

EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS
SUB-COMMISSION ON MEDITERRANEAN PROBLEMS

THIRD SESSION
Istanbul, May 1952

GENERAL REPORT

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The Sub-Commission on Mediterranean Problems at the invitation of the Turkish Government held its Third Session at the University of Istanbul, from 13 to 15 May 1952.

The following countries were represented: FRANCE and THE FRENCH UNION (Metropolitan France, Morocco), GREECE, ISRAEL, ITALY, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, TURKEY, UNITED KINGDOM (Cyprus) and YUGOSLAVIA. THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FOREST RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS was also represented. Switzerland and the Lebanon apologized for not being able to attend. The list of delegates is given in annex 1.

The Director-general of FAO was represented by Mr. M. LELOUP, Director of the Forestry Division of that Organization.

The session was opened by the Chairman Professor PAVARI, in the presence of His Excellency NEDIM OKMEN, Minister of Agriculture in Turkey; Mr. CHALLOT (France) acted as Vice-Chairman.

The Turkish Minister of Agriculture then welcomed the delegates and emphasized the importance of FAO's role in Mediterranean silviculture. He drew particular attention to the measures taken in Turkey for the protection and conservation of its forests in view of the present situation.

Mr. LELOUP referred to the development of FAO's regional activities, which have led to the organization of special forestry meetings for Middle Eastern countries, those of a Mediterranean character having previously been invited to attend the meetings of the Sub-Commission. He expressed the hope that it would eventually be possible to hold single meetings for the Mediterranean countries of both Europe and the Middle East, and thus to change the Sub-Commission into an International Commission common to the two regions. He also stressed the present importance of Eucalypt and drew the attention of the Sub-Commission to the related study undertaken by the Forestry Division, and in which the co-operation of the Sub-Commission would be very valuable.

The chairman finally thanked the Minister of Agriculture for organizing the Session and made a few comments on the Agenda and on the lines along which the different items might be discussed.

The Sub-Commission adopted the provisional agenda drawn up by the Secretariat in collaboration with the Chairman, and decided that French should be adopted as the working language for the Third Session, with a résumé of the discussions in Turkish on account of the important position held by the Turkish delegation. It then turned to the Agenda.

Working Groups were set up to study certain questions listed below (Chapters II, III and IV). The membership of these Working Groups is given in Annex 2.

The various resolutions adopted are as follows:

I. - REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON CORK-OAK -

The Sub-Commission approved the Report of the Working Group on Cork-Oak submitted by the Rapporteur, Mr. DUGELAY, and congratulated the Chairman and the members of the Group on the work carried out. This report constitutes document FAO/CEF/SCM/34.

The Sub-Commission pointed out that Governments of producing countries, to whom questionnaires were sent in conformity with the resolution passed at the Second Session, should return these questionnaires as soon as possible to the Secretariat even if the figures given are only provisional.

A meeting of the Working Group might be convened by its Chairman after the questionnaires have been received, with a view to studying them, prior to the next session of the Sub-Commission.

The Sub-Commission drew the attention of producing countries to Turkey's request for cork-oak acorns in order to carry out experiments, and asked them to kindly comply with it.

II. - EUCALYPTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN -

Mr. METRO, FAO expert, recalled the essential elements of the afforestation problem in the Mediterranean countries, its vastness and urgency, as well as the difficult technical and human aspects. After he had pointed out the part which can be played by Eucalypts and other species to obtain high yields and substantial incomes, and after the Sub-Commission had read, commented on and discussed the reports concerning this matter, it recommended to the participating countries:

- 1) the setting up of national working teams composed of specialists

in each of the branches concerned, from production to utilization, and particularly in eucalypt classification and forest ecology, and in the utilization and technology of medium hardwoods.

It is desirable that members of these teams participate in the Study Tour organized by the FAO to take place in Australia in 1952. Such teams should stimulate the setting up of rational plans for the use of eucalypts in afforestation and planting activities of all kinds (Wind-breaks, etc...) and also of studies to provide a practical documentation for all Mediterranean countries.

One of these studies is particularly desirable, namely the drafting of regional monographs on the species introduced and the results achieved, or of specific monographs to give, for each species:

- its adaptability to well defined sites;
- its phenology and biology;
- the technique of its culture;
- its growth;
- properties and possible utilization of its products (wood and bark, etc...).

Finally, methods should be studied for the collocation and distribution of seed of recognized origin.

The work of these national teams might be coordinated by a technical secretariat of the FAO, under Mr. METRO, with the main object of drawing up standard forms for:

- description of sites;
- description of species;
- physical characteristics of tests and utilization of products.

