifth session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and thirty-ninth session of the FAO European Forestry Commission requested the secretariat report of the session (ECE/TIM/2017/2–FO:EFC/2017/2) Annex I para 4: "A specific list of

activities to implement the Programme is agreed on an annual basis by the Working Party and the Committee and the Commission. ECE and FAO are asked, in line with their governance structures, to present an overview of their forest-related work in the region to each session of the Working Party in order to facilitate the review of the proposed list”.

In line with this request, the secretariat will invite ECE and FAO secretariats to present to the Joint Working Party an overview of list of forest and forest products related activities in the ECE region planned for 2022.

(b) Initial list of activities for 2023

The secretariat will also present a preliminary list of activities planned for 2023 published on the meeting website before the session (ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/Inf.4). In line with the Integrated Programme of Work 2022–2025, the Joint Working Party will be invited to review and agree on the list.

(c) Feedback on Nexus work

The United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) conducted an audit of the ECE on mainstreaming of Sustainable Development Goals and COVID-19 response into the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Europe (OIOS-2021-01436). The intermediate progress report recommended that ECE should prepare an action plan for the review and endorsement of nexus publications by relevant subprogrammes, to enable timely tracking and monitoring of the implementation of recommendations related to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The secretariat will inform the Joint Working Party about the information and recommendations presented in the nexus report on Measuring and Monitoring Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([ECE/INF/2020/5](#)).

The Joint Working Party is invited to:

- (i) Take note of the forest and forest product related activities by ECE and FAO in the ECE region not covered by the Integrated Programme of Work;
- (ii) Adopt the initial list of activities;
- (iii) Encourage its members to take note of the recommendations in the report on Measuring and Monitoring Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals and consider the possible application of them at the national level.

7. Election of officers

The Joint Working Party is expected to elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, who will hold their office until the forty-fourth session. At its forty-first session, the Joint Working Party elected Ms. Magdalena Wolicka-Posiadała (Poland) as Chair, Mr. Matthias Dieter (Germany) and Mr. Michal Synek (Czech Republic) as Vice-Chairs to hold office until the end of the forty-third session.

8. Date and place of next meeting

The secretariat will inform member States about the date and place of the forty-fourth session.

9. Any other business

None at the time of writing.

10. Adoption of the report

The Joint Working Party will be invited to adopt the report of its session based on a draft prepared by the secretariat.
