



## Экономический и Социальный Совет

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## Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций

### Европейская экономическая комиссия

#### Комитет по лесам и лесной отрасли

Семьдесят девятая сессия  
Рим, 22–25 ноября 2021 года  
Пункт 6 предварительной повестки дня  
Утверждение доклада о работе совместной сессии

### Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация

#### Европейская комиссия по лесному хозяйству

Сорок первая сессия  
Рим, 22–25 ноября 2021 года

## Доклад о работе совместной сессии Комитета по лесам и лесной отрасли Европейской экономической комиссии (семьдесят девятая сессия) и Европейской комиссии по лесному хозяйству Продовольственной и сельскохозяйственной организации (сорок первая сессия)

### I. Введение

1. Совместная сессия Комитета по лесам и лесной отрасли Европейской экономической комиссии (ЕЭК) (семьдесят девятая сессия) и Европейской комиссии по лесному хозяйству Продовольственной и сельскохозяйственной организации Объединенных Наций (ФАО) (сорок первая сессия), «Форестат–2021», состоялась в Риме, Италия, а также в режиме онлайн 22–25 ноября 2021 года. К совместной сессии были приурочены торжественные мероприятия по случаю шестой Недели европейских лесов, которые проводились на тему «Будущее лесов».

2. Дополнительная информация, документы для заседающих органов и тексты выступлений размещены на веб-странице сессии<sup>1</sup> (содержание и выводы вышеуказанных выступлений в настоящем докладе не излагаются).

### II. Участники

3. В работе совместной сессии приняли участие делегации следующих 38 государств-членов: Австрии, Армении, Бельгии, Болгарии, Германии, Грузии, Ирландии, Испании, Италии, Канады, Кипра, Кыргызстана, Латвии, Литвы, Мальты, Нидерландов, Норвегии, Польши, Португалии, Республики Молдова, Российской Федерации, Румынии, Сербии, Словакии, Словении, Соединенного Королевства Великобритании и Северной Ирландии, Соединенных Штатов Америки, Турции,

<sup>1</sup> <https://unece.org/info/Forests/events/357375>.



Украины, Узбекистана, Финляндии, Франции, Хорватии, Черногории, Чешской Республики, Швейцарии, Швеции, Эстонии.

4. В работе сессии участвовали представители Продовольственной и сельскохозяйственной организации.

5. В работе сессии в качестве наблюдателей участвовали представители Европейского союза<sup>2</sup>.

6. В работе сессии в качестве наблюдателей участвовали представители Европейского лесного института и процесса «Леса Европы».

7. На сессии в качестве наблюдателей присутствовали следующие неправительственные организации: Африканская организация молодежи, занимающейся агробизнесом, Союз европейских фермеров и европейских сельскохозяйственных кооперативов (КОПА-КОГЕКА), Европейская конфедерация деревообрабатывающей промышленности (ЕКДП), Лесной попечительский совет (ЛПС), Программа одобрения систем сертификации лесов (ПОСЛ), Квебекское бюро по экспорту древесины, Программа «Устойчивое лесное хозяйство» (ПУЛХ), Украинский научно-исследовательский институт лесного хозяйства и агролесомелиорации им. Г.Н. Высоцкого (УкрНИИЛХА), Союз европейских лесоводов (СЕЛ).

8. На сессии в качестве наблюдателей присутствовали представители ряда других организаций, частного сектора, местных структур, научных кругов и средств массовой информации: «Блум биореньюабл», Центра экологии и продуктивности лесов Российской академии наук, Европейской конфедерации бумажной промышленности (ЕКБП), Кафедры лесоводства, Сети стратегических лесохозяйственных исследований Европейского лесного института (ЕЛИ), Европейской организации лесопильной промышленности, Факультета сельского и лесного хозяйства, «Форест сектор инсайтс АБ», «Хоуторн адвайзорс», Высшей школы технологии и энергетики (ВШТЭ) Санкт-Петербургского государственного университета промышленных технологий и дизайна (СПбГУПТД), МИПСА, Технологического института Карлсруэ, Казахского научно-исследовательского института лесного хозяйства и агролесомелиорации, «О'Келли айкюмэн», Потсдамского института исследования воздействия изменения климата, Фонда «Пробос», «Расс Тейлор глоубал», Института политических исследований (CSO-LIEPP), Швейцарского федерального института исследований снегов и ландшафта, Университета Южного Креста, «Спиннова Плк.», «Сузано», Шведского университета сельскохозяйственных наук (ШУСН), Швейцарского федерального института исследований лесных ресурсов, Университета Виго, Копенгагенского университета, Хельсинкского университета, Гогенгеймского университета, Университета Молизе, Венского университета природных ресурсов и естественных наук (БОКУ), Уппсальского университета, Вагенингенского института экологических исследований Вагенингенского университета и научно-исследовательского центра.

### **III. Открытие сессии**

9. Г-жа Мария Соколенко (Российская Федерация), Председатель Комитета и сопредседатель сессии, открыла совместную сессию и приветствовала ее участников.

10. Г-жа Ольга Альгаерова, Исполнительный секретарь ЕЭК, выступая от имени Европейской экономической комиссии, открыла сессию «Форестат–2021» и пятую Неделю европейских лесов. Она рассказала о предстоящих мероприятиях и отметила, что намеченные обсуждения представляют собой уникальную возможность для изучения ключевых изменений в лесной политике и будущего лесов.

11. Г-н Владимир Рахманин, помощник Генерального директора ФАО, приветствовал делегатов от имени своей организации и подчеркнул неизменную

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<sup>2</sup> Европейский союз является членом ЕКЛХ.

приверженность ФАО делу поддержки усилий, направленных на обеспечение устойчивого управления лесами и другими природными ресурсами в регионе, включая укрепление связей между лесным и сельским хозяйством.

12. Г-жа Метте Л. Вилки, директор Отдела лесного хозяйства ФАО, приветствовала делегатов и подчеркнула необходимость улучшения координации между сельскохозяйственным и лесохозяйственным секторами для укрепления продовольственной безопасности с учетом того, что расширение сельского хозяйства является фактором почти 90 % глобального обезлесения.

13. Г-жа Паола Деда, директор Отдела ЕЭК по лесам, землепользованию и жилищному хозяйству, поблагодарила делегатов за поддержку и подчеркнула высокую актуальность совместной работы по лесам в рамках действий по борьбе с изменением климата и недавних итогов КС-26, которые создали новый импульс для сохранения лесной тематики в политических повестках дня в ближайшие годы.

#### **IV. Утверждение повестки дня**

14. Участники сессии утвердили предварительную повестку дня.

#### **V. Будущее лесов**

15. Г-жа Лилиана Анноваци-Якаб, руководитель Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО, рассказала о сложных вызовах, стоящих перед лесами, и подчеркнула, что для решения многих проблем в предстоящем десятилетии необходимо будет задействовать леса. Она объявила о выпуске «Перспективного исследования по лесному сектору, 2020–2040 годы», которое размещено на сайте <https://unece.org/forests/publications/forest-sector-outlook-study-2020-2040>. Она поблагодарила всех авторов и учреждения, представившие материалы, а также секретариаты ЕЭК и ФАО за отличную работу над исследованием, проведенную в течение последних нескольких лет.

16. Г-жа Альмут Арнет (Глобальное моделирование экосистем суши, Технологический институт Карлсруэ) выступила с основным докладом о прогнозируемых будущих климатических условиях и их влиянии на биосферу, и в частности на леса. Она подчеркнула, что изменение климата, как ожидается, увеличит риски для лесов и их способности поглощать углерод, отметив, что прекращение процесса обезлесения и восстановление лесов могут обеспечить получение больших выгод в рамках цепочки существующих взаимосвязей между климатом и биоразнообразием.

17. Г-н Март-Ян Схелас (Центр экологических исследований, Университет города Вагенинген) представил доклад о развитии лесного хозяйства и лесоустройстве в изменяющихся климатических и социальных условиях. Он упомянул о растущей нагрузке на лесные ресурсы и ожидаемых последствиях для предложения лесной продукции, а также подчеркнул необходимость «климатически умного» лесного хозяйства, основанного на адаптированных к местным условиям методах лесопользования, для удовлетворения потребностей общества при одновременной адаптации к изменению климата.

18. Г-н Кит Принс (автор-координатор Перспективного исследования по лесному сектору) представил новое Исследование, включая анализ сценариев моделирования лесных ресурсов, продукции и торговли. Он подчеркнул, что объем выбросов, обусловленных воздействием негативных факторов на леса в условиях изменения климата, может быть сопоставим с объемом поглощения углерода лесами в регионе ЕЭК. Он также отметил неопределенность и дилеммы в части возможности увеличения масштабов улавливания углерода путем замещения углеродоемкой продукции лесными товарами. Он подчеркнул, что вариант политики, выбранный сейчас в одном месте, может вызвать последствия через длительный период времени и в отдаленных регионах, заключив, что необходим целостный анализ всей системы.

19. Г-н Янне Поранен («Спиннова Плк.») и г-н Винисиус Нонино («Сузано») представили доклад о механическом преобразовании древесины в текстильное волокно без использования токсичных реагентов. Г-н Винисиус Нонино рассказал об усилиях его компании по увеличению объема улавливания углерода при производстве древесной целлюлозы с помощью различных стратегий, уделяя особое внимание выпуску экологичной текстильной продукции. Г-н Янне Поранен представил технологию производства текстиля, которая значительно сокращает выбросы на единицу продукции, и рассказал о планах по выходу на рынок и наращиванию производства, чтобы оказать значительное влияние на рынок текстильной продукции.

20. Г-н Реми Бузер («Блум биореньюабл») выступил с докладом о преобразовании несъедобной биомассы в высокоэффективные продукты для создания новой стоимости из сельскохозяйственных остатков. Он отметил потенциал модифицированной целлюлозы, гемицеллюлозы и лигнина для создания новых композитных волокон и замены нефти в некоторых областях производства.

21. Г-н Реза Юнеси (Кафедра химии — лаборатория Ангстрема, Упсальский университет) представил доклад об использовании лигнина для повышения экологичности аккумуляторов. Он рассказал о перспективах рынка аккумуляторных батарей, включая проблему нехватки сырья, а затем остановился на натриево-ионных батареях, которые изготавливаются с использованием лигнина и могут стать заменой литиевых батарей, что также позволит решить проблему нехватки сырья.

22. Г-н Сесил К. Конийнендик (Институт основанных на природных принципах решений) представил доклад «Экосистемы городских и пригородных лесов и “зеленое” восстановление», отметив многочисленные преимущества устойчивого городского и пригородного лесного хозяйства. Он подчеркнул важность комплексных, междисциплинарных подходов, основанных на долгосрочном планировании и мониторинге, и участия национальных и региональных властей и политиков для укрепления управления и сотрудничества.

23. Комитет и Комиссия:

а) поблагодарили Совместную секцию лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО, а также экспертов и учреждения, которые приняли участие в подготовке Перспективного исследования по лесному сектору и его ориентированных на будущее полезных выводов в качестве важного инструмента для дальнейших обсуждений и действий;

б) поблагодарили экспертов-докладчиков, которые выступили в ходе дискуссии на тему «Будущее лесов» и остановились на самых разных аспектах — от влияния изменения климата на леса, инновационного использования лесных ресурсов до последних достижений в области городского лесного хозяйства, — за представленные прекрасные доклады и выразили признательность Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО за организацию этой дискуссии;

в) просили Совместную секцию лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО продолжить обсуждение последующих мероприятий в сотрудничестве с ЕЭК, ФАО и другими организациями, включая процесс «Леса Европы»;

г) призвали Совместную секцию лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО отслеживать возможные последствия пандемии COVID-19 для рынков лесной продукции, равно как и будущие тенденции.

## VI. Общие вопросы, касающиеся Комитета и Комиссии

### а) Прогресс в глобальном и региональном процессах оценки лесных ресурсов

24. Секретариат ФАО представил информацию о прогрессе, достигнутом в процессе Глобальной оценки лесных ресурсов (ОЛР), в том числе о текущем статусе работы ФАО по улучшению отчетности о первичных лесах, а также о планах совместного сбора ФАО, ЕЭК и процессом «Леса Европы» данных о лесах в общеевропейском регионе. Секретариат также представил делегациям обновленную информацию о первых результатах глобального обследования ФАО с использованием средств дистанционного зондирования.

25. Секретариат ФАО пояснил, что более частое добровольное обновление ключевых показателей требует тщательного учета всех связанных показателей, что необходимо для недопущения любых несоответствий в базе данных ОЛР ФАО. Внедрение технических средств, позволяющих обновлять показатели, идет полным ходом, но ФАО намерена представить и обсудить соответствующие изменения на следующей Консультации экспертов по ОЛР ФАО в июне 2022 года, с тем чтобы получить предложения и замечания по процедурным аспектам. Что касается представления данных о деградации лесов, то секретариат ФАО проинформировал делегатов, что это по-прежнему связано с проблемами ввиду отсутствия согласованного на международном уровне определения понятия «деградация лесов». Этот вопрос, а также предложение в отношении улучшения отчетности о первичных лесах и уточнения соответствующих терминов (старовозрастные леса, нетронутые леса, девственные леса и т. д.) также будут обсуждены в ходе Консультации экспертов.

26. Секретариат ФАО далее пояснил, что сеть национальных корреспондентов примет участие в сборе данных как для ОЛР, так и для общеевропейских наборов данных. Роль ФАО как учреждения, ответственного за связанные с лесами показатели 15.1.1 и 15.2.1 Целей Организации Объединенных Наций в области устойчивого развития (ЦУР), и использование ОЛР в качестве инструмента для сбора данных по этим показателям гарантируют их соответствие национальным докладам для ОЛР. Совместным сбором данных ЕЭК/ФАО/процесса «Леса Европы» будут охвачены лишь сигнатарии процесса «Леса Европы», данные других стран не будут использоваться в ходе его проведения, если только какая-либо страна эксплицитно не поддержит их включение.

27. Комитет и Комиссия:

а) приняли к сведению достигнутый прогресс, с благодарностью отметили дополнительные преимущества новой онлайн-платформы ОЛР и проводимую работу, а также дали руководящие указания в отношении работы по представлению данных на региональном уровне;

б) поздравили ФАО и ЕЭК с прогрессом, достигнутый в деле совместного сбора данных;

в) обратились к ФАО и ЕЭК с просьбой продолжать сотрудничать с процессом «Леса Европы» в области сбора данных о лесах и лесопользовании в формате ЕЭК/ФАО/процесс «Леса Европы» и, насколько это возможно, координировать его с процессом представления данных на глобальном уровне;

г) призвали государства-члены продолжать сотрудничать с ЕЭК, ФАО и учреждениями-партнерами для достижения синергии в сборе и анализе данных и управлении ими, а также для сокращения дублирования усилий и поддержки совместного сбора данных о лесах и лесопользовании в формате ЕЭК/ФАО/процесс «Леса Европы».

## **b) Вопросы глобальной и региональной политики, касающейся лесов**

28. Представитель Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО представил вопросы глобальной и региональной политики и сообщил об осуществлении Стратегического плана Организации Объединенных Наций по лесам на 2017–2030 годы, Политическом форуме высокого уровня по устойчивому развитию и диалогах по вопросам национальной лесной политики в Азербайджане и Казахстане.

29. Комитет и Комиссия приняли к сведению проводимую работу и просили ЕЭК и ФАО (в рамках их существующих мандатов):

а) продолжать оказывать государствам-членам поддержку в осуществлении ЦУР и Повестки дня на период до 2030 года в той части, в которой они касаются лесов, а также в выполнении Стратегического плана Организации Объединенных Наций по лесам на 2017–2030 годы;

б) представлять государствам-членам и другим заинтересованным сторонам обновленную информацию об изменениях, происходящих в глобальной и региональной политике в отношении лесов, с целью внесения вклада в процесс осуществления ЦУР и Стратегического плана Организации Объединенных Наций по лесам на 2017–2030 годы, а также в проведение обзора;

в) продолжать сотрудничать с соответствующими региональными органами и процессами.

## **с) Экономика и рынки лесного сектора**

30. Г-н Глен О'Келли («О'Келли айкьюмэн») сообщил о текущей ситуации на рынках круглого леса в регионе ЕЭК. Он рассказал о возможностях и угрозах для рынков и, в частности, об отмеченном в прошлом году мощном подъеме на рынках пиломатериалов и бумаги. Он отметил, что возможными проблемами в ближайшей и среднесрочной перспективе могут стать: потенциальный финансовый кризис на рынке жилья в Китае, надвигающийся запрет на экспорт круглого леса в Российской Федерации, снижение после временного повышения предложения круглого леса в Центральной Европе и его уменьшение в Канаде. Докладчик также указал, что инициативы по обеспечению устойчивого развития и изменение климата могут стать причиной снижения расчетной годичной лесосеки, и подчеркнул, что ситуация на рынке в краткосрочной и среднесрочной перспективе может быть вполне позитивной и привести к росту цен.