A first comparison of results will be made in 1953, at a date which will be decided upon as the work proceeds. The Directorate of Waters and Forests at Morocco has already expressed the wish to offer its hospitality for the meeting.

2) In addition the Sub-Commission recommends the International Union of Forest Research Organizations to add to its programme genetics and provenance trials of Eucalypt species acclimatized or likely to become so in the various countries, and their influence on the physical, chemical and biological properties of the soil.

III - PURELY FOREST LANDS AND RELATIONS BETWEEN GRAZING AND FORESTRY -

The Sub-Commission examined the document prepared by the Secretariat

and the reports submitted on this item of the agenda; heard the different interventions; received some information about the very important study prepared by the Secretariat of the FAO Forestry Division on the relations between grazing and forestry, and then drew the following conclusions:

1) The Sub-Commission recalls the comments made and wishes expressed during its preceding sessions in Rome and Algiers on the extreme importance of forest protection and afforestation of purely forest lands for the physical and economic balance of countries in the Mediterranean zone. It came about, in the course of the discussion, that the term "purely forest land" should be ascribed to a particular soil in consideration primarily of its physical or ecological characteristics, but that its forest utilization might further depend on the different local economic and social conditions (cf. document FAO/CEF/SCM/35, pages 6 and 7).

2) It recognizes that forest protection measures for the maintenance of its direct and indirect benefits cannot be subject to a common law, but that these must vary in each country according to local conditions, whilst activated by the same principle.

3) It stresses the advantages of exchanging information and observations as done during the present session, to aid individual countries to adapt to their own conditions the experiments and measures successfully undertaken and adopted elsewhere.

4) It states that in view of the extreme importance of pasturage in the Mediterranean forest it will without doubt be difficult to segregate the two, but that it is necessary, by gradually eliminating goats from the forest, to achieve an equilibrium which will not lead to the loss of a capital as subject to destruction as it is valuable.

It suggests that side by side with this aim the following measures might be adopted:

- on the one hand a policy of pasture improvement;
- on the other, a policy of research into and acclimatization of livestock breeds which would ensure a greater total yield in spite of the reduced numbers.

5) With regard to the problem of natural grazing grounds outside the forest, it believes that if the forest services, which are particularly suited to deal with it by reason of the training in biology and administration of their officers, cannot be so entrusted in all countries for local reasons; they should nevertheless always be consulted on the formulation of related management plans, which are indispensable if degradation of pastoral capital is to be prevented.

6) It is the opinion of the Sub-Commission that, to an ever greater extent in view of the increasing population, effective protection of the forest cannot depend on forest laws alone, but on a number of measures aiming at the rational increase of agricultural, pastoral and industrial productivity.

7) It recommends, therefore, that in each country special bodies including representatives from all the administrations concerned should be set up in order to formulate long-term plans for the coordination of indispensable measures.

8) Moreover, in view of the need to centralize documentation, but in order to avoid the inception of another international organization, it suggests that the foresters who will be appointed by their governments to the European Working Party on Land and Water Utilization and Conservation (cf. wish expressed by the European Forestry Commission at its Fourth Session - Rome, October 1951 - Document FAO/EFC/39, page 5) should report on the activities planned by the bodies envisaged in the preceding paragraph.

IV - DELIMITATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION AND ECOLOGICAL MAP -

The Sub-Commission examined and discussed the map prepared by Messrs. GAUSSEN and DE PHILIPPIS and took note of the comments made by various countries, notably Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Yugoslavia and Greece, as to the principle adopted for the delimitation. It then considered:

1) that the map of eu-mediterranean countries prepared according to the principles adopted at preceding sessions can be accepted as a whole. Messrs. GAUSSEN and DE PHILIPPIS were entrusted with the task of making the minor corrections suggested by various countries. The revised map will be issued prior to the next session and commented on in a comprehensive report.

2) that the cartographic delimitation of transition regions, with due regard for adopted criteria, cannot be effected satisfactorily by all countries. It nevertheless requested those countries unable to carry out such work to comment on the part of the report FAO/CEF/SCM/33 concerning transition regions "where the farming and forest-pastoral economy is closely linked to that of the eu-mediterranean area".

3) that the preparation of the ecological map must be actively carried forward. To this end it asked the different countries to forward to the secretariat the documentation previously requested. It directed Messrs. GAUSSEN and DE PHILIPPIS to synthesize this documentation and make proposals to the next session.

When these have been discussed and general principles adopted it can be left to individual countries to draw up their own ecological map in accordance with common criteria.

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V. - AFFORESTATION TECHNIQUES -

The Sub-Commission took cognizance of the document prepared by the Secretariat (Document FAO/CEF/SCM/37) and exchanged much information on afforestation techniques, particularly on direct seeding and planting. It invited the member governments to continue studying this question and all the others enumerated in the document prepared by the Secretariat, in order to be ready to report on them at the next session.

VI. - UTILIZATION OF PRODUCTS -

The Sub-Commission has already stressed the necessity, at its first session, of collecting information on the economic aspects and the utilization of products of the Mediterranean forest. Some information was given at the second session and a permanent Working Group on Cork-Oak was set up on which the producing countries are represented.

Some reports were submitted during the session on the value and importance of non-woody products in the Mediterranean forest. The discussions held on this subject brought out the particular importance which the so-called "accessory products" (minor products and pasturage) have there in relation to the primary products (wood).

In reply to a suggestion put forward by the Italian delegation and approved by the Sub-Commission Mr. LELOUP agreed to consider the publication in 1953 of a pamphlet on the products of the Mediterranean forest. This pamphlet would present the reports sent by various countries, classified according to the different products. Attention should be paid to the following:

- resins
- acorns and other fruits (chestnuts....)
- barks
- gums
- leaves
- material for tannin

Production statistics, indication of cultural methods, trade etc. should be supplied for each product. Photographic documentation might also be provided.

The Sub-Commission also drew the attention of member governments to the impoverishment of Mediterranean forest soils resulting from the removal of foliage and fruits. In fact, whilst forest soils in temperate climates can be maintained practically indefinitely by allowing the leaves and fruits to return into the soil, in Mediterranean forests the gathering of accessory products impedes this process. It considered that the International Union of Forest Research Organizations should be advised to study this matter.

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The question of propaganda was again brought up during the discussion on products of the Mediterranean forest but the Commission, while emphasizing

the important part played by schools, did not take any resolution considering that this matter should be dealt with by a larger body, such as the FAO Conference for example.

VII - DOCUMENTATION -

In addition to the documents prepared by the secretariat on the different items on the agenda, and by Mr. METRO, FAO expert, on eucalypts, many reports have been submitted by the different delegations and distributed during the session in the form of roneo-typed or printed documents. These reports are listed in Annex 3.

VIII - MISCELLANEOUS -

At its last meeting the Sub-Commission heard two statements, by Mr. ALVES (Portugal) on the plant and ecological map now being prepared in Portugal; and by Israeli delegate on the measures being taken in his country to encourage the planting of trees.

The Portuguese delegation presented the documentation on the plant map of Portugal to the Secretariat, and this is available to delegates for consultation. A summary of it will eventually be circulated by the Secretariat.

IX - STUDY TOUR -

The Sub-Commission wishes to express its gratitude to the Director - General of Forests in Turkey and his officers for the very interesting excursion enjoyed by the delegates prior to the Session. It also thanks the Faculty of the Forestry Department of the University of Istanbul who took part in the excursion, giving full and very useful explanations on the spot.

X - PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION -

The Sub-Commission took note of the invitations extended first by the Israeli and then by the Spanish Governments to hold the next session in their respective countries, as well as of the wish expressed by the delegations of Greece and Great Britain (for Cyprus), to offer hospitality to the Sub-Commission. It thanks these countries warmly for their invitations.

It requested the Director General of FAO to decide, together with the aforesaid countries and after consultation with the European Forestry Commission, where the next session shall be held.

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XI - ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN -

Professor PAVARI (Italy) was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Sub-Commission on Mediterranean Problems, and Professor GONZALEZ VAZQUEZ (Spain) was elected Vice-Chairman.

XII - REPORT -

The Sub-Commission decided to entrust the Chairman and the Secretary of the Sub-Commission with the drafting of the report of the session.

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GENERAL REPORT - ANNEX 1

LIST OF DELEGATES

Chairman: Professor A. PIVARI (Italy)
Vice-Chairman: Mr. CHALLOT (France)
Secretary: Mr. R.G. FONTAINE (FAO)

Representative of the Director General of FAO:

Mr. M. LELOUP, Director of the Forestry Division.

FRANCE AND THE FRENCH UNION:

Mr. A. METRO, Directeur de la Station de Recherches Forestières, Rabat, Maroc.

Mr. M. CHALLOT, Conservateur des Eaux et Forêts, Chef du Service de la Défense et de la Restauration des Sols, Rabat, Maroc.