31. Г-н Расс Тейлор («Расс Тейлор глоубал») сообщил о текущей ситуации на рынках пиломатериалов в регионе ЕЭК и отметил благоприятную рыночную конъюнктуру и рекордно высокие цены в первой половине 2021 года. Высокий спрос на пиломатериалы хвойных пород на североамериканском рынке и их ограниченное предложение вызвали рост цен и стимулировали увеличение импорта. Резкое сокращение поставок пиломатериалов хвойных пород из Канады было обусловлено закрытием после 2005 года приблизительно 40 лесопильных заводов. Юг США, напротив, был в Северной Америке единственным субрегионом со значительным потенциалом для роста, при этом за последние несколько лет он расширил свои мощности по выпуску пиломатериалов хвойных пород примерно на 2 млн м<sup>3</sup>. Ожидается, что в ближайшие годы темпы этого роста несколько замедлятся. Цены на пиломатериалы хвойных пород стали расти и в других регионах. В заключение докладчик подчеркнул, что, как он ожидает, спрос в 2022 году будет по-прежнему высоким, при этом цены по сравнению с 2021 годом снизятся, но будут значительно выше прежнего среднего уровня.

32. Комитет и Комиссия:

а) приняли к сведению информацию о тенденциях, наблюдаемых на рынках лесных товаров в регионе, и вкладе сектора в устойчивое развитие;

b) поблагодарили делегатов за их сообщения о последних тенденциях в производстве и торговле лесной продукцией, а также письменные сообщения государств-членов о положении на рынке, которые размещены на сайте <https://unece.org/forests/market-analyses> и отражены в Заявлении совместной сессии о состоянии рынка;

c) поблагодарили секретариат, национальных корреспондентов и группы специалистов за важные данные и информацию, собранные и отраженные в публикациях Секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО, в частности в Ежегодном обзоре рынка лесных товаров за 2020–2021 годы;

d) предложили государствам-членам вновь представить данные в 2022 году и просили совместный секретариат ЕЭК/ФАО выделить больше времени для обсуждения положения на рынке на сессии КЛЛО в 2022 году;

e) утвердили Заявление о состоянии рынка с внесенными в него поправками, содержащееся в Приложении I к настоящему докладу.

**d) Представление отчетности об осуществлении Варшавской комплексной программы работы на 2018–2021 годы и соответствующих решений**

**i) Доклад Совместной рабочей группы по вопросам статистики, экономики и управления в лесном секторе**

33. Председатель Совместной рабочей группы ЕЭК/ФАО по вопросам статистики, экономики и управления в лесном секторе (СРГ) г-жа Магдалена Волицка-Посядала (Польша) представила доклад о работе сорок второй сессии, которая состоялась 22–24 марта 2021 года в Женеве, Швейцария, в смешанном формате.

34. Комиссия и Комитет:

a) приняли к сведению рекомендации СРГ в отношении возможной структуры и количества групп специалистов в рамках новой Комплексной программы работы;

b) приняли к сведению сроки проведения сорок третьей сессии Совместной рабочей группы, запланированной на 1–3 июня 2022 года;

c) поблагодарили Совместную рабочую группу за ее работу и предложили ей продолжить свою деятельность в рамках новой Комплексной программы работы;

d) одобрили доклад и поблагодарили СРГ и группы специалистов за их работу и достигнутые результаты.

**ii) Обзор мероприятий, проведенных в 2021 году, а также мероприятий и публикаций, запланированных на 2022 год**

35. Представитель Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО представил доклад о мероприятиях, проведенных в 2021 году в рамках Варшавской комплексной программы работы (ВКРП), а также предварительный список мероприятий и публикаций, запланированных на 2022 год.

36. Комитет и Комиссия:

a) выразили поддержку продолжению деятельности в рамках Комплексной программы работы при одновременном повышении уровня осведомленности о проводимых мероприятиях и высказали мнение, что процесс только выиграет, если тема развития городского лесного хозяйства станет важной областью работы;

b) подчеркнули важность продвижения в 2022 году работы по подготовке к циклу представления отчетности 2025 года;

с) приветствовали предложение Группы специалистов по бореальным лесам в отношении организации в 2022 году встречи на уровне министров бореальных стран;

д) одобрили доклад о мероприятиях, проведенных в 2021 году, а также предварительный список мероприятий и публикаций, запланированных на 2022 год;

е) поздравили государства-члены и их экспертов, а также совместный секретариат ЕЭК/ФАО с достигнутыми результатами и просили Совместную секцию лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО вновь проинформировать участников на сессии КЛЛО в 2022 году.

## е) Комплексная программа работы на 2022–2025 годы

37. Председатель представила предлагаемую новую Комплексную программу работы, а также мандаты групп специалистов и предложила участникам высказать свои замечания.

38. Комитет и Комиссия приняли к сведению рекомендацию, вынесенную по итогам независимой оценки финансируемого по линии 10-го транша СРООН проекта «Системы учета для целей обеспечения устойчивого лесопользования в странах Кавказа и Центральной Азии».

39. Комитет и Комиссия:

а) рассмотрели проект и внесли изменения в некоторые положения. Пересмотренный проект был принят в качестве Комплексной программы работы (КПР) на 2022–2025 годы (приложение II);

б) утвердили соответствующие круги ведения вспомогательных органов и групп специалистов. В частности, Комитет и Комиссия приняли решение:

i) утвердить на период 2022–2023 годов мандаты следующих групп специалистов (ГС), а также их соответствующие круги ведения, содержащиеся в приложении II к настоящему докладу:

- ГС по бореальным лесам;
- ГС по мониторингу устойчивого лесопользования;
- ГС по устойчивым лесным товарам;
- ГС по коммуникационной деятельности лесного сектора;

ii) утвердить слияние ГС по энергоносителям на базе древесины и ГС по статистике лесных товаров, а также новый круг ведения Группы специалистов ЕЭК/ФАО по статистике лесных товаров и энергоносителей на базе древесины, содержащийся в приложении II;

iii) приостановить в период действия Комплексной программы работы на 2022–2025 годы деятельность ГС по перспективам развития лесного сектора ввиду завершения Перспективного исследования по лесному сектору 2021 года. Работа по распространению результатов перспективного исследования и соответствующая деятельность по наращиванию потенциала будет продолжена Совместной секцией;

iv) прекратить деятельность ГС по «зеленым» рабочим местам;

с) поблагодарили все группы специалистов за их работу и поддержку на протяжении многих лет.



**f) Восстановление лесных ландшафтов**

40. Представитель Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО проинформировал Комитет и Комиссию о текущей и планируемой деятельности по вопросам восстановления лесных ландшафтов в регионе.

41. Делегат от Узбекистана проинформировал Комитет и Комиссию об основных итогах совещания «Достижения — проблемы — стремления для восстановления лесных ландшафтов на Кавказе и в Центральной Азии», состоявшегося 22 ноября 2021 года.

42. Комитет и Комиссия:

а) приняли к сведению информацию Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО о прошлых и текущих мероприятиях по вопросам восстановления лесных ландшафтов;

б) выразили благодарность странам-участникам состоявшегося в 2021 году совещания министров на тему «Восстановление лесных ландшафтов в Восточной и Юго-Восточной Европе» за их обещания восстановить к 2030 году более 4 млн гектаров лесов. Комитет и Комиссия также приветствовали принятие Декларации министров по инициативе ЕКЦА-30 и поздравили правительства Турции и Украины с взятием обязательств восстановить соответственно 2,3 и 1,5 млн гектаров;

в) обсудили направления работы и будущую деятельность в этой области, особенно в контексте Десятилетия Организации Объединенных Наций по восстановлению экосистем (2021–2030 годы), и просили Совместную секцию лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО продолжать оказывать поддержку государствам-членам в их работе по восстановлению лесных ландшафтов.

**g) Вклад лесов и лесной продукции в развитие циркулярной биоэкономики**

43. Представитель Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО представил основные выводы исследования «Концепции циркулярности в лесной отрасли» и список возможных дальнейших мероприятий Совместной секции по вопросу о вкладе лесов и лесной продукции в развитие циркулярной биоэкономики в 2022–2023 годах. Государства-члены рассмотрели актуальность концепций циркулярности применительно к лесной отрасли и подчеркнули важность продолжения работы в этой области.

44. Комитет и Комиссия:

а) выразили благодарность Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО за подготовку исследования и проделанную к настоящему времени работу;

б) предложили ЕЭК и ФАО через Совместную секцию лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО:

i) подготовить серию дополнительных исследований, посвященных применению циркулярных моделей в конкретных отраслях лесной промышленности и их увязке с целями Парижского соглашения и ЦУР, в том числе путем выявления конкретных примеров и передового опыта;

ii) принять во внимание всю производственно-сбытовую цепочку лесного сектора и обратить внимание на циркулярный характер древесины как возобновляемого ресурса и роль устойчивого лесопользования;

iii) изучить существующие определения и представить рекомендации по их адаптации к лесному сектору на рассмотрение государств-членов в ходе следующей совместной сессии, исходя из того, что работа над определением циркулярной биоэкономики в лесном секторе преждевременна;

- iv) проанализировать приоритеты и потребности государств-членов в применении циркулярных моделей в лесном секторе, если необходимо;
- v) обеспечить государствам-членам возможности для обмена знаниями и передовым опытом в области применения принципов циркулярности в лесном секторе.

## **h) Материалы Саммита по продовольственным системам 2021 года и вопросы, представляемые вниманию Комитета и Комиссии**

45. Г-жа Серена Фортуна (ФАО) представила обзорную информацию о Саммите Организации Объединенных Наций по продовольственным системам (23 сентября 2021 года). Она отметила, что стимулирование природосберегающего производства является одним из пяти направлений деятельности, предложенных на Саммите, и что 107 государств-членов поделились своим национальным опытом. Она также отметила, что Координационный центр учреждений ООН, базирующийся в ФАО, будет поддерживать национальные стратегии и многосторонние коалиции, созданные на Саммите. В выступлении была подчеркнута связь между продовольственными системами и обезлесением, при этом было отмечено, что основным фактором этого явления в глобальном масштабе является сельское хозяйство.

46. Делегаты отметили материалы ЕЭК для Саммита по продовольственным системам, которые был посвящен продовольственным лесам и производству продовольствия в городах (примерно 20 % общего объема производства продовольствия) и включали видеофильм «Леса для продовольствия: от “продовольственных пустынь” к продовольственным лесам» (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3Q2GSyBiIE>). Делегаты также отметили работу ЕЭК по вопросам развития городского лесного хозяйства и усилия по включению этой важной темы в процесс Саммита по продовольственным системам. Они призвали Совместную секцию лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО продолжить работу по изучению связей между продовольственными системами и лесами, в том числе по теме прекращения процесса обезлесения, для заострения внимания на синергии между лесами, сельскохозяйственной политикой, городскими/сельскими ландшафтами, а также на роли, которую играют леса, содействуя защите окружающей среды и будучи источником экологических услуг.

47. Комитет и Комиссия:

a) приняли к сведению представленную секретариатом ФАО информацию об итогах Саммита по продовольственным системам 2021 года и их значении для работы Комитета и Комиссии, включая элементы, связанные с работой по вопросам восстановления лесных ландшафтов и основанных на природных принципах решений;

b) просили Совместную секцию лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО продолжить работу в этой области в рамках своего мандата.

## **VII. Вопросы, касающиеся Комитета ЕЭК по лесам и лесной отрасли**

48. Работой сессии руководила г-жа Мария Соколенко (Российская Федерация).

### **a) Вопросы, возникшие после предыдущей сессии**

49. Г-жа Паола Деда, директор Отдела ЕЭК по лесам, землепользованию и жилищному хозяйству, проинформировала делегатов о решениях, которые были приняты ЕЭК на ее шестьдесят девятой сессии, состоявшейся 20–21 апреля 2021 года в Женеве, Швейцария, и которые имеют отношение к новой Комплексной программе работы. Она кратко сообщила о заявлении высокого уровня, в котором Комиссия просит соответствующие секторальные комитеты рассмотреть вопрос о том, как

усилить воздействие соответствующих существующих инструментов ЕЭК, с тем чтобы содействовать применению циркулярных и более ресурсоэффективных подходов, в том числе путем предложения путей выявления, оценки и устранения пробелов в управлении и применения передовой практики. Она предложила делегатам принять во внимание эти решения и изменения, в частности, при планировании будущих мероприятий. Она упомянула об отсутствии международного определения «циркулярной экономики» и о текущей работе, проводимой ЕЭК для устранения этого пробела.

50. Комитет принял представленную информацию к сведению.

**b) Программа работы на 2022 год и рекомендации в отношении ключевых компонентов программы работы на 2023 год**

51. Руководитель Совместной секции лесного хозяйства и лесоматериалов ЕЭК/ФАО представила проект программы работы по подпрограмме «Леса и лесная отрасль» на 2022 год и рекомендации по ключевому компоненту программы работы на 2023 год.

52. Комитет:

a) принял проект программы работы по Подпрограмме «Леса и лесная отрасль» на 2022 год и рекомендовал представить его на утверждение Исполнительному комитету;

b) поддержал направления работы и взаимосвязи между компонентами подпрограммы;

c) просил включить городское лесное хозяйство в раздел стратегии программы работы на 2023 год;

d) изменил и одобрил проект ключевых компонентов своей программы работы на 2023 год и просил включить этот проект и согласованные рекомендации в предлагаемый проект программы работы по подпрограмме «Леса и лесная отрасль» на 2023 год (приложение III);

e) просил секретариат ЕЭК подготовить программу работы на 2023 год, а также проект ключевых компонентов на 2024 год для рассмотрения и одобрения на сессии КЛЛО в 2022 году.

**c) Доклад о проектах Европейской экономической комиссии**

53. Секретариат ЕЭК представил информацию о проектах ЕЭК, финансируемых по линии Счета развития Организации Объединенных Наций и Регулярной программы технического сотрудничества ЕЭК, а также о внебюджетных проектах. Кроме того, секретариат ЕЭК сообщил о проделанной работе по обращению внимания государств-членов на важность мобилизации средств для того, чтобы мероприятия в 2022 году были проведены в том же объеме, что и в 2021 году, а также о достигнутых результатах и полученном эффекте.

54. Секретарь КЛЛО подтвердила, что Совместная секция ЕЭК/ФАО располагает большим портфелем мероприятий, но весьма ограниченным финансированием проектов на будущий год и последующий период для осуществления мероприятий при ограниченных ресурсах регулярного бюджета. Она предложила государствам-членам оказать поддержку секретариату ЕЭК в мобилизации финансовых средств.

55. Директор Отдела ЕЭК по лесам, землепользованию и жилищному хозяйству, отметив мощное присутствие ФАО на местах, подчеркнула важность совместной работы с ФАО для обеспечения наращивания потенциала государств-членов.

56. Комитет:

а) принял к сведению информацию секретариата ЕЭК о проектах ЕЭК и дал высокую оценку достигнутым результатам и полученному эффекту. Он поблагодарил секретариат ЕЭК за информацию и просил его вновь выступить с соответствующим сообщением в 2022 году. Он также призвал страны помочь секретариату ЕЭК в мобилизации финансовых средств;

б) подтвердил важность работы Совместной секции, включая ее уникальные материалы, которые не подготавливает ни одна другая организация. Комитет признал, что в случае отсутствия достаточных средств может возникнуть необходимость в определении приоритетности мероприятий.

**d) Опыт проведения Женским лесным конгрессом мероприятия, посвященного Международному женскому дню**

57. Комитет принял к сведению участие секретариата ЕЭК в посвященном Международному женскому дню мероприятии, которое провел Женский лесной конгресс 8 марта 2021 года, и призвал делегации и секретариат ЕЭК продолжить работу в этой области.

**e) Выборы должностных лиц**

58. Комитет избрал г-жу Марию Соколенко (Российская Федерация) Председателем, а г-жу Марту Гаворскую (Польша), г-жу Морин Уилан (Канада) и г-на Петера Бломбека (Швеция) заместителями Председателя, с тем чтобы они занимали эти посты до конца восьмидесятой сессии.

59. Участники сессии тепло поблагодарили покидающего свой пост заместителя Председателя г-на Гая Робертсона (Соединенные Штаты) за его прекрасную работу на протяжении многих лет, в том числе за его ценный вклад в работу КЛЮ и Бюро, за его поддержку сотрудничества с ЕКЛХ и за его дружескую помощь.

**f) Сроки и место проведения следующей сессии**

60. Председатель проинформировала делегатов о том, что при условии наличия возможностей конференционного обслуживания для восьмидесятой сессии Комитета, которая будет проходить в Женеве, Швейцария, предварительно была зарезервирована неделя с 7 по 11 ноября 2022 года.

**g) Прочие вопросы**

61. Г-жа Паола Деда, директор Отдела ЕЭК по лесам, землепользованию и жилищному хозяйству, напомнила делегатам о процедуре, применяемой ЕЭК для принятия решений на официальных заседаниях с дистанционным участием, в том числе о 72-часовой процедуре «отсутствия возражений», необходимой для того, чтобы решения считались принятыми. Она воспользовалась предоставившей возможностью, с тем чтобы еще раз подтвердить приверженность ЕЭК совместной работе ЕЭК и ФАО, а также сотрудничеству с такими партнерами, как процесс «Леса Европы». Эффективное сотрудничество имеет решающее значение для того, чтобы организации могли действительно решать касающиеся лесов вопросы, которые занимают важное место в международной повестке дня.

**VIII. Вопросы, касающиеся Европейской комиссии ФАО по лесному хозяйству (пункт 5 повестки дня)**

62. Работой сессии руководила г-жа Кристин Фарси (Бельгия).

**а) Последующая деятельность в связи с решениями, принятыми на сороковой сессии Европейской комиссии по лесному хозяйству**

63. Секретариат ФАО кратко рассказал о мерах, которые были приняты в ответ на просьбы, высказанные Комиссией на ее сороковой сессии.

64. Комиссия высоко оценила достигнутый прогресс и просила ФАО продолжить текущую работу, в том числе посвященную лесным инвазивным видам, лесным пожарам и определениям деградации лесов, и информировать государства-члены о соответствующих изменениях.

**б) Информация о деятельности Регионального отделения Продовольственной и сельскохозяйственной организации для Европы и Центральной Азии, касающейся лесного хозяйства**

65. Г-н Ноберт Винклер-Ратоньи, сотрудник по вопросам лесного хозяйства, Региональное отделение ФАО для Европы и Центральной Азии, и г-н Петер Пехацек, сотрудник по вопросам лесного хозяйства, Субрегиональное отделение ФАО для Центральной Азии и Кавказа, представили информацию о деятельности Регионального отделения ФАО для Европы и Центральной Азии в 2020 и 2021 годах.

66. Делегаты приветствовали их выступления и соответствующую справочную информацию и дали высокую оценку работе ФАО в этом регионе.

67. Комиссия призвала своих членов:

а) более эффективно инкорпорировать подходы к землепользованию и комплексные ландшафтные подходы, которые применяют различные учреждения, занимающиеся вопросами сельского, лесного и рыбного хозяйства и животноводства, в соответствующие национальные процессы планирования и укреплять межсекторальное сотрудничество на уровне ландшафтов;

б) учитывать при разработке проектов проблемы нищеты и проводить анализа масштабов нищеты, определяя точки приложения усилий для решения проблемы нищеты, и обеспечивать, чтобы все программы носили инклюзивный характер и чтобы никто не оставался без внимания, что является руководящим принципом ЦУР;

в) содействовать устойчивому производству и потреблению недревесной продукции леса (НДПЛ) путем i) обеспечения сохранения и устойчивого предложения НДПЛ; ii) создания конкурентоспособных, справедливых и устойчивых производственно-сбытовых цепочек; iii) повышения прозрачности и улучшения потока данных и информации о НДПЛ; и iv) создания благоприятных в том, что касается политики, финансирования и инновационной деятельности, условий;

г) вносить финансовые взносы и/или взносы натурой в целях поддержки региональных программ ФАО в области лесного хозяйства, касающихся, в частности, применяемых в лесном хозяйстве региона фитосанитарных стандартов, и работы ФАО по проектам, и обеспечивать дополнительное финансирование для проектов Глобального экологического фонда (ГЭФ) и Зеленого климатического фонда (ЗКФ).

68. Комиссия рекомендовала ФАО:

а) усилить интеграцию подходов к землепользованию и комплексных ландшафтных подходов в проводимую в регионе оперативную работу по вопросам лесного хозяйства, а также в существующие и будущие региональные приоритеты Регионального отделения ФАО для Европы и Центральной Азии (РОЕЦА), принимая при этом во внимание многофункциональную роль лесов;

б) учитывать проблемы нищеты при разработке и подготовке проектов, в частности крупных проектов ГЭФ и ЗКФ, применяя при этом такие подходы, как измерение масштабов нищеты, анализ параметров нищеты, картирование нищеты и разработка основанных на показателях нищеты адресных мер;

с) продолжать оказывать поддержку деятельности в области управления природными ресурсами, включая леса, путем согласования и укрепления национальной политики, рамок и мер финансирования, стимулирования, налогообложения и регулирования, в том числе правил, стандартов и порядка мониторинга лесохозяйственных операций и практики, а также наращивания потенциала в этой области;

д) продолжать оказывать поддержку странам и другим заинтересованным сторонам, включая частный сектор, с целью поощрения скоординированных действий, способствующих устойчивому производству и потреблению НДПЛ, в том числе наращиванию потенциала в области сбора и распространения статистических данных о НДПЛ; и

е) продолжать оказывать поддержку Сети по лесным инвазивным видам для стран Европы и Центральной Азии (REUFIS) и ее деятельности, в частности в организации тематических программ подготовки по новым инвазивным видам, и сотрудничать с другими соответствующими организациями, включая процесс «Леса Европы».

**с) Деятельность Комитета «Сильва Медитерранеа» и Рабочей группы по вопросам управления горными водосборными бассейнами**

69. Г-жа Эми Дюшель, старший сотрудник ФАО по вопросам лесного хозяйства, представила обзорную информацию о мероприятиях, проведенных под эгидой Комитета «Сильва Медитерранеа».

70. Комиссия приветствовала эти мероприятия и рекомендовала ФАО поощрять проведение мероприятий, посвященных молодежному предпринимательству в области биоэкономики в качестве способа преодоления серьезных проблем, стоящих перед лесами Средиземноморья в условиях глобальных изменений.

71. Комиссия предложила странам оказать содействие в подготовке седьмой Недели лесов Средиземноморья, которая состоится в 2022 году в Анталии, Турция, и привлечь к участию в ней делегатов высокого уровня.

72. Г-жа Эми Дюшель также рассказала о деятельности Рабочей группы по вопросам управления горными водосборными бассейнами, в том числе о ее последней инициативе, касающейся защитных функций лесов в условиях изменения климата.

73. Комиссия приветствовала деятельность Рабочей группы и рекомендовала своим членам:

а) продолжать наращивать поддержку деятельности Рабочей группы, в том числе посредством назначения координаторов в состав Рабочей группы;

б) продолжать осуществлять руководство деятельностью Рабочей группы, особенно в связи с приоритетными темами, которые будут рассматриваться Рабочей группой;

в) популяризировать деятельность Рабочей группы и в полном объеме пользоваться ее услугами, например посредством внесения новых пунктов в повестки дня и размещения информационных сообщений на веб-сайте Рабочей группы.

**д) Заседание группы экспертов: Региональный межсекторальный диалог по вопросам лесного и сельского хозяйства**

74. Функции ведущего дискуссии выполнял г-н Кайт Андерсон, советник по вопросам лесной и климатической политики, Федеральное управление по вопросам окружающей среды, Швейцария. Участники дискуссии обсудили многочисленные аспекты кросс-секторальной интеграции лесного хозяйства и агропродовольственных систем.

75. Г-жа Метте Вилки, директор Отдела лесного хозяйства ФАО, представила справочный документ (ECE/TIM/2021/13; FO: EFC/2021/13), в котором рассказывается о связях между мировыми лесами и агропродовольственными системами и усилиях ФАО по отражению этого аспекта посредством налаживания более тесного сотрудничества между ее Комитетом по сельскому хозяйству (КСХ) и Комитетом по лесному хозяйству (КЛХ). Она подчеркнула, что обеспечение баланса интересов этих секторов и наращивание синергии между ними требуют интеграции политики и ландшафтных подходов; укрепления системы управления и законности; экологизации агропродовольственных систем и принятия научно обоснованных решений.

76. Г-н Набиль Ганджи, заместитель Регионального представителя, Региональное отделение ФАО для Европы и Центральной Азии, рассказал об усилиях ФАО по укреплению кросс-секторальной работы посредством проведения мероприятий, направленных на поощрение устойчивого сельского хозяйства и лесопользования, с акцентом на региональную деятельность в Европе.

77. Г-н Теему Сеппя, старший советник, Министерство сельского и лесного хозяйства Финляндии, рассказал о законодательных предложениях Европейской комиссии в отношении новых правил сдерживания процесса обезлесения, вызванного деятельностью стран Европейского союза, а также о Стратегию Европейского союза по лесам на период до 2030 года, которая является одной из ключевых инициатив Европейского «зеленого курса».

78. Г-н Абдувохид Захадуллаев, начальник Управления международных отношений и развития экотуризма, Государственный комитет Республики Узбекистан по лесному хозяйству, рассказал о преимуществах, которые получает сельскохозяйственный сектор от деятельности по лесовосстановлению и облесению в Узбекистане, а также о таких государственных приоритетах, как стандарты сертификации для посадки деревьев, производство и переработка продовольственных культур и лекарственных растений, увеличение плантаций фисташек и миндаля.

79. Г-жа Наталья Высоцкая, заместитель директора по науке, Украинский научно-исследовательский институт лесного хозяйства и агролесомелиорации, рассказала о возможностях, которыми располагает Украина для перехода к устойчивой практике в рамках агропродовольственных систем.

80. Г-жа Оана Неагу, директор по общим вопросам, КОПА-КОГЕКА, подчеркнула необходимость развития более интегрированного агро-лесного сектора, который бы приносил пользу всем и обеспечивал продовольственную безопасность для более чем 500 млн человек по всей Европе. Лицам, принимающим решения, необходимо применять комплексный подход к управлению земельными ресурсами. В этой связи она особо отметила углеродное сельское хозяйство, биоэкономику, подходы, основанные на использовании экосистемных услуг, и содействие развитию предпринимательства среди женщин.

81. Участники дискуссии:

а) отметили необходимость перехода к устойчивым агропродовольственным системам, которые укрепляют продовольственную безопасность и улучшают питание;

б) признали важность обмена национальным опытом и передовой практикой налаживания многосекторального диалога для наращивания синергии между лесным сектором и сельским хозяйством и обеспечения баланса их интересов;

в) подчеркнули необходимость комплексного рассмотрения вопросов продовольственной безопасности, сельского и лесного хозяйства и других аспектов развития сельских районов.

82. Комиссия поблагодарила секретариат и докладчиков за их выступления и подчеркнула важность продолжения работы по кросс-секторальным вопросам лесного и сельского хозяйства.

83. Комиссия предложила государствам-членам рассмотреть, с учетом их конкретных обстоятельств, вопрос о том, какие дальнейшие действия они могут предпринять для:

- a) поощрения развития эффективных, инклюзивных, жизнестойких и устойчивых агропродовольственных систем, которые хорошо сочетаются с устойчивым лесопользованием; и
- b) поощрения принятия мер с целью минимизации масштабов обезлесения, связанного с производством сельскохозяйственных товаров.

84. Комиссия предложила ФАО:

- a) направить Региональной конференции для Европы послание, в котором будет подчеркнута необходимость комплексного рассмотрения вопросов продовольственной безопасности, сельского и лесного хозяйства и других различных аспектов развития сельских районов;
- b) усилить акцент на региональные приоритеты, в частности на региональный приоритет «Устойчивое управление природными ресурсами и сохранение биоразнообразия в условиях изменения климата»;
- c) продолжать заниматься кросс-секторальными вопросами по линии инициатив и политики в области землепользования, направленных на прекращение и обращение вспять процесса сокращения площади лесов и деградации земель, а также поощрение устойчивого ведения сельского хозяйства и лесопользования таким образом, чтобы агропродовольственные системы стали более эффективными, инклюзивными, жизнестойкими и устойчивыми.

## e) Глобальные процессы и инициативы

85. Г-жа Метте Уилки, директор Отдела лесного хозяйства ФАО, представила обновленную информацию о глобальных инициативах и процессах, в том числе об итогах шестнадцатой сессии Форума Организации Объединенных Наций по лесам (ФООНЛ-16), Саммита Организации Объединенных Наций по продовольственным системам, двадцать шестой сессии Конференции сторон Рамочной конвенции Организации Объединенных Наций об изменении климата (КС26 РККООН), Конференции Сторон (КС15) Конвенции о биологическом разнообразии (КБР) и начале Десятилетия Организации Объединенных Наций по восстановлению экосистем. Ключевая публикация ФАО «Состояние лесов мира» будет выпущена в 2022 году под предварительным названием «Леса и “зеленое” восстановление — создание инклюзивной и устойчивой “зеленой” экономики».

86. Комиссия:

- a) рассмотрела содержащуюся в этом документе обновленную информацию о международных событиях и процессах, которая касается лесов, в целях содействия диалогу по вопросам политики и техническим обменам, а также достижению целей, поставленных ее членами, и внесению ими вклада в международные процессы и достижение международных целей;
- b) приветствовала тематическую направленность ключевой публикации ФАО «Состояние лесов мира, 2022 год» под предварительным названием «Лесное хозяйство и “зеленое” восстановление — создание инклюзивной и устойчивой “зеленой” экономики»;
- c) приветствовала усилия ФАО по обеспечению учета касающихся лесов вопросов в рамках подготовки Саммита Организации Объединенных Наций по продовольственным системам и его Предварительного саммита;
- d) приветствовала работу, проводимую по линии инициативы Генерального секретаря Организации Объединенных Наций «Переломить ситуацию с обезлесением»;



- e) приветствовала результаты КС26 РКИКООН, касающиеся лесов;
- f) приветствовала темы Международного дня лесов в 2022 и 2023 годах и постановила учесть их при подготовке соответствующих торжественных мероприятий в регионе.

87. Комиссия просила ФАО:

- a) играть активную роль в продвижении инициативы Генерального секретаря Организации Объединенных Наций «Переломить ситуацию с обезлесением» и связанных с ней мероприятий;
- b) изучить вопрос о том, каким образом можно отслеживать выполнение соответствующих обязательств, взятых на КС26 РКИКООН;
- c) продолжать играть активную роль на посту Председателя Совместного партнерства по лесам и в этом качестве расширить информационно-пропагандистскую деятельность по касающимся лесов вопросам в рамках соответствующих глобальных процессов и инициатив.

**f) Подготовка к тридцать третьей сессии Региональной конференции для Европы, двадцать шестой сессии Комитета по лесному хозяйству и пятнадцатому Всемирному лесохозяйственному конгрессу**

88. Г-жа Малгожата Бушко-Бриггс, секретарь КЛХ, г-н Набил Ганджи, секретарь Региональной конференции ФАО для Европы (ЕКЛХ), и г-н Петер Чока, помощник Генерального секретаря/секретарь XV Всемирного лесохозяйственного конгресса, представили информацию о подготовке к тридцать третьей сессии Региональной конференции ФАО для Европы (РКЕ 33), двадцать шестой сессии Комитета ФАО по лесному хозяйству (КЛХ 26) в 2022 году, о программе ФАО по лесному хозяйству, а также о подготовке к XV Всемирному лесохозяйственному конгрессу (2–6 мая 2022 года, Республика Корея).

89. Комиссия вынесла представленные в приложении IV рекомендации для КЛХ, рекомендации ЕКЛХ для РКЕ и рекомендации ЕКЛХ в отношении программы работы ФАО в области лесного хозяйства с учетом итогов рассмотрения повестки дня текущей сессии.

90. Комиссия приветствовала подготовку к Конгрессу и подчеркнула необходимость доведения его итогов до сведения руководящих органов ФАО для осуществления возможных последующих мер в случае принятия соответствующего решения руководящими органами ФАО, предложила странам оказать поддержку XV Всемирному лесохозяйственному конгрессу путем поощрения и обеспечения активного участия в его работе и призвала страны, которые в состоянии это сделать, оказать финансовую поддержку Конгрессу для обеспечения сбалансированного участия.

91. Комиссия просила ФАО:

- a) продолжать синхронизировать расписание будущих сессий ЕКЛХ, принимая во внимание ее совместные сессии с КЛЛО (ЕЭК), с расписанием сессий Региональной конференции для Европы (РКЕ), с тем чтобы ЕКЛХ могла более своевременно представлять свои материалы РКЕ;
- b) пригласить Председателя ЕКЛХ принять участие в Региональной конференции и активизировать межсессионную деятельность путем улучшения взаимодействия между членами ЕКЛХ и РКЕ, включая делегации, базирующиеся в Риме, с целью укрепления межсекторального диалога по вопросам политики и обеспечения включения важных региональных вопросов, касающихся лесного хозяйства, в темы Региональной конференции;

с) рассмотреть возможность проведения обзора работы ЕКЛХ с целью дальнейшего повышения ее значимости, в частности с акцентом на Повестку дня на период до 2030 года и Стратегическую рамочную программу ФАО на 2022–2031 годы, а также ее эффективности и результативности;

д) довести результаты обсуждения данного пункта до сведения следующей сессии КЛХ для их рассмотрения.

**g) Выборы должностных лиц, сроки и место проведения следующей сессии**

92. В соответствии со своими правилами процедуры и установившейся практикой Комиссия путем аккламации избрала г-жу Любовь Полякову (Украина) Председателем, а г-на Кайта Андерсона (Швейцария), г-на Теему Сеппя (Финляндия) и г-на Абдувохида Захадуллаева (Узбекистан) заместителями Председателя, с тем чтобы они занимали эти посты до конца сорок второй сессии.