Mr. A. DUGELAY, Conservateur des Eaux et Forêts, Nice, France.

GREECE:

Mr. CHRISTODOULOPOULOS, Directeur Général des Forêts, Athènes.

Mr. G. KOSENAKIS, Directeur de Division à la Direction Générale des Forêts, Athènes.

ISRAEL:

Mr. TOUVIA ARAZI, Conseiller à la Légation d'Israël à Ankara.

ITALY:

Mr. A. PAVARI, Directeur de la Station de Recherches Forestières de Florence.

Mr. A. DE PHILIPPIS, Professeur de Sylviculture à la Faculté Agricole et Forestière de l'Université de Florence.

Mr. G. GIORDANO, Professeur de Technologie à la Faculté Agricole et Forestière de l'Université de Florence.

Mr. L. CHIANESE, Chef du Service Agricole de l'"Ente Nazionale per la Cellulosa e la Carta" Rome.

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PORTUGAL:

Mr. José ALVES, Chef de Division et Représentant de la Sylviculture au Comité National Portugais de la FAO.

SPAIN:

Mr. E. GONZALEZ VASQUEZ, Professeur de Sylviculture à l'Ecole Spéciale des Ingénieurs Forestiers, Madrid.

Mr. Luis SANGUINO BENITEZ, Professeur des Industries Forestières à l'Ecole Spéciale des Ingénieurs Forestiers, Madrid.

TURKEY:

a) Delegates:

Mr. Fuat ADALI, Ingénieur des Eaux et Forêts, Directeur-Général de la Météorologie, Ankara.

Mr. Soyfoddin TUNGER, Sous-Directeur Général des Forêts, Ankara.

Mr. Kâzim MIHCIOGLU, Membre du Conseil Technique de la Direction Générale des Forêts, Ankara.

Mr. Sanver ARIF, Membre du Conseil Technique de la Direction Générale des Forêts, Ankara.

Mr. Franz HESKE, Professeur de Géographie Forestière à la Faculté Forestière de l'Université d'Istanbul.

Mr. A. BERKEL, Professeur de Technologie à la Faculté Forestière de l'Université d'Istanbul.

Mr. A. IRMAK, Professeur de Pédologie et d'Ecologie Forestière à l'Université d'Istanbul.

Mr. Fikret SAATÇIOGLU, Professeur de Sylviculture à la Faculté Forestière de l'Université d'Istanbul.

Mr. Gafur ACATAY, Professeur d'Entomologie à la Faculté Forestière de l'Université d'Istanbul.

Mr. F. FIRAT, Professeur de Dendrométrie à la Faculté Forestière de l'Université d'Istanbul.

Mr. Hayrettin KAYACIK, Doç. à l'Institut Botanique de la Faculté Forestière de l'Université d'Istanbul.

Mr. Selâhattin INAL, Doç. à l'Institut d'Aménagement de la Faculté Forestière de l'Université d'Istanbul.

b) Observers :

Mr. Xemal SAVAS, Conservateur en Chef, Bolu.

Mr. Talat ERET, Chef de la Section de Reboisement et Pépinière à la Direction Générale des Forêts, Ankara.

Mr. Hierî AKSOY, Assistant-Chef de la Section de Recherches Forestières à la Direction Générale des Forêts, Ankara.

Mr. Iuddusi SAVRAN, Vice-Directeur de la Station de Recherches Forestières, Bolu.

Mr. Macid GULÇUR, Chef à la Station de Recherches Forestières, Bolu.

Mr. Kemel UNGAN, Directeur de la Pépinière, Ankara.

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TURKEY:

b) Observers (Continuation)

Mr. Seref ALEMDAG, Assistant-Chef de la Section d'Aménagement à la

Direction Générale, Ankara,
Mr. I. ISIKLI, Inspecteur à la Direction Générale des Forêts.
Mr. Baki KASABLIGIL, Botaniste à la Faculté de Sciences de
l'Université d'Ankara.

UNITED KINGDOM:

Mr. G.W. CHAPMAN, Conservator of Forests, Government of Cyprus.

YUGOSLAVIA:

Mr. L. MARKOVIÇ, Directeur de Recherches Forestières, Belgrade.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FOREST RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS:

Professor A. PAVARI, Vice-Chairman of the UNION.