93. Комиссия тепло поблагодарила г-жу Кристин Фарси (Бельгия), покидающую свой пост Председателя, за ее прекрасную работу на посту Председателя Комиссии и заместителя Председателя Комитета ФАО по лесному хозяйству. Комиссия также поблагодарила г-на Роба Бусинка (Нидерланды) и г-на Кенана Кылыча (Турция), покидающих свой пост заместителей Председателя, за их отличную работу.

**h) Прочие вопросы**

94. Какие-либо прочие вопросы не рассматривались.

**IX. Утверждение доклада о работе совместной сессии и ее закрытие**

95. Комитет и Комиссия утвердили настоящий доклад о работе сессии.

96. Сопредседатели сессии поблагодарили делегатов за их вклад в подготовку доклада. Секретариат проинформировал участников о том, что окончательно отредактированный доклад будет выпущен в ближайшее время.

97. Совместная сессия была закрыта в четверг, 25 ноября 2021 года, в 12 ч 00 мин.

## Forest Products Market Statement

### I. Overview of forest products markets in 2020 and 2021

1. Highly pessimistic early predictions about the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on forest products markets have mostly proved wrong. Demand for forest product in 2020 evolved unexpectedly better than anticipated by producers and traders. In combination with supply constraints in the forest-based sector, this increased demand resulted in record prices for semifinished wood products, particularly in North America. The widespread stay-at-home orders meant more time and funds available for home improvement projects owing to the lack of travel or any other entertainment possibilities. Do-it-yourself projects started with the lockdowns when people first started to accommodate home working spaces and to expand outside terraces, both for personal and restaurant use, and finally to expand living areas to satisfy demand for more space. Forecasts for 2021 and 2022 are positive, with high demand for wood products being predicted.

2. In addition, a loosened monetary policy across the region led to increased investments in new constructions. COVID-19 related work-at-home orders appear to have led to a migration away from large urban metropolitan areas. The urban outmigration, low interest rates, a limited inventory of houses for sale, pent-up consumer demand, and remodelling were the primary drivers of increased residential construction and renovation activities and sales, particularly in North America.

3. Overall, the consumption of forest products in the ECE region decreased between 2% and 4% in 2020 compared to 2019 and is at its lowest in the past five years, except for wood-based panels (table 1). The outlook for 2021 and 2022 is very positive, with roundwood, sawnwood, panels, paper and pulp production expected to increase between 1 and 4 % in 2021; and more modest growth expected for 2022, with either nearly steady markets or growth up to 3%.<sup>3</sup>

4. Wood products for construction, refurbishment and remodelling started to see record price hikes in the last quarter of 2020 all the way into and beyond the second quarter of 2021. These higher prices likely reflect multiple factors, including not only demand but also supply disruptions and constraints, such as curtailed production, trade restrictions and lack of labour force often directly linked to lock down and sanitary measures to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

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<sup>3</sup> Regional and country forecasts for 2021-2022 are available at <https://unece.org/forests/coffi-market-forecasts>.

Table 1  
**Apparent consumption of industrial roundwood, sawnwood, wood-based panels and paper and paperboard in ECE region, 2016-2020**

	<i>Thousand</i>	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	<i>Change (volume) 2019-2020</i>	<i>Change (%) 2019-2020</i>	<i>Change (%) 2016-2020</i>
<b>Industrial roundwood</b>									
Europe	m <sup>3</sup>	410,172	409,358	440,141	431,209	420,245	-10,964	-2.5	2.5
EECCA	m <sup>3</sup>	194,721	198,419	226,336	213,290	211,911	-1,379	-0.6	8.8
North America	m <sup>3</sup>	516,384	513,350	534,285	517,736	491,767	-25,969	-5.0	-4.8
ECE region	m <sup>3</sup>	1,121,277	1,121,127	1,200,762	1,162,236	1,123,923	-38,312	-3.3	0.2
<b>Sawnwood</b>									
Europe	m <sup>3</sup>	107,552	110,809	113,159	110,628	109,523	-1,105	-1.0	1.8
EECCA	m <sup>3</sup>	16,689	17,792	16,746	17,933	16,777	-1,156	-6.4	0.5
North America	m <sup>3</sup>	117,570	118,392	120,097	117,076	114,726	-2,350	-2.0	-2.4
ECE region	m <sup>3</sup>	241,811	246,992	250,001	245,637	241,026	-4,611	-1.9	-0.3
<b>Wood-based panels</b>									
Europe	m <sup>3</sup>	71,704	74,210	75,854	74,961	71,528	-3,432	-4.6	-0.2
EECCA	m <sup>3</sup>	16,687	18,351	21,204	19,364	18,204	-1,160	-6.0	9.1
North America	m <sup>3</sup>	54,270	56,603	54,771	55,249	53,421	-1,827	-3.3	-1.6
ECE region	m <sup>3</sup>	142,662	149,165	151,829	149,573	143,154	-6,420	-4.3	0.3
<b>Paper and paperboard</b>									
Europe	m.t.	88,407	89,959	89,555	86,296	82,741	-3,554	-4.1	-6.4
EECCA	m.t.	9,561	9,507	10,007	10,103	9,998	-105	-1.0	4.6
North America	m.t.	75,602	75,037	74,055	71,520	68,587	-2,933	-4.1	-9.3
ECE region	m.t.	173,571	174,503	173,617	167,919	161,326	-6,593	-3.9	-7.1

*Notes:* data as of July 2021; m<sup>3</sup>: cubic metres; m.t.: metric tonnes (1,000 kg); Sawnwood does not include sleepers in 2016.  
*Sources:* FAOSTAT, 2021; ECE/FAO, 2021.

## A. Economic developments with implications for the forest sector

5. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a large contraction in economic activity across the ECE region in 2020, albeit with differences at national levels owing to the diverse economic structures and policy responses. Services suffered the most, because of mobility restrictions and changes in consumer behaviour, while the industrial sector fared comparatively better. Output bounced back strongly in the third quarter of 2020, as constraints were eased and consumers adjusted to remote work. Although new virus outbreaks required the re-introduction of restrictions in some countries, the negative impact was more limited than during the first wave; economies proved increasingly able to adapt to these limitations.

6. The external environment also improved, as global merchandise trade rose to exceed pre-pandemic levels in late 2020. In the United States, a large fiscal stimulus and the acceleration of the vaccination campaign provided a significant impetus to growth in early 2021. In the European Union (EU), after a sharp output decline, the recovery was more tentative, reflecting the continued disruptions from renewed virus outbreaks. The constraining effect of restrictions hit the European services sectors, in particular tourism and hospitality, which are significant economic sectors in many countries in the region. In the Russian Federation, output decline was limited given the absence of generalized lockdown measures.

7. The overall contraction of economic activity had varying impacts on labour markets. In the United States, unemployment soared while the participation rate plummeted. These trends were reversed in the last quarter of 2020, as the unemployment rate more than halved from its recent peak. However, as of June 2021, the reduction of employment remains significant. In the EU, labour retention schemes and wage subsidies managed to mitigate, to

a large extent, the effects of the crisis on unemployment. Overall, the pandemic disrupted cross-border labour flows in all regions. This also resulted in depressed incomes in countries where remittances from migrant labour flows are significant.

8. Housing market price dynamics have been generally positive throughout the region, with a marked acceleration of price growth in the United States in the second half of the year, supported by eased access to finance. In the EU, house price increases were significant in many countries, but remained unchanged in others. In the Russian Federation, expansion of housing loans led to increased demand, which together with higher costs for construction materials in turn triggered house prices to increase throughout 2020 and 2021.

9. Savings rates increased sharply during the first wave of infection and subsequent lockdowns. The recovery of consumption, which was negatively affected by the reintroduction of restrictions, generally trailed behind investment. Savings rates remained elevated and consumer confidence was below pre-pandemic levels in early 2021. As the pace of vaccination advances and pandemic related constraints are removed, consumer demand is expected to drive the strong output expansion that is anticipated for 2021 in most countries in the region.

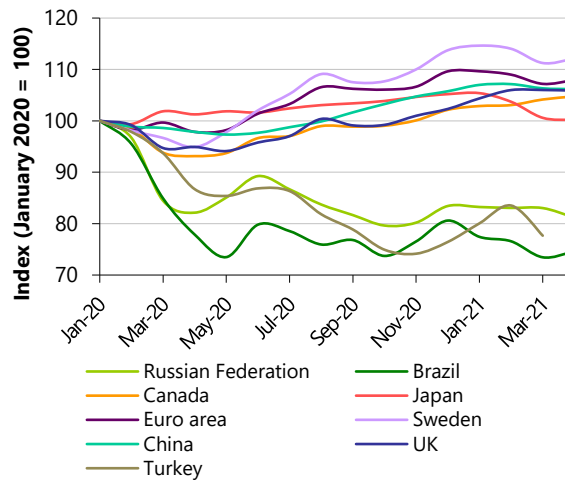
10. Policy support, both fiscal and monetary, has been substantial across the region, albeit with significant differences. In the United States, initial assistance, which included direct payments to families and loans to small business, led to an increasingly expansive fiscal policy stance. New initiatives have boosted household incomes and are expected to significantly increase demand, including through higher infrastructure spending, in the period ahead. In the EU, fiscal support was initially comparatively lower, although spending under the Recovery and Resiliency Facility, which is anticipated to start in late 2021, will provide a substantial fiscal impetus in the coming years.

11. Monetary policy was loosened across the region. The United States Federal Reserve cut its target for the federal funds rate by 1.5 percentage points in 2020, bringing the lower bound to zero. Actions included resumed quantitative easing, resulting in rapid growth of its balance sheet. Forward guidance indicated that rates would remain low until inflation is on track to moderately exceed 2 per cent for some time. In the Euro area, the European Central Bank launched a new asset purchase programme and reaffirmed its commitment to maintain very favourable financing conditions well beyond the end of the pandemic. By contrast, in some economies of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA), the monetary policy loosening that marked the initial stages of the crisis has started to be reversed already in the first half of 2021.

12. Consumer price growth slowed down through 2020, leading to temporary deflation in the euro area. However, strong inflationary pressure re-emerged, resulting from a combination of cost pressures driven by higher commodity prices, supply disruptions and increasing demand. In some EECCA countries, the depreciation of national currencies has added to inflationary pressures. Spare capacity suggests that the acceleration of the inflation may be a transitory phenomenon, boosted by base effects and temporary supply bottlenecks. However, while monetary authorities in more advanced countries continue to underline their commitment to expansionary policies, concerns about possible future inflation dynamics have started to be reflected in their financial markets.

13. The United States dollar weakened against the euro through 2020. These movements, which put an end to the trend observed in the last two years, can be explained by narrowing interest rate differentials resulting from the expansive United States monetary policy and improved market sentiments regarding Europe's economic performance. The dollar has weakened since the second quarter of 2020 (graph 1) with increased volatility in 2021.

Graph 1  
Major currencies used to trade forest products indexed against the United States dollar, January 2020–June 2021



Note: A diminishing index value indicates a weakening of the currency value against the United States dollar; an increasing index value indicates a strengthening of the currency value against the dollar.  
Source: International Monetary Fund (IMF Data), 2021.

14. In 2021, the economic outlook has brightened considerably, and rapid recovery and growth can be expected in the region. Forecasts for both 2021 and 2022 are quite positive. The gradual ease of restrictions in all sectors paired with more social interaction and an improving positive outlook is expected to release pent up consumer demand. Fiscal and monetary policies are likely to continue to support for some time the economic activity in most countries in the region. This said, some concerns still remain: the pace of vaccination is still slow in some countries, which limits the generalized elimination of restrictions and facilitates the emergence of new virus mutations. As the economic recovery advances, exiting from ultra-loose fiscal and monetary policies may become challenging, including timing, the ability of some businesses to adapt to new conditions, and the impact on financial markets. While the general outlook for the next years is positive, the pandemic has exposed existing economic fragilities across the region with ensuing recovery expected to be uneven across the region.

## B. Policy and regulatory developments affecting the forest products sector

15. While the timber industry of the EECCA subregion has not been among the most affected sectors of the economy, it encountered significant reductions in the production, trade and consumption of wood products. The furniture industry and the production of wood-based panels have been the most affected segments of the forest sector in the region.

16. Based on a defined set of criteria, some countries developed and implemented distinct actions and policies. For example, the Government of the Russian Federation adopted measures to support important enterprises by providing them targeted aid. Under the scheme, 35 timber enterprises and 18 furniture companies were considered eligible for state aid, including: tax and insurance contribution deferrals, state guarantees for loans as well as subsidies for production operations such as:

- Soft loans for working capital financing and saving jobs. The interest rate on these loans is subsidized and does not exceed 5%. About 400 billion rubles (\$5.5 billion) are estimated to have been allocated for this programme;
- A six-month moratorium on bankruptcy;
- 1-year prolongation of the priority projects implementation;
- Deferred or instalment payments for taxes due in 2020;

- Some of the enterprises from the list which are subject to excessive risks can also apply for government guarantees and subsidies to cover business losses.

Authorities of some regions of the Russian Federation provided forestry enterprises involved in the timber industry with an option to defer the payment for forest use. Other significant measures adopted regionally for the timber industry included support to forest tenure holders with forest regeneration and the provision of materials for road rehabilitation. In some regions, the adopted measures included the requirement to use only locally produced wood for construction. As a result, the volumes of production and export increased considerably in the first 6 months of 2021. In terms of physical volumes compared to the same period of 2020, plywood and panel exports were +11-27% for different products, pellets +16%, paper and carton +7%, sawnwood +2%. In rubles, the volumes of production in the forest sector increased by 44%, exports by 38 %. That surplus was much higher than additional revenue caused by the national currency depreciation.

17. The Government of Ukraine adopted a range of financial and economic aid measures to support the citizens and businesses, including businesses in wood processing, which were impacted by COVID-19 in 2020. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine gradually introduced initiatives aimed at supporting small and medium enterprises in April and May of 2020 and modified existing support programs.

18. To respond to the economic and health crises caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU topped up its adopted budget for the years 2021-2027 and adopted a temporary recovery instrument called the “Next Generation EU” in May 2020. This instrument provides 750 billion € of EU funding to protect lives and livelihoods, to repair the EU Single Market, and to build a lasting and prosperous recovery. Use of the funds at the national level is earmarked for eligible activities, including *inter alia* affordable public housing and building renovation, often linked to energy efficiency improvements and/or the use of renewable energy sources such as woody biomass. In conjunction with the EU’s Renovation Wave strategy, the markets for various forest products used for construction and renovation are expected to develop strongly in the coming years.

19. The pandemic highlighted the complexity, fragility, and inter-dependence of global value chains, and demonstrated the pivotal role played in the EU by a functional European Single Market with global links. This led the EU to update the objectives of its industrial strategy, which supports the twin goals of green and digital transitions to a low-carbon, net-zero economy by 2030. The strategy aims to build a stronger EU Single Market with reduced supply dependencies, strengthened support for SMEs and start-ups, and efforts to accelerate the twin green and digital transitions.

20. In addition, the EU adopted the new EU Forest Strategy for 2030 with six main objectives:

- Support the socioeconomic functions of forests for thriving rural areas and boosting the forest-based bioeconomy within sustainability boundaries;
- Protect, restore, and enlarge the EU’s forests to combat climate change, reverse biodiversity loss, and ensure resilience in multifunctional forest ecosystems;
- Conduct strategic forest monitoring, reporting, and data collection;
- Strengthen the research and innovation strategy to improve our knowledge of forests;
- Build an inclusive and coherent EU forest governance framework;
- Step up the implementation and enforcement of existing EU laws.

21. This strategy aims to help attain the EU’s biodiversity objectives as well as the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets in its revised Climate Policy, which could influence the wood supply in the future. This includes a stepped-up target of 55% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2030 (from 1990), including increased use of biofuels. The Strategy also highlights an important role of wood products in helping turn the construction sector from a source of greenhouse gas emissions into a carbon sink. This is underlined in many national programmes, e.g. German “Charter for Wood 2.0”. The Strategy should also contribute to attaining the SDGs, in particular Goal 15.

22. In North America, the Softwood Lumber Agreement between Canada and the United States expired on 12 October 2015. In place since 2006, this agreement had addressed tariffs on lumber traded between the two countries as part of a decades-long trade dispute. At the time of this writing, the United States Department of Commerce is in the process of making its final determination for the second administrative review regarding specific countervailing and antidumping duties for various Canadian companies, with release expected in late November 2021.

23. On 1 July 2020, the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement came into effect and replaced the North American Free Trade Agreement, which expired on 30 June 2020. Discussions about the softwood trade disputes also continue under Chapter 10 of this new agreement.

24. The United States Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service announced the implementation of phase 6 of the Lacey Act enforcement schedule, scheduled to go into effect on 1 October 2020. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service ensures compliance with the declaration requirement. Products needing declarations have been phased in since enforcement began in 2009. The additional products proposed to be covered by the phase-6 enforcement schedule included certain essential oils (e.g. cedarwood and sandalwood), wood cases and trunks, oriented strandboard, boxes, crates, pallets and musical instruments (e.g. clarinets and drums). In August 2020, the Department of Agriculture announced a decision to delay implementation of phase 6 of the Lacey Act enforcement schedule due to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **C. Forest certification**

25. The area of certified forests worldwide increased by 0.8% (3.5 million ha) between mid-2019 and mid-2020, to 435.5 million ha, an all-time high. The two major schemes, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, reported a combined total of 530 million ha of certified forest, as of mid-2020. However, after accounting for double certification (i.e. forest areas certified by both certification bodies), this dropped to 435.5 million ha. Certified area continues to expand, for example Montenegro will introduce FSC certification in the next two years.

## **II. Summary of regional and subregional markets for key forest products**

### **A. Wood raw materials**

26. The total timber harvest in the ECE region fell by 3.4% in 2020 to 1.40 billion m<sup>3</sup>, split between industrial roundwood (82%) and wood fuel (18%). The most significant decline from 2019 occurred in North America, while the change in the EECCA subregion was minimal.

27. The consumption of industrial roundwood in 2020 declined for the second consecutive year to 1.12 billion m<sup>3</sup>. Non-coniferous industrial roundwood consumption decreased by 10% year-over-year to 229 million m<sup>3</sup>, the lowest level since 2009. The reduction in the usage of coniferous industrial roundwood was more modest, down only 1.3% to 895 million m<sup>3</sup>.

28. The ECE region is a major exporter of industrial roundwood. In 2020, the region accounted for 78% of globally traded coniferous industrial roundwood and 58% of non-coniferous industrial roundwood. Damaged timber losses have been enormous – in Germany alone from 2018-2020 the damage due to drought and bark beetle infestation accounted for 177 million m<sup>3</sup> and continues at a high level of 42.7 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2021. Total exports reached 93 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2020, the highest level in 13 years. The trends over the past five years have been upward in the European subregion (+53%), while downward in the EECCA (-33%) and North American subregions (-34%). The largest industrial roundwood exporters in the ECE region were the Czech Republic, the Russian Federation, Germany, the United States, Poland,



and Norway (in descending order). The temporary supply of coniferous industrial roundwood from Central Europe is expected to decline, due to decreasing availability of salvaged wood.

29. European harvests of industrial roundwood fell by 2% year-over-year in 2020 to 426 million m<sup>3</sup>. The decline followed eight years of consecutive increases. The most significant decreases occurred in Finland, Poland, Austria, and Slovakia, predominantly because of increased log imports from neighbouring countries with ample supplies of insect-and-storm-damaged timber. Czech Republic became the world's second-largest exporter of industrial roundwood in 2020, exporting 15.5 million m<sup>3</sup> of coniferous industrial roundwood. The United States rose to fifth position. Germany and the Czech Republic plan to reduce harvesting of coniferous industrial roundwood in 2020-2022 by 15% (Germany) and by 27% (Czech Republic) due to large amounts of damaged timber harvested in earlier years. Poland harvested 13% less wood in 2020 than in 2018. Over the past 10 years, Turkey doubled its annual domestic production of industrial roundwood, reaching 25 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2020.

30. Total industrial roundwood exports from the Russian Federation increased slightly in 2020, following a downward trend for over 10 years. However, only coniferous industrial roundwood exports declined in the past decade. Non-coniferous industrial roundwood shipments have steadily increased, reaching 8.1 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2020, up by 80% from 2010. The most significant increases have been for non-coniferous sawlogs to China and pulplogs to pulpmills in Finland. It is expected that exports of coniferous logs will fall significantly, should the Russian Federation implement the announced log export ban.

31. Strong sawnwood markets in Europe and North America moved sawlog prices upward in 2020 and early 2021, with the most significant increases in Eastern and Central Europe, Western Canada, and the United States.

32. Removals of industrial roundwood in the United States amounted to 370 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2020, the lowest level in six years, while Canadian removals were 130 million m<sup>3</sup>, an 11-year low. The decline in timber harvests was predominantly driven by the COVID pandemic, which resulted in labour shortages throughout the entire supply chain.

33. China, the world's largest importer of logs, has relied on the Russian Federation for a significant volume of wood raw material for its forest industry for a long time. However, this might possibly change in 2022 if the Russian Federation really implements a currently proposed ban on log exports, particularly softwood species. The ban is likely to have a far-reaching impact on the global trade flow of industrial roundwood and sawnwood, with China sourcing more sawlogs from Oceania, Europe, and the United States.

34. Data supplied by ECE member States (all figures are year-on-year) indicate that removals of industrial roundwood will increase in the ECE region by 1.4% in 2021 and decrease by 0.5% in 2022. Subregionally, the forecast is for European removals to increase by 1.6% in 2021 and to decrease by 0.7% in 2022; EECCA removals to increase by 1.6% in 2021 and shrink by 3.1% in 2022; and North American removals to increase by 1.2% in 2021 and by 0.6% in 2022.

## **B. Sawnwood**

35. The three ECE subregions recorded mixed results in the consumption of sawn softwood in 2020 due to the global pandemic: modest declines were recorded in Europe (-0.4%) and EECCA (-5.1%) and were offset by a gain in North America (+3.5%). Overall, the consumption of sawn softwood increased by 1% reaching 210.7 million m<sup>3</sup>. The production of sawn softwood was also mixed: Europe recorded a gain (+1.6%); North America increased by 0.8%; while it contracted in the EECCA (-5.0%).

36. In Europe, lower demand and higher production meant sawn softwood exports increased in volume (+3.9%) as surplus supplies of low-cost spruce-bark beetle timber allowed Central Europe as well as Scandinavia to further expand output and exports. The volume of European sawn softwood exports increased to 58.9 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2020, and average export prices per m<sup>3</sup> increased slightly by 0.8%. Sawnwood capacities are being increased for the near-term future.

37. The EECCA subregion produced 47.3 million m<sup>3</sup> of sawn softwood in 2020 (-5.0% over 2019). EECCA sawn softwood exports declined to 36.8 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2020 (-4.4%).

38. North American sawn softwood output was 101.6 million m<sup>3</sup> in 2020 (0.8% over 2019). Exports dropped significantly (-5.2%) to 28.2 million m<sup>3</sup>, with the United States recording a drop of 15.2% (-350,000 m<sup>3</sup>) while Canada was lower by 4.3% (-1.2 million m<sup>3</sup>). North America imports increased to 26.3 million m<sup>3</sup> (4.3%). The sawn softwood production capacities in the United States have been increasing by about 2 million m<sup>3</sup> in the past few years. This is expected to continue at a slightly lower pace in the coming years. Demand is expected to outpace capacity increases, creating scope for further exports to the United States. Prices are declining from their peaks but are expected to stabilize at a higher level than in the past.

39. Sawn hardwood consumption and production in the ECE region was severely affected by the global pandemic in 2020.

40. The ECE region is a net exporter of sawn hardwood, with only the European subregion exporting less than they import. In 2020, the apparent consumption went down throughout all three subregions, by 4.8% in Europe, 17.0% in the EECCA and 27.7% in North America.

41. European hardwood lumber production fell by 2.9% in 2020, to 13.5 million m<sup>3</sup>, with consumption declining to 13.6 million m<sup>3</sup>. In the EECCA, sawn hardwood production decreased by 15.9%, to 3.6 million m<sup>3</sup>, and consumption to 1.7 million m<sup>3</sup>. North American sawn hardwood consumption decreased in 2020 to 15.0 million m<sup>3</sup>, and production fell to 17.7 million m<sup>3</sup> (-24.7%).

42. China continued to dominate imports of temperate and tropical sawnwood in 2020, with a total volume of 33.9 million m<sup>3</sup> (valued at \$7.6 billion). ECE region countries dominated global exports of sawnwood, led by Canada and the Russian Federation.

43. Data supplied by ECE member States (all figures are year-on-year) indicate that the production of sawnwood will increase in the ECE region by 4.2% in 2021 and by 2.3% in 2022. Subregionally, the forecast is for Europe to increase by 4.6% in 2021 and by 1.1% in 2022; the EECCA to increase by 3.0% in 2021 and by 5.1% in 2022; and North America to grow by 4.2% in 2021 and by 2.5% in 2022.

### C. Wood-based panels<sup>4</sup>

44. The wood-based panels sector continued to decline in all three subregions in 2020. Panel production decreased by 3.3% overall and apparent consumption was down by 4.3%, mainly due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the region's economies. The consumption of structural panels declined by 2.2%, while the consumption of non-structural panels fell by 5.6%.

45. Total wood-based panel production in Europe registered a better performance than real GDP in 2020, driven by a relatively stable construction sector and a strong recovery in furniture production in the second half of the year. Higher output of oriented strandboard (+3.5%) partly offset drops in the production of other panel types. The outlook for 2021 is upbeat, with a growth of 5.8% forecast in Europe for wood-based panels production, given political support for increasing the use of wood in construction embodied in initiatives such as the EU Green Deal, the EU Renovation Wave and the New Bauhaus of the European Union. Poland has particularly strong growth prospects for 2022 production with plywood 10% over 2020, OSB 18% and fibreboard +6%.

46. The apparent consumption of wood-based panels decreased by 6.1% in EECCA in 2020, to 19.2 million m<sup>3</sup>. Production decreased by 3.1% in 2020, to 23.5 million m<sup>3</sup>. Significant increases in production are foreseen for 2021 and 2022.

47. In North America, the apparent consumption of wood-based panels declined by 3.3% in 2020, despite a recovery in housing starts and the remodelling activities in the United

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<sup>4</sup> Veneer is not included under panels and is not mentioned here.

States. Production capacity increased slightly (by 0.3%) in the North American structural panel industry in 2020, although capacity utilization decreased from 75.3% in 2019 to 74.5% in 2020. Pandemic-related impacts on supply chains, coupled with a strong demand, caused the prices for structural panels to soar to record levels.

48. Imports of tropical plywood by Japan, the world's largest importer, contracted in volume by 29% in 2020, while the share of domestic plywood increased to 67% of total plywood consumption. In contrast to other major exporters (China, Indonesia and Malaysia), Viet Nam's volume of tropical plywood exports rose significantly (by 32%) in 2020, in response to growth in demand in the United States, the major market.

49. Data supplied by ECE member States (all figures are year-on-year) indicate that the production of wood-based panels in the ECE region will increase by 3.7% in 2021 and by 2.9% in 2022. Subregionally, the forecast is for production to grow in Europe by 3.0% in 2021 and by 1.8% in 2022; expand in the EECCA by 12% in 2021 and by 7.2% in 2022; and increase in North America by 3.0% in 2021 and by 1.3% in 2022.

#### **D. Paper, paperboard and woodpulp**

50. The global pulp, paper and paperboard industry experienced general weakness in 2020 owing to fallouts from the COVID-19 pandemic. The production of graphic paper declined significantly in 2020 because of papermill closures and reduced consumption, as a result of increased electronic communication. In contrast, growth continued in the consumption of sanitary and household papers, certain paperboard products and specialty papers, and pulps, including fluff and dissolving pulp.

51. Owing to decreased demand, prices for printing and writing papers and newsprint remained weak in the EECCA subregion in 2020. Prices were relatively stable for paperboard and tissue but increased marginally for market pulp due to closures and very low levels of incremental capacity. A significant rebound in market-pulp prices began in early 2021, aided by stronger demand out of China. It flattened out later in the year.

52. The production of graphic papers declined by 16.3% in Europe in 2020 and by 24.0% in North America but rose by 4.0% in the EECCA. Apparent consumption also fell in Europe (by 2.7%) and North America (by 25.6%) but increased in the EECCA (by 14.8%), in part due to closures of paper mills in Western Europe.

53. The production of packaging materials rose throughout the ECE region in 2020: it increased in Europe by 1.2%, in the EECCA by 4.1% and in North America by 0.6%. The apparent consumption of packaging material fell in Europe by 0.7% and in the EECCA by 5.4%, but it increased in North America by 0.3%.

54. Export and import unit values fell for all graphic grades throughout the ECE region in 2020. Prices for market pulp, graphic and specialty papers and packaging materials rose because of a stronger demand in 2021, when economies re-opened again after the downturn in global activity caused by the pandemic.

55. The COVID-19 measures also had a significant impact on the flow of recovered paper and paperboard throughout the ECE region in 2020. The collection of recovered paper was impeded in many countries owing to health measures or lack of manpower linked to the pandemic. The flow of paper changed as well from office buildings to private households and communal collection centres. The collection of wastepaper was temporarily suspended, and its cross-border transportation temporarily disrupted.

56. Countries in the ECE generally depend heavily on exporting recovered paper and paperboard to China. During the pandemic, however, China imported only 6.9 million tonnes of recovered paper in 2020, a drop of 33.5% (3.5 million tonnes) compared with 2019. China implemented a complete import ban on recovered paper from any country across all grades in January 2021. This has significant impacts on global flows of recovered paper. On the other hand, China imported 2.5 million tonnes of recycled pulp (replacing recovered paper) in 2020, three times as much as in 2019.

57. Data supplied by ECE member States (all amounts are year-on-year) indicate that the production of paper and paperboard will increase by 3.8% in the ECE region in 2021 and 1.3% in 2022. Subregionally, the forecast is that paper and paperboard production will increase in Europe by 3.9% in 2021 and by 0.3% in 2022; increase in the EECCA by 7.0% in 2021 and by 5.0% in 2022; and increase in North America by 3.4% in 2021 and 1.8% in 2022. Woodpulp production is forecast to increase by 1.1% in 2021 and decline by 0.3% in 2022 in the ECE region. Subregionally, woodpulp production is forecast to grow in Europe by 2.7% in 2021 and expand slightly by 0.1% in 2022; increase in EECCA by 1.0% in 2021 and 2.0% in 2022; and in North America increase by 0.2% in 2021 and decline by 0.7% in 2022.

## **E. Wood energy**

58. Wood energy plays a significant role in the renewable-energy portfolios across the ECE region. For example, 50% of households in Slovenia use wood fuels for heating. According to official reports, woodfuel production and consumption decreased slightly (by about 14.1 million m<sup>3</sup>) in the region in 2020, to 246 million m<sup>3</sup>. Many member States in the European subregion adopted additional policies that favour the use of wood for heat and power generation in 2021.

59. Much of the recent new demand for wood energy in the ECE region has been triggered by commercial electricity production; future growth might focus on industrial and residential heating and combined heat and power.

60. The consumption of wood pellets is increasing steadily, both for industrial applications (electricity and heat production) and in the residential sector for heating. The ECE region is the global centre for the production and consumption of wood pellets, accounting for 80% of world production and 90% of global exports.

61. A total of 39.4 million tonnes of wood pellets was produced in the ECE region in 2020, an increase of 4.2% over 2019. Among the subregions, Europe was the largest consumer and leading exporter in 2020. Wood-pellet production in the Russian Federation grew by 6.5%, year-on-year.

62. Worldwide production of ENplus-certified pellets exceeded 12 million tonnes in 2020 and is expected to surpass 14 million tonnes in 2021. Germany produced the largest volume of certified wood pellets in 2020 in the world, at more than 3 million tonnes.

63. Policies promoting renewable energies and economic recovery in the wake and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic could spur additional growth in wood-energy demand and production. The evolution of public policy, including sustainable supply and the efficient conversion of biomass into renewable energy, continues to shape wood-energy systems, as illustrated by recent government actions in the Netherlands, Sweden and the United States.

64. Outside the ECE region, Viet Nam has become a major producer of wood pellets. Its exports of 3.1 million tonnes of wood pellets in 2020 made it the world's second-largest wood-pellet exporter, after the United States. The Republic of Korea and Japan are now the world's third- and fourth-largest wood pellet importers, respectively, at 3 million and 2 million tonnes in 2020.

65. Data supplied by ECE member States (all figures are year-on-year) indicate that the production of wood pellets in the ECE region will increase by 6.1% in 2021 and by 4.7% in 2022. Subregionally, the forecast is for wood-pellet production to grow in Europe by 4.7% in 2021 and by 4.2% in 2022; to increase in the EECCA by 15% in 2021 and again in 2022; and to increase in North America by 6.1% in 2021 and by 2.7% in 2022.

## **F. Value-added wood products**

66. Value-added wood products are primary wood products that have been further processed into secondary products such as furniture, builders' joinery, and carpentry (BJC), profiled wood, and engineered wood products (EWPs). Demand is linked to drivers such as

economic growth, housing and construction, fashion and design, and demographics. Efforts to increase wood use in construction are bearing fruit, for example in Germany the share of wooden single and two-family homes has risen from 6% to 21% in 30 years.

67. BJC comprises a wide array of wood products, including wooden windows and doors; pre-assembled wooden flooring; posts and beams; shakes and shingles; and EWPs, which include I-beams (also called I-joists); finger-jointed sawnwood; glulam (sawnwood glued into beams); laminated veneer lumber (LVL); and mass timber panels, including cross-laminated timber (CLT). Profiled wood is wood shaped by machines, such as mouldings, tongue-and-groove, and lap siding.

68. The furniture sector had a challenging year in 2020, with the pandemic hitting both demand and supply. Worldwide, the consumption of furniture contracted by 10% (\$40 billion) in 2020, to about \$400 billion. Nevertheless, growth in furniture production and trade is expected to resume in 2021, with pre-pandemic import levels expected to be attained in 2022. One segment declined considerably, office-furniture. With stay-at-home orders, demand was not only reduced during the pandemic but increased remote work could become a permanent post-pandemic feature. This might then lead to significant decreases in office furniture demand and office furniture configurations. It can be expected that the impact on office spaces and demand for office furniture will unfold in three phases: the adoption of urgent solutions during the emergency situation; medium-term solutions; and long-term changes in office and public spaces. This will likely lead to a reduction in the total required office space as more people will work remotely at least part of the time.

69. Forecasts in early 2020 were particularly negative for the BJC and profiled-wood segments. Markets for BJC and profiled wood trade are highly concentrated. Imports of profiled wood by the top five importing countries (United States, Germany, France, United Kingdom and Japan) account for more than half of the global trade and markets weakened significantly in France and Japan.

70. Cross-laminated timber (CLT) production and demand continued to grow. Producers in Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy and Switzerland are reported to have produced slightly more than 1 million m<sup>3</sup> of CLT in 2020, an increase of 15% over 2019. The sector in these countries is expected to continue growing in 2021 at a similar or even slightly higher rate. Production in these countries accounts for more than 70% of the produced volume of CLT, and a further expansion of capacities (+650,000 m<sup>3</sup>) in the five aforementioned countries is expected in 2021 and 2022. In addition to the continued strong role in CLT production in these five countries, large new lines will begin operation in other parts of Europe. Currently, it is reported that capacities of 227,000 m<sup>3</sup> in Scandinavia are expected to nearly double to reach 462,000 m<sup>3</sup> in 2022. Two CLT plants are also built or are in the testing phase in the Russian Federation, and in Ukraine.

71. A wide variety of products categorized as mass timber products is in production in North America. The current practical capacity of these plants is 910,000 m<sup>3</sup>, but the majority (slightly over half) of this production continues to be aimed at industrial matting (platforms for equipment to work on in muddy or environmentally sensitive areas). Thus, the practical capacity of mass timber panels for use in buildings in North America is estimated to have reached half a million m<sup>3</sup> by the end of 2020. A total of 14 plants were producing mass timber panels in North America, with a further three under construction and three more announced.

72. The availability of data on trade of EWP is expected to significantly improve in 2022 due to the introduction of new trade classifications Glulam (4418.81), CLT (4418.82) and I-beams (4418.83) in the global commodities classification system of the World Customs Organization in 2022. A number of efforts to use wood for other value-added purposes are taking place, e.g. textiles from pulp without chemicals and lignin for bio-batteries.

## **Integrated Programme of Work 2022-2025**

### **I. Programme of Work**

1. The oversight responsibility for the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the European Forestry Commission remains with the members of the Committee and the Commission.
2. The implementation and coordination responsibilities for the IPoW of the Committee and the Commission rests primarily with ECE and FAO through the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section. The implementation is supported by the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, the ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists, as well as relevant units of the ECE and FAO. The Programme is also implemented with the support of member States, regional economic integration organizations in close cooperation with relevant organizations and processes at all levels and other relevant stakeholders participating in the Committee and Commission intergovernmental processes. The IPoW encompasses a broad range of work and is designed to be comprehensive and flexible. Over the course of implementation, member States and regional economic integration organizations may engage with specific IPoW components according to their interest and capacity. IPoW components will be implemented in different ways and degrees, depending in part on member country interest and engagement.
3. The IPoW 2022-2025 may contribute to the follow-up to or implementation of: (i) the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, (ii) the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 and declared Global Forest Goals, (iii) the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Quadrennial Programme of Work 2021-2024, (iv) the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the post-2020 biodiversity framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, (v) the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and (vi) other international and regional objectives and initiatives relevant to forests, including the Bonn Challenge/ECCA30; (vii) sustainable and resilient recovery of the forest sector following the COVID-19 pandemic, including through a circular economy and broader sustainability approaches and nature-based solutions.

#### **A. Scope**

4. The IPoW covers all fifty-six member States of the ECE region, in line with the Committee's membership<sup>5</sup>. Forty member States, which are all ECE member States, and the European Union, are members of the Commission<sup>6</sup>.
5. The Programme encompasses the following main topics related to forests, sustainable forest management and the forest sector:

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<sup>5</sup> Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan.

<sup>6</sup> Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan and the European Union.

- (a) The state of forests and sustainable forest management;
- (b) The role of forests in climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- (c) The implementation and promotion of sustainable forest management, according to the seven thematic elements of the United Nations Forest Instrument as well as Global Forest Goals;
- (d) Forest landscape restoration;
- (e) Forest related industries and the use of forest products throughout the value chains they comprise (notably construction and energy) with emphasis on innovative products and applications;
- (f) Forest and forest sector policies, institutions and instruments, including the linkages between forests and rules and regulations on wood harvesting, transformation, reuse and recycling of wood products; climate change policies, and other policies;
- (g) The contribution of the forest sector in the transition towards a circular and bioeconomy in the context of broader sustainability and societal goals, sustainable forest management and the role of forests as nature-based solutions in the post-COVID-19 recovery to increase the resilience of society;
- (h) Forest products and ecosystem services, employment and other socioeconomic aspects; including economic vitality of the sector; and
- (i) To contribute to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the forest-related Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration as well as the implementation of United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030,<sup>7</sup> within the existing mandates of ECE and FAO, as well as the implementation of the new FAO Strategic Framework 2022-2031.

## **B. Overall goal**

6. The overall goal of the Integrated Programme of Work 2022-2025 of the Committee and the Commission is to support member States and regional economic integration organizations in their efforts to sustainably manage forests so that they provide goods and services to benefit society.

## **C. Objective of the Integrated Programme of Work**

7. The IPoW aims to assist member States and regional economic integration organizations in achieving the overall goal described above by providing the best available information; facilitating policy dialogues and communication; and building capacity.

## **D. Structure and Work Areas**

8. The IPoW remains structured around four main functions, or work areas, as follows:

- **Work Area 1: Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment**
- **Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice**
- **Work Area 3: Communication and outreach**
- **Work Area 4: Capacity-building**

9. While work is formally organized within these areas it should be recognized that considerable attention is to be devoted to cross-cutting issues and communication between the areas.

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<sup>7</sup> For more information about the Strategy for landscape restoration and greening infrastructure in the Caucasus and Central Asia please refer to ECE/TIM/2020/3

10. Specific activities and outputs proposed for the four Work Areas are outlined below. Work in each area is supported by dedicated Teams of Specialists (ToS).

**Work Area 1: Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment**

11. The data collection and reporting work in the region consists of the following:

(a) Collection, validation and dissemination of statistics and other information on: forest resources, forest health, damage and disturbance processes, forest products (wood and non-wood), forest functions and services, progress towards sustainable forest management, forest policies, institutions and instruments, and the contribution of the forest sector to a circular and bioeconomy in the context of broader sustainability and societal goals;

(b) Analysis and assessment of the state of forests in regard to items identified in (a) above; and

(c) Cooperation with and contribution to international organizations and processes on sustainable forest management, including the support to the UNFF Secretariat in the production of the UNFF flagship publication, the support to the FAO FRA Secretariat in the preparation of the Global Forest Resources Assessment report, the development and use of regional criteria and indicators, and the support to Forest Europe in the preparation of the report on the State of Europe's Forests.

12. The monitoring and analysis of developments in various forest-related areas and cooperation with other relevant organizations working in these areas, while avoiding duplication. This includes the gathering of comprehensive statistics and data (quantitative and qualitative), and developing methodologies for data collection, analysis and assessments on:

(a) Forest product markets;

(b) Forest health, damage and disturbance processes, sustainable forest management, and the functions and services forests provide;

(c) Long-term supply of and demand for wood and other forest goods and services;

(d) Use of wood energy and its implications for sustainable forest management; and

(e) Jobs, employment and working conditions.

13. Data are collected based on agreed standards and rules in partnership with member States, regional economic integration organizations, international organizations and processes, and the scientific community. The Teams of Specialists working in this area will emphasize integration and consolidation of reporting activities with other processes in the region (e.g. Forest Europe, FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment process). Activities under Work Area 1 are also expected to improve the quality of information, ensure international compatibility, provide data storage dissemination and analysis of the information, and assist member States and regional economic integration organizations in strengthening their capacity in these areas (see Work Area 4 on capacity-building).

14. Specific outputs from this Work Area include among others:

(a) The Forest Products Annual Market Review;

(b) Joint Pan-European data collection on forests and sustainable forest management (in collaboration with FAO FRA Secretariat and Forest Europe); support to Forest Europe in the preparation of the report on the State of Europe's Forests;

(c) Reporting on forest products and wood energy, through the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire; the Timber Forecast Questionnaire; the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry;

(d) Regional input to the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment in cooperation with Forest Europe; including the participation in its Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire;

(e) Associated databases of the previously mentioned outputs;



- (f) Forest products market statements and forest products forecast tables;
- (g) Reporting on regional progress towards implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and achievement of forest-related SDGs, and the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030;
- (h) A study on forest health, damage and disturbance in the region;
- (i) Studies on forest employment and working conditions;
- (j) Assessment of the contribution of the forest sector to a green, circular and bioeconomy, in the context of broader sustainability and societal goals; and ad hoc enquiries and studies contributing to areas mentioned above upon decision by the Committee and the Commission.

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

15. This component involves the organization of regional policy dialogues and specific studies and the facilitation of national dialogues on request from member States and regional economic integration organizations. The subjects to be covered will address issues mentioned in the scope of the IPoW. This work will contribute to various regional and international efforts including:

- (a) The implementation of the 2030 Agenda and forest related SDGs, the Paris Climate Agreement, the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030, United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, and the Quadrennial Programme of Work 2021-2024 of the United Nations Forum on Forests;
- (b) The relevant global (mainly the United Nations Forum on Forests and the FAO Committee on Forestry), regional and national forest dialogues, including the regional initiative ECCA30;
- (c) Activities in this Work Area also contribute to efforts to promote cross-sectoral cooperation.

16. Specific outputs from this Work Area include:

- (a) Analyses, guidelines and recommendations to support member States and regional economic integration organizations in implementing the initiatives and plans listed in 15 (a) through (c);
- (b) Implementation of commitments under the Bonn Challenge/ECCA30;
- (c) Contributions to the Forest Europe work programme;
- (d) Policy dialogues and workshops for the region;
- (e) Dissemination of the results of the Forest Sector Outlook Study; and
- (f) Policy-related sections of ECE and FAO joint work/studies, such as relevant reviews and reports on the status and trends of forests and sustainable forest management.

### **Work Area 3: Communication and outreach**

17. Communicating effectively within and outside the forest and forest products sector is essential to promote sustainable forest management. Enhancing the efforts of the Committee and the Commission to reach out to relevant constituencies to draw attention to the regional priorities in the forest sector and to increase the dissemination of information, tools, and practices, at the national, regional and global levels, will make an important contribution to this end. A particular focus will be placed on promoting the wider dissemination of information and results through effective communication and enhanced use of information technology. This will be achieved through:

- (a) Enhancing dissemination of information resulting from the implementation of Work Area 1, Work Area 2 and Work Area 4, including through policy briefs, press briefs, the Forest Information Billboard, social media/networks, videos, ad hoc studies and use of new technologies;

(b) Organizing events and campaigns in support of: sustainable forest management, forest landscape restoration, forest products and services, and promoting the results of the Joint Section's work (e.g. the International Day of Forests, the European and Global Forest Weeks);

(c) Maintaining and improving the ECE/FAO website and the INForest website, especially regarding user-friendliness and design;

(d) Contributing to relevant events in member States, regional economic integration organizations and assisting them with the dissemination of their forest-related announcements (e.g. capacity-building workshops, special public relations events) in cooperation with member States, regional economic integration organizations and other stakeholders, also across sectors and disciplines (e.g. food, fashion, construction, agriculture);

(e) Carrying out outreach activities beyond the forest sector, highlighting the relevance of healthy forests and forest products, forest landscape restoration and services to other sectors (e.g. biodiversity and environment meetings, sustainable construction and buildings, textiles, circular economy and bioeconomy); and

(f) Communicating relevant news on the work of other forest-related international fora.

18. Specific outputs from this Work Area include:

(a) Events and campaigns (e.g. contribution to the organization of International Forest Day events, contribution to the organization of the European Forest Week, raising awareness of ECCA30 etc.);

(b) Policy briefs;

(c) Press briefs;

(d) Contribution to the Forest Information Billboard;

(e) Contribution to, and dissemination of, ad hoc studies through communication channels and enhanced use of information technology;

(f) Inputs to the website;

(g) Improvement of online platforms and supporting databases for sharing of forest and forest sector information to the public.

#### **Work Area 4: Capacity-building**

19. While all member States and regional economic integration organizations benefit from international cooperation through the IPoW, technical cooperation and capacity-building work is directed primarily to countries in Eastern and South-East Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. This work aims at encouraging sustainable forest management, data collection, monitoring and analysis, as well as engaging national experts from the region in activities relevant to the region. This work area addresses the following themes within the scope of the IPoW, including:

(a) National systems for forest monitoring and statistical reporting;

(b) Forest communication strategies;

(c) Nature-based solutions, including mitigation and adaptation to climate change;

(d) Forest landscape restoration and the Bonn Challenge/ECCA30;

(e) Urban forestry

(f) Implementation of forest sector outlook modelling at the national level;

(g) Agroforestry products and their trade

(h) The implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 and countries' voluntary national contributions; and

(i) The contribution of the forest sector to:

- (i) A circular and bioeconomy in the context of broader sustainability and societal goals (including the sustainable use of natural resources);
  - (ii) The implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of forest-related SDGs;
  - (iii) The implementation of the Paris Agreement.
20. Specific outputs from this Work Area include:
- (a) Publications;
  - (b) Capacity-building workshops (virtual and physical);
  - (c) Training material and recommendations;
  - (d) Technical assistance, including targeted expertise and;
  - (e) Assistance with developing networks for cooperation and development

## **E. Principles guiding implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work**

21. Implementation should be guided by the following principles:

### **Partnership**

22. There will be a strong focus on working in partnerships with international and regional actors as the most effective way of optimizing benefits and avoiding potential duplication of activities. The Committee and the Commission will seek and welcome cooperation on any of the relevant outputs under the four Work Areas.

### **Outreach to other constituencies**

23. In the implementation of the IPoW, the Committee and the Commission will look beyond the traditional forest constituency to ensure the relevance of the forest sector and its contribution to other sectors is well recognized and understood. They will coordinate relevant actions with, for example, the environment, biodiversity, energy, water, agriculture, construction and textile sectors, using the potentials offered by the ECE (including a nexus on sustainable use of natural resources) and FAO.

### **Expert advice**

24. The work and expected outputs of the Teams of Specialists will be fully aligned with the IPoW and its objectives, and will support the related areas of work, recognizing the importance of the involvement of the scientific community and forest practitioners. In this context, the Forest Communicators Network ToS should support the other ToS on outreach and dissemination. Due regard should be given to the Committee and Commission official languages when organizing meetings and issuing publications and documents. In case of resource constraints limiting the translation of full publications, efforts should be undertaken to translate executive summaries.

### **Involvement of the private sector**

25. The IPoW recognizes the private sector as one of the key actors for developing sustainable forest management, sustainable forest products and services and the transition towards a circular economy and bioeconomy in the context of broader sustainability and societal goals. The participation of the private sector in the work of the Committee and the Commission, including in the annual market discussions, will be actively sought, in line with the ECE and FAO organizational policies. Increased participation from various relevant stakeholders should be encouraged.

### **Gender mainstreaming and respect of the rights of people with disabilities**

26. The IPoW gives due consideration to making the concerns and experiences of women, men and people with disabilities an integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of its activities, so that women and men and people with disabilities benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated (United Nations ECOSOC, 1997). Gender mainstreaming and respecting the rights of disabled people is a central part of ECE and FAO's strategic frameworks and their policies and programmes.

## **F. Support to the Integrated Programme of Work and related resources**

27. IPoW implementation progress will be reported annually. Implementation will depend on regular programme funding levels and to a large extent on extrabudgetary resources, as well as available human resources. Member States, regional economic integration organizations and other donors are encouraged to support such activities in kind and/or with the necessary level of financial resources. The annual list of activities, which is submitted every year to the Working Party and subsequently to the Committee and the Commission for their approval, will show clearly the areas of work (e.g. capacity-building) or activities where extrabudgetary funding will be needed.

28. A broader engagement by member States and regional economic integration organizations should be sought. In particular, resources should be identified to finance the participation of delegates from eligible countries with economies in transition. In addition, online and hybrid meeting formats should be used as appropriate wherever convenient to allow for broader participation.

29. The IPoW should have the flexibility to address emerging issues of relevance to member countries and the forestry community at large.

## **G. Expert support**

30. The ToS provide advice and undertake activities that support the implementation of the IPoW. They may also provide guidance to the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section on relevant Work Areas, help with outreach activities to country-level experts, and produce team-specific outputs in support of the IPoW. The ToS are established by the ECE Executive Committee, with secretariat services provided by both ECE and FAO through their separate budgetary processes. Their terms of reference are approved by the Committee and the Commission. The Teams of Specialists report annually to the Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management.

31. Guidelines for the Teams of Specialists, mandates, procedures, and the responsibilities of Team leaders, members and the secretariat can be found in the Draft Integrated Programme of Work Part II (ECE/TIM/2021/7-FO:EFC/2021/7).

## **II. Terms of Reference of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management**

32. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management is a subsidiary body of the Committee and the Commission and contributes to the implementation of the IPoW of those two bodies. It does so by coordinating the ToS in line with the activities of the IPoW as well as providing technical advice. It takes instructions from the Committee and the Commission and meets annually to:

- (a) Provide implementation guidance for all areas of the IPoW;
- (b) Supervise the work of Teams of Specialists and facilitate the exchange of information on their work; and
- (c) Identify priorities for action and relevant emerging issues; and transmit suggested priorities and specific recommendations to COFFI and the EFC for consideration.

33. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management shall, for each Work Area, on the basis of a report from the secretariat, review and comment on the activities undertaken during the past year and the plans for the forthcoming year.

34. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management shall review, on an ongoing basis, the work of the Teams of Specialists and their contribution to the Work Areas as well as work between the Teams of Specialists to ensure the most effective and efficient implementation of their activities. It will:

(a) Receive and discuss the reports from the Teams of Specialists in order to enhance the understanding of their activities and assess their work plans; when needed, the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management may review and recommend updated mandates for endorsement by the parent bodies;

(b) Identify possible synergies; and facilitate the exchange of experiences between Teams of Specialists and delegations from member States; and

(c) Increase the visibility and impact of the work of Teams of Specialists among member States, regional economic integration organizations and within the relevant bodies in the United Nations.

35. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, as part of its work for the Committee and the Commission, shall:

(a) Propose priorities for activities in the Work Areas and on relevant emerging issues;

(b) Provide, upon request from the parent bodies, methodologies for use in economic analysis of the sector, as well as techniques for collecting, validating, analysing and disseminating information and statistics;

(c) Initiate, upon request from the parent bodies, ad hoc projects in economics and statistics related to forestry, forest products, forest policies and associated institutions;

(d) Contribute and provide technical advice to the Committee and the Commission on issues under consideration by those bodies, including the preparation of studies on the status and future of forests and on the forest industry such as the Outlook Studies and the Forest Products Annual Market Reviews;

(e) Invite other sectors to the sessions to discuss issues related to forest information and management matters of common interest, including best practices in sustainable forestry management and their impact on the overall sustainability of forests, natural resources management, and other issues such as biodiversity and climate change; and

(f) Invite other international bodies, including the International Tropical Timber Organization, the Conference of European Statisticians, Forest Europe and Eurostat, to the sessions, with a view to coordinating activities and avoiding any duplication of effort.

36. The work of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management should be assessed in line with the Strategic Review of the IPoW process, which will take place in 2023.

### **III. Terms of Reference of the ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists**

37. In order to support the implementation of the IPoW, the following Teams of Specialists are established for the period 2022-2025.

<i>Name of Team of Specialists</i>	<i>Contribution to the Programme of Work</i>
Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management	Work Area 1, Work Area 2, and Work Area 4: to focus on sustainable forest management monitoring, assessment and reporting and work on criteria and indicators. This ToS will be serviced by the Joint Section.
Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests	Work Area 1 and Work Area 2: to contribute to science and policy cooperation on boreal forests and improve overall awareness of boreal forests. This ToS will be serviced by the Joint Section.
Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products	Work Area 1, Work Area 2, and Work Area 4: to focus on forest products and markets. This ToS will be serviced by the Joint Section.
Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics	Work Area 1 and Work Area 4: to support the work on statistics for forest products and wood energy. This ToS will be serviced by the Joint Section.
Team of Specialists on Forest Communication	Work Area 3 and Work Area 4: to provide advice to the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section in support of relevant events, campaigns and public relations efforts. This ToS will be serviced by FAO headquarters.

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38. The Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook is suspended for the duration of the Integrated Programme of Work 2022-2025, given the completion of the Forest Sector Outlook Study 2021. Work on dissemination of the results of the Outlook Study and related capacity-building activities will be continued by the Joint Section.

39. The ToS on Green Jobs is discontinued.<sup>8</sup>

## **A. ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management**

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

### **1. Objectives**

40. To strengthen the work on: (i) forest monitoring and reporting, (ii) assessing the state of forests and sustainability of forest management and (iii) monitoring the role of the forest sector in a green circular and bioeconomy in the region;

41. To advise the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section on the implementation of activities in Work Area 1 “Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment”, with regard to the

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<sup>8</sup> The Joint Section will continue to contribute to the work on green jobs in the forest sector in collaboration with relevant actors within the scope of the Integrated Programme of Work. In addition, an expert network on green jobs in the forest sector was established under Forest Europe. More information about this conclusion can be found in background document ECE/TIM/2021/Inf.2-FO:EFC/2021/Inf.2.

collection, harmonization, review, analysis and dissemination of information on forests and sustainable forest management in the region.

## **2. Activities and functions**

42. The Team will support the data collection process of the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2025 reporting process (including the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire);

43. Contribute to the joint ECE/FAO/Forest Europe data collection on forests and forest management in the pan-European region and assist the preparatory process of the Forest Europe State of Europe's Forests 2025 (support data collection, analysis, drafting and review).

44. Contribute to the work on criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management agreed by Forest Europe and the Montréal Process.

45. Contribute to the work on the development and implementation of global and regional forest indicators under the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030.

46. Contribute to further work on the assessment of the sustainability of forest management.

47. Contribute to the development of the concepts and methodologies for monitoring, assessment and reporting on forest resources, functions and services and sustainable forest management, including forest damage and disturbance.

48. Contribute to the conceptualization of monitoring, analysis and reporting systems on forest resources, functions and services and sustainable forest management.

49. Support international work and cooperation on monitoring of forest resources and sustainable forest management, including the European Union (i.e. Eurostat, the European Environment Agency and the Joint Research Centre) and other organizations (i.e., the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, the International Co-operative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests and the European Forest Institute) in this area.

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

## **3. Expected major outputs and contributions**

51. Review and contribute to documents, reports, and meetings related to the global reporting framework – in cooperation with the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment Team.

52. Review and contribute to documents, reports, and meetings, especially related to the activities of the Workstream 1 “A dynamic concept of Sustainable Forest Management in Europe” under Forest Europe. Support the organization of the workshop for authors and national correspondents in the region; support the production and dissemination of the State of Europe's Forests.

53. Review and contribute to documents, reports, and meetings on global and regional forest indicators to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030.

54. Advise on criteria and indicator processes, as well as designing an improved statistical data management system on forest resources, their functions and services, and forest management.

55. Advise on the other data-related work within other Work Areas, and in particular the measurement of the forest sector contribution to a circular and bioeconomy and capacity development.

#### 4. Background

<b>Established/ Approved by:</b>	Joint session of the Committee and the Commission, Rome, Italy, 2021.
<b>Duration:</b>	From January 2022 to December 2023. Renewable to 2025.
<b>Methods of work:</b>	Regular (at least annual) Team of Specialists meetings (including its steering group and thematic sub-groups meetings).  Thematic, subregional workshops, seminars, events. Participation in workshops with Global Forest Resources Assessment 2025 national correspondents.  Reviews and consultations, in person, via videoconference and electronic means.  Review and, if feasible, preparation of background materials, discussion papers, enquiries.  Other forms of work to be determined by the Team of Specialists, if needed.
<b>Reporting:</b>	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
<b>Team leader:</b>	To be elected at the first Team meeting

### B. 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"*

#### 1. Objective(s)<sup>9</sup>

56. 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;

57. 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 regard to the boreal biome;

58. Improve awareness and understanding of the role boreal forests play in global issues such as climate change and sustainable economic development, as well as in addressing the challenges reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

59. Advise the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section on any matters related to boreal forests within the Integrated Programme of Work.

#### 2. Activities and functions

60. Contribute to the exchange of information, experiences and best practices on boreal forests;

61. Facilitate a science policy dialogue on boreal forest issues;

62. Contribute, where appropriate, to identifying knowledge gaps that – when addressed – can provide policy responses to international challenges;

63. Work with other international bodies, including the IBFRA, with a view to achieving coordination of initiatives;

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

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<sup>9</sup> As outlined in the Haparanda Declaration of 2018.



### 3. Expected Major Outputs

65. 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.

66. It will:

(a) 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 United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030, and the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work;

(b) 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;

(c) Provide consultation and advice on boreal-related issues as needed.

### 4. Background

<b>Established/ Approved by:</b>	Joint session of the Committee and the Commission, Rome, Italy, 2021.
<b>Duration:</b>	From January 2022 to December 2023. Renewable to 2025.
<b>Methods of work:</b>	Annual meeting or other methods to be determined by the Team.
<b>Reporting:</b>	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
<b>Team leader:</b>	To be elected at first Team meeting

## C. ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products

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

### 1. Objectives

67. To advise and support work on the sustainable development of forest product markets and related policies in the region.

68. To raise awareness on the role that sustainable forest products can play in greening economies and in providing sustainable products and livelihoods.

### 2. Activities and functions

69. Provide guidance and referrals to the best available experts and/or sources of information for the organization of:

(a) Market discussions; and

(b) Workshop(s) on all topics related to forest products, including the role of forest products in a green circular and bioeconomy, the sustainable production, trade and consumption of wood energy, the use of wood for so-called "green buildings construction", innovative wood products and other topics in line with the IPoW.

70. Provide expertise and outreach to experts for drafting market-related publications and products, including the technical reviews contained in, and the production of, the Forest Products Annual Market Review.

71. Advise the secretariat on the organization of meetings related to the sustainable use of forest products.

72. Advise the secretariat on strategies to carry out the Programme of Work in the forest products marketing area, in particular to assist in strengthening the focus on innovative forest products and on improving knowledge on wood sustainability credentials.
73. Build links with standard/certifying organizations, as well as forest products trade associations, to promote the use of forest products as a sustainable material for construction and other uses.
74. Build links with non-forest bodies within the United Nations, including with the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management.
75. Build links, both informal and formal, with other Teams of Specialists in areas where cross-cutting issues are shared and where assistance and coordination can be mutually beneficial.
76. Build upon the work of previous capacity-building workshops and consider organizing similar events in association with regional bodies.
77. Organize an annual workshop on enhancing societal awareness of the contribution of the forest products industry to a sustainable economy; subject to availability of funds.
78. Work with the secretariat to attract and enhance the involvement of the forest products industry in official meetings, aiming at:
  - (a) Enhancing societal awareness of the forest products industry in sustainable economies;
  - (b) Holding a full day session focusing on market/industry issues;
  - (c) Organizing industry visits; and
  - (d) Organizing side events that involve the forest products industry sector.
79. Provide a network of expertise and advice, including on priorities.
80. Collaborate with other ECE/ FAO Teams of Specialists on cross-cutting issues

### 3. Expected major outputs and contributions

81. Market discussions covering forest product market topics that are current and relevant to the region and contribute to the Market Statement.
82. Bi-annual meetings to discuss a list of recommendations on how to improve the content, structure and focus of the forest products marketing Work Area in general and the Forest Products Annual Market Review in particular (typically during the Team of Specialists meeting that is held at the time of Committee, Commission and Working Party meetings).

### 4. Background

<b>Established/ Approved by:</b>	Joint session of the Committee and the Commission, Rome, Italy, 2021.
<b>Duration:</b>	From January 2022 to December 2023. Renewable to 2025.
<b>Methods of work:</b>	Annual meeting. Other methods to be determined by the Team.
<b>Reporting:</b>	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
<b>Team leader:</b>	To be elected at first Team meeting.
<b>Communication:</b>	The Team leader and secretary should ensure close communication and collaboration with the Teams of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics.

## **D. ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics**

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

### **1. Objectives**

83. To advise and support work on forest products statistics, including data coverage and collection, validation and classifications used in the region;
84. To advise and support work on wood energy data statistics, namely the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry, including data coverage, collection and validation;
85. To suggest and support proposals for increasing the reliability, visibility and usefulness of forest products- and wood energy- statistics.
86. To advise on implementation of activities in Work Area 1 relating to forest products- and wood energy- statistics.

### **2. Activities and functions**

87. Review materials and provide guidance on questionnaires such as the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ), Timber Forecast Questionnaire (TFQ), Engineered Wood Products (EWP) and the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry (JWEE) and associated procedures;
88. Develop methods to possibly expand the scope to include production and trade of other secondary wood products (furniture, joinery, etc.) and develop a methodology for data-collection on those products;
89. Actively cooperate and partner with other organizations involved in wood energy with the aim of sharing and improving wood energy data and information;
90. Investigate required changes in the Harmonized System classification; prepare for the implementation of the 2027 Harmonized System and future potential changes to the Harmonized System and other classifications;
91. Continue development of conversion factors for secondary forest products (engineered wood products, joinery, furniture) and energy products;
92. Support possible publication of a roundwood balance study and continue to develop a methodology;
93. Strengthen capacities in member States to submit improved data quality and increased data coverage through knowledge sharing and capacity-building events;
94. Disseminate information on forest products- and wood energy- statistics further through the ToS network;
95. Advise on issues to coordinate with other members of the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics;
96. Recommend improvements to data systems, including data capture;
97. Recommend methods for improving data reliability;
98. Coordinate and communicate with other ToS on areas where appropriate and as requested.

### **3. Expected major outputs and contributions**

99. Recommendations for revisions to the JFSQ, TFQ and JWEE questionnaires;
100. Submission of potential input for the 2027 revision of the Harmonized System and further revisions in later years;
101. Proposal for improvements for national and international practices in data validation and, if required, a working paper describing best practices;

102. Revision of the list of recommendations on the methods for analysis and conduct of the relevant questionnaires;
103. A recommended procedure for estimating wood balance, including the desirable level of detail to include and conversion factors to use;
104. Contributions to possible studies on conversion factors, improving post-consumer recovered wood data, roundwood balance and double counting issue, in collaboration with other Teams of Specialists;
105. Organization of two to three capacity-building events on forest products- and wood energy- statistics resulting in improved quality and quantity of national reports;
106. Contribute relevant data to SDG reporting at any level.

#### 4. Background

<b>Established/ Approved by:</b>	Joint session of the Committee and the Commission, Rome, Italy, 2021.
<b>Duration:</b>	From January 2022 to December 2023. Renewable to 2025.
<b>Methods of work:</b>	Annual meeting of the ToS, online webinars and discussions and capacity-building events. Further methods to be determined by the Team.
<b>Reporting:</b>	Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management
<b>Team leader:</b>	To be elected at the first Team meeting
<b>Communication:</b>	The Team Leader and secretariat should ensure close cooperation with the ToS on Sustainable Forest Products, and the ToS on Sustainable Forest Management. The Team should also seek to communicate and collaborate in other fora working in this area, and to collaborate with others (e.g. Forest Europe, IEA, IPCC, IRENA, OECD, Eurostat, ITTO, EFI).

### E. ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Communication (Forest Communicators' Network)

*Reference to the Integrated Programme of Work: Work Area 3, "Communication and outreach" and Work Area 4, "Capacity-building"*

#### 1. Objectives

107. To improve the ability of the forest sector to communicate effectively within and outside the sector on the role of forests in sustainable development.
108. To advise the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and support communication activities in all Work Areas.

#### 2. Activities and functions

109. The Team of Specialists provides services and advice in the communication field to benefit the forest and non-forest community and raise awareness about sustainable forest management by:

- (a) Supporting forest-related ECE/FAO intergovernmental bodies in reaching out to relevant constituencies, within and outside the forest sector;
- (b) Providing a forum for international interaction and cooperation in forest related communications;

- (c) Developing the professionalism of forest communicators by introducing and encouraging state-of-the-art and innovative communication approaches, strengthening networking and supporting capacities in the region;
- (d) Providing advice for communication activities around the International Day of Forests and European Forest Weeks, upon request by the organizers;
- (e) Raising awareness of the significance of forests and sustainable forest management in achieving the SDGs;
- (f) Contributing to the communication and outreach strategies of ECE, FAO and the United Nations Forum on Forests, in support of the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030, in particular its communication and outreach strategy;
- (g) Conducting a survey among forest communicators on current trends and the latest developments and communication challenges in the sector;
- (h) Sharing information and experience with forest communicators' networks established by FAO in other regions;
- (i) Supporting capacity-building activities in cooperation with all other Teams of Specialists, as appropriate;
- (j) Providing advice for communication campaigns and strategies to communicate outputs of other Teams of Specialists to a target audience, upon request by the respective Team of Specialists;
- (k) Developing further approaches and tools for educational work on forests by continued involvement of the Forest Communicators' Network (FCN)-Subgroup-Forest Pedagogics;
- (l) Cooperating with the Forest Europe Liaison Unit and other relevant institutions, organizations, processes and initiatives, on matters relevant to forest communication;
- (m) Identifying other communication work of relevance to forests as well as information-sharing platforms developed by civil society; and
- (n) Developing a proposal for a possible survey on the public perception of forests and the forest sector in the region for submission to potential donors.

### **3. Expected major outputs and contributions**

- 110. An annual proposal for communication activities and messages for the International Day of Forests.
- 111. Proposals for communication activities and communication sessions around the European Forest Week, World Forestry Congress and other international events, as appropriate.
- 112. Proposals for highlighting the significance of forests and sustainable forest management for achieving the SDGs.
- 113. Contributions to the development and implementation of the communication and outreach strategies of ECE, FAO and the United Nations Forum on Forests in support of the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030.
- 114. An information note on activities carried out with the other regional communicators' networks with a focus on global interconnection and outreach – to be included in the ToS annual activities report.

### **4. Background**

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Established/<br/>Approved by:</b> | Joint session of the Committee and the Commission, Rome, Italy, 2021. |
| <b>Duration:</b>                     | From January 2022 to December 2023. Renewable to 2025.                |

- Methods of work:** Networking, meetings, workshops, advice on forest communication related issues, including for awareness campaigns.
- Reporting:** Annually, to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management.
- Team leader:** To be elected at the first Team meeting.

## **IV. Guidelines for ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists**

### **A. Introduction**

115. These guidelines were adopted by the joint session of the Committee and the Commission, held from 22 to 25 November 2021 in Rome, Italy. The guidelines shall apply to the ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists, which contribute to the implementation of the IPoW.

116. These guidelines are in line with, and are complementary to the guidelines for the establishment and functioning of Teams of Specialists within ECE as contained in document ECE/EX/2/Rev.1.

### **B. Role of the Teams of Specialists**

117. The ECE/FAO Teams of Specialists are recommended by the Committee and the Commission and established by the ECE Executive Committee to support the work of the IPoW for an initial period of two years, which can be extended, after review every two years, for as long as required. The Committee and the Commission approve the Terms of Reference for all Teams of Specialists at their joint session.

118. The primary role of the Teams of Specialists is to support the implementation of the IPoW as expressed in their respective Terms of Reference. All Teams of Specialists report annually to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party of Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, which gives them guidance and evaluates their work based on their Terms of Reference and Work Plan. In addition, the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on 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.

119. The Teams of Specialists should contribute to the mainstreaming and dissemination of the work of the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section at national and sub-national levels, as well as into the agendas of other regional and global organizations. The Teams are also expected to contribute to the Forest Information Billboard.

120. Intellectual property of the Team's output remains with the ECE and FAO.

### **C. Membership and Officers**

121. For each Team of Specialists, the secretariat circulates the Terms of Reference to Committee/Commission members and all relevant stakeholders in the region and asks them to nominate their official representative, should they wish to participate in the Team activities. Member States and stakeholders are expected to nominate their representative to a Team based on their interest in the issues covered by this Team and their capacity to support the participation of their representative in the Team's work. On the basis of the answers received, the secretariat prepares a list of Team members and establishes the Team. The request for nomination may be repeated at the end of the first two-year duration or at the beginning of the next IPoW, as appropriate. When member States and stakeholders wish to nominate another or an additional representative to a Team, they notify this proposal to the secretariat, which informs the Team at its next meeting.

122. Experts who were not officially nominated can also contribute to the Team's work, at the invitation of the Team leader and in close consultation with the secretariat. To the extent possible, due consideration should be given to ensuring geographical and gender balance.

123. Each Team of Specialists appoints its officers for a duration of two years: a leader and, if deemed necessary, one or two deputy leaders. After one term of two years, one of the deputy leaders is usually appointed leader. When the Team appoints two deputy leaders, to ensure adequate continuity, the outgoing leader is usually re-appointed as deputy leader. Under special circumstances (e.g. absence of candidates), leader and deputy leaders can be re-appointed if the Team wishes to do so. Candidates for the office of leader should obtain the relevant authorization and secure the necessary resources (time and funding), from their government or organization, to fulfil their responsibilities during their elected terms.

124. Experts contribute to the work of the Teams on the voluntary basis and in their personal capacity, they are not considered part of the ECE and FAO secretariat staff and do not represent ECE or FAO to external world. Presentations of the Team's work to external fora can be done by experts only in their personal capacity and after the consultation with the secretariat.

#### **D. Role of the Team leaders and Team members**

125. With the assistance of and in close cooperation with the secretariat, the leader's responsibilities are to:

- (a) Ensure that the Team's Terms of Reference are applied and lead the Team;
- (b) Conduct the Team meetings and draft meeting reports, in consultation with participants of the meetings;
- (c) Coordinate the preparation of the work plan;
- (d) Undertake substantive work, in particular the preparation of substantive documentation, publications etc. linked to the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section List of Activities<sup>10</sup>;
- (e) Coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the work plan, including raising funds (where appropriate and within limitations set by the UN and FAO);
- (f) Coordinate the preparation and presentation of annual implementation reports at the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management; and
- (g) Organize and attend meetings of the leaders of the Teams of Specialists.

126. When the leader is not able to attend a Team meeting or to represent the Team at a parent body meeting, the leader makes sure that one of the deputy leaders can replace him/her. In addition, deputy leaders may assist the leader with certain tasks such as preparing the work plan or reports, making contacts or fund raising.

127. Team members are expected to actively participate in the Team activities by:

- (a) Attending the Team meetings;
- (b) Contributing to the work between the Team meetings;
- (c) Answering enquiries from the leader or the secretariat; and
- (d) Relaying information on the Team's work at the national and subnational level.

#### **E. Methods of Work**

128. Under the guidance of the leader and with the support of the secretariat, the Team prepares its work plan for a two-year period from its Terms of Reference, which includes:

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<sup>10</sup> List of Activities – official document approved annually by the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party of Forest Statistics, Economics and Management,

(1) tangible outputs that are linked to the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section List of Activities, (2) the time schedule, and (3) the resources needed to implement the plan, including those resulting from fund raising. Teams can create task-oriented groups for a limited period of time (e.g. to advise on the organization of an event or the preparation of a publication). Teams are expected to be self-sustaining, and regular budget funds will not be available to support the Teams. Teams use the work plan format and the report template that are provided by the secretariat.

129. Team meetings are convened by the secretariat in Geneva or any other place where the meetings can be hosted by a member State or a partner organization. Each Team should meet at least once a year for one day or have several shorter online meetings. Teams of Specialists should consider meeting on the margins of, or back-to-back to, meetings where members of the Team participate. It is suggested to utilize electronic means (e-mail, Skype, Microsoft Teams, Zoom or Webex meetings, webinars, and other online formats) when appropriate. The working language of Teams of Specialists is English. In general, no interpretation will be provided. More detailed methods of work may be developed by the Team.

130. The only website for each Team of Specialists will be the one hosted by the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section ([www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org)) and/or FAO ([www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)). All relevant information on Team of Specialists meetings (agenda, presentations, meeting report, list of participants, pictures, etc.) must be made available to the secretariat for posting on the website.

131. The Team leader, deputies or any other member of the Team need to ask permission from the secretariat of the Committee and the Commission for using ECE and FAO logos.

132. Teams are encouraged to seek assistance from other Teams of Specialists especially for cross-sectoral activities that are mentioned in their Terms of Reference.

## **F. Role of the secretariat**

133. In close cooperation with the Team leader, the secretariat is responsible for:

(a) Coordinating the nomination of Team members with member States and working with the Team leaders on invited experts, for updating of the lists of Team members and issuing meeting invitations;

(b) Conducting the elections of team leader and co-leaders;

(c) Handling official contacts on behalf of the team including correspondence with governmental and nongovernmental experts as well as experts from international organisations and agencies involved;

(d) Presenting the work of the team to external fora.

(e) Assisting in the scheduling of meetings and other activities, in consultation with the Team;

(f) Providing technical means and innovative solutions to facilitate cost-effective meetings and the possibility for remote access to meetings for members who cannot attend the meeting personally;

(g) Providing guidance in fulfilling the Terms of Reference;

(h) Facilitating meetings and assisting the leader in preparing meeting reports, by taking notes and drafting the main conclusions and next steps;

(i) Cooperating with the leader in preparing reports on the Team's accomplishments; and

(j) Uploading any relevant documentation to the Team website before and after Team meetings and disseminating information on the Team's activities.



## Outline of key components of the programme of work of the Forests and Forest Industry subprogramme for 2023

### I. Objective

1. The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the sustainable management of forests and enhance the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development in the ECE region.

### II. Strategy

2. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Forests, Housing and Land Management Division.

3. The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely, analytical and normative work, international policy dialogue, capacity-building and communication. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ECE nexus area on the sustainable use of natural resources. As part of its implementation strategy, the subprogramme will carry out its work in partnership with FAO and other relevant organizations and processes (e.g. International Union for Conservation of Nature, World Agroforestry Centre and Forest Europe).

4. To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to assist and promote cooperation with member States, regional entities and other partners for sustainable forest management, forest landscape restoration, the sustainable use of forest products and services, and urban and peri-urban forestry. The subprogramme also plans to collect, validate and disseminate information and results of research and analysis related to sustainable forest management and the sustainable production and consumption of wood-based products. The subprogramme will further facilitate the exchange of national experiences and best practices and monitor progress on achieving sustainable forest management using key forest sector indicators, which will help member States to make progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, notably Goals 12 (responsible consumption and production) and 15 (life on land), as well as in implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 (General Assembly resolution 71/285).

5. The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by providing information in presentations and panel discussions during sessions of its Committee and Working Party, publications such as the outlook study and subregional studies, and webinars on how the forest sector is and will be affected by the global pandemic and how it can contribute to building back better economies and more resilient communities.

6. The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Healthy forest ecosystems in the ECE region that are sustainably managed and provide important ecosystem goods and services to benefit society;

(b) An increased and efficient use of sustainable forest products that contribute to a green<sup>11</sup> and circular economy with increased use of renewable raw materials to replace less sustainable alternatives.

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<sup>11</sup> The Secretariat wishes to inform that the Committee of Programme and Coordination (CPC) of the General Assembly has recommended to the General Assembly to replace “green” with “sustainable” in the 2022 Proposed programme budget (A/76/16, Programme 17, para. 357). The General Assembly will decide in December 2021, upon review by the Fifth Committee.

7. The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in the enhanced ability of stakeholders to take well-informed decisions on how forests can play a key role in building back better during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

### III. Deliverables to be implemented in 2023

8. Table AIII.1 provides an outline of deliverables that are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table AII.1

#### Deliverables to be implemented in 2023

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>		
<b>Parliamentary Documentation (number of documents)</b>	<b>[16]</b>	<b>[16]</b>
1. Documentation for the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	[10]	[10]
2. Documentation for the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management	[6]	[6]
<b>Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)</b>	<b>[22]</b>	<b>[22]</b>
3. Meetings of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	[6]	[8]
4. Meetings of the Bureau of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry	[2]	[2]
5. Meetings of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management and of Teams of Specialists	[14]	[12]
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>		
<b>Seminars, workshops, and training events (number of days)</b>	<b>[15]</b>	<b>[12]</b>
6. Capacity-building events for policymakers, experts and relevant stakeholders from countries in the ECE region on topics related to the ECE/FAO integrated programme	[15]	[12]
<b>Publications (number of publications)</b>	<b>[7]</b>	<b>[7]</b>
7. <i>Forest Products Annual Market Review</i>	[1]	[1]
8. Publication on sustainable forest management and forest products”	[6]	[6]
<b>C. Substantive deliverables</b>		
<b>Consultation, advice and advocacy:</b> forest policy dialogues at the request of countries and support for forest policy issues, for up to 3 member States.		
<b>Databases and substantive digital materials:</b> update and maintenance of ECE region databases on forest resources; forest policies and institutions; forest products; production, consumption and trade, including prices; and wood energy for global access.		
<b>D. Communication deliverables:</b>		
<b>Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:</b> organizations of activities and events celebrating the International Day of Forests; brochures and information material on different forest-related topics; presentations at round tables and discussions at international forest-related events.		
<b>External and media relations:</b> press releases for the subprogramme; compilation and dissemination of the Forest Information Billboard newsletter providing relevant news from the forest sector in one place to approximately 4,000 subscribers.		

**Annex IV**

[English only]

**Recommendations of the European Forestry Commission****A. Recommendations of the European Forestry Commission for the attention of the FAO Committee on Forestry (issues to be considered for inclusion in the Agenda)**

<i>Priority issues for COFO to consider</i>	<i>Expected outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow up activities for COFO and FAO</i>	<i>Commission</i>	<i>Reference to other RFC recommendation</i>
The Commissions recommended to continue strengthening coordination between COFO and COAG on cross-sectoral forestry - agriculture matters	Discussion/decision	Development of policy recommendations and programme elements for the PWB	EFC	NAFC, NEFRC
Progress on the implementation of the UN Decade on Restoration	Discussion/decision	Development of policy recommendations and programme elements for the PWB	EFC	COFLAG, NAFC

**B. Recommendations of the European Forestry Commission for the attention of the Regional Conference for Europe**

<i>Priority issues for the Regional Conference for Europe to consider</i>	<i>Expected outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow up activities for FAO</i>
Consider report of EFC41	Discussion/decision by ERC	-Develop summary of EFC report
To send a message to the Regional Conference for Europe emphasising the need to consider food security, agriculture, forestry and different aspects of rural development in an integrated manner;	Discussion/Decision	Development of policy recommendations and programme elements for the PWB
To strengthen the focus on regionally specific priorities, in particular Regional Priority "Managing natural resources sustainably and preserving biodiversity in a changing climate	Discussion/Decision	Development of policy recommendations and programme elements for the PWB

<i>Priority issues for the Regional Conference for Europe to consider</i>	<i>Expected outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow up activities for FAO</i>
To continue addressing cross-sectoral matters through initiatives and land use policies aimed at halting and reversing forest loss and land degradation, and promoting restoration, as well as promoting sustainable agriculture and forest management in ways that lead to more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agri-food systems.	Discussion/Decision	Development of policy recommendations and programme elements for the PWB

### C. RFC recommendations for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry related to the agenda of the current session

<i>Area/action for FAO programme of work</i>	<i>Priority (H, M, L, De-emphasis</i>	<i>Type (new, continued)</i>	<i>Level of action (subregional/ regional/global)</i>	<i>Global Forest Goals</i>	<i>Area/action for FAO programme of work</i>
<b><u>Progress in the global and regional forest resources assessment processes:</u></b>					
1. Requested FAO and ECE to continue to work with Forest Europe on the joint ECE/FAO/Forest Europe data collection on forests and forest management and coordinate it with the global reporting to the extent possible		Continued	Global, Regional	Goal 1- Goal 6	-
<b><u>Follow-up to the decisions of the fortieth session of the European Forestry Commission:</u></b> FAO to continue to work on:					
2. The Commission appreciated the progress made and requested FAO to continue to its current work, including on forest invasive species, forest fires and definitions of forest degradation and keep member States updated about relevant developments		Continued	Regional	Goal 1	-
<b><u>Presentation of forestry activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia:</u></b> FAO to:					
3. Strengthen the integration of land use and integrated landscape approaches in operational forestry work in the region, as well as into existing and future REU Regional Priorities, considering the multifunctional roles of forests;		Continued	Regional	Goal 1	-
4. Integrate poverty considerations into the design and formulation of projects, in particular large project such as GEF and GCF, applying approaches such as poverty measurement, poverty profiles, poverty mapping, and poverty-based targeting;		Continued	Regional	Goal 1 Goal 4 Goal 5	-

<i>Area/action for FAO programme of work</i>	<i>Priority (H, M, L, De-emphasis</i>	<i>Type (new, continued)</i>	<i>Level of action (subregional/ regional/global)</i>	<i>Global Forest Goals</i>	<i>Area/action for FAO programme of work</i>
5. Continue to support natural resource management including forests through the harmonization and strengthening of national policy, financing, incentives, taxation and governance frameworks and measures, including regulations, standards and monitoring for forest management interventions and practices, and support capacity development in this regard;		Continued	Regional	Goal 1 Goal 5	-
6. Continue supporting countries and other stakeholders, including the private sector, to promote coordinated action enhancing the sustainable production and consumption of NWFP, including capacity-building related to the collection and dissemination of statistics on NWFP; and		Continued	Regional	Goal 1 Goal 6	-
7. Continue to support the Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia (REUFIS) and its activities, in particular in organising topical trainings on emerging invasive species and collaborate with relevant organisations including Forest Europe		Continued	Regional	Goal 1 Goal 6	-
<b><u>Progress of Silva Mediterranea and the European Forestry Commission Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds:</u></b> FAO to:					
8. Encourage the development of activities related to youth entrepreneurship in the bioeconomy as a way to address the challenges faced by Mediterranean forests in the context of global changes		Continued	Regional	Goal 5 Goal 6	-
<b><u>Regional cross-sectorial dialogue on forestry - agriculture matters: panel session:</