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GENERAL REPORT - ANNEX 2

MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING GROUPS

I - EUCALYPTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN -

Chairman-Rapporteur : Mr. A. METRO
Members : Messrs. G.W. CHAPMAN
F. FIRAT
G. GIORDANO
G. KOSSENAKIS
L. DE PHILIPPIS

II - PURELY FOREST LAND AND RELATIONS BETWEEN GRAZING AND FORESTRY -

Chairman-Rapporteur : Mr. CHALLOT
Members : Messrs. S. ARIF
G.W. CHAPMAN
A. DUGELAY
F. HESKE
G. KOSSENAKIS
L. MARKOVIÇ

III - DELIMITATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION -

Chairman-Rapporteur : Mr. L. DE PHILIPPIS
Members : Messrs. José ALVES
S. ARIF
F. FIRAT
GONZALEZ VAZQUEZ
G. KOSSENAKIS
A. METRO
Observers : Messrs. A. IRMAK
H. KAYACIK
F. SAATÇIOGLU

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GENERAL REPORT - ANNEX 3

LIST OF REPORTS
PRESENTED BY THE VARIOUS DELEGATIONS TO THE THIRD SESSION
of the

SUB-COMMISSION ON MEDITERRANEAN PROBLEMS

1) - Delimitation of the Mediterranean Region and ecological Map -

a) "Observations sur la Délimitation projetée de la Région Méditerranéenne sur l'Etablissement de la Carte Ecologique correspondante", by Prof. GONZALEZ VASQUEZ (Spain).

2) - Cork-Oak -

a) "Données Statistiques sur les Chêne-Liège", by Prof. Luis SANGUINO BENITEZ (Spain).

b) "The Importance of Cork-Oak (Quercus suber) for Turkey", by Doz. Dr. Hayrettin KAYACIK (Turkey).

3) - Purely Forest Lands and Relations between Grazing and Forestry -

a) "Le Problème de la vocation des Terres", by A. DUGELAY (France)

b) "Memorandum" by Dr. A.Y. GOOR (Israel).

c) "Etude de la Nécessité de Réglementation du Pâturage afin d'Etablir un Equilibre entre la Pâture et la Forêt", presented by the Delegation of Greece.

d) "Forests and Agriculture in Turkey with Special reference to the Necessity of Water Economy under Semiarid Conditions", by Dr. Ing. Franz HESKE (Turkey).

e) "A Summary of Research of Forest Soils in Turkey", by Prof. Dr. Asaf IRMAK (Turkey).

f) "Necessity to Improve Pastures to Reach Efficient Forest Protection", by Prof. Dr. Gafur ACATAY (Turkey).

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4) - Afforestation Techniques -

a) "Les Techniques de Reboisement", presented by the Delegation of Greece.

b) "Afforestation in the Mountain Forests and Afforestation Techniques in the Lowlands", by G.W. CHAPMAN (Cyprus).

- c) "The Afforestation of Sand Drift Areas" by D.F. DAVIDSON (Cyprus).
- d) "Importance and Methods of Afforestation in Turkey. A General View", by Prof. Dr. Fikret SAATÇIOĞLU (Turkey).

5) - Eucalyps in the Mediterranean Basin -

- a) "Les Espèces Exotiques d'Eucalyptus Introduites en Grèce", presented by the Delegation of Greece.
- b) "Le Problème de la Provenance des Graines chez les Eucalyptus", by Prof. A. DE PHILIPPIS (Italy).
- c) "The Cultivation of Eucalyptus in Cyprus", by G.W. CHAPMAN (Cyprus).
- d) "Espèce de Chêne Producteur de Liège en Turquie et Essai de Culture de Quercus suber", presented by Prof. Kazim MIHÇIOĞLU (Turkey).
- e) "Quelques données sur la Production en Bois des Boisements d'Eucalyptus rostrata dans la Région Méditerranéenne d'Anatolie", by Prof. Dr. Fehim FIRAT (Turkey).

6) - Utilization of Products of the Mediterranean Forest -

- a) "Contribution à l'Etude de l'Utilisation des Produits de la Forêt Méditerranéenne", by Prof. GONZALEZ VAZQUEZ (Spain).
- b) "Technical and Economical Properties of some important Turkish Timber Species", by Prof. Dr. Adnan BERKEL (Turkey).
- c) "Distribution of the Valonea-Oak (Quercus aegilops) in Turkey and its Ecological Basis", by Doç. Dr. Selâhattin INAL (Turkey).

7) - Forests and Forest Vegetation in Turkey -

- a) "Note sur la Situation Actuelle des Forêts en Turquie", presented by the Directorate-General of Forests at Ankara.
- b) "The Forest Vegetation in the Mediterranean Regions of Turkey", by Mr. Baki KASABLIGIL (Turkey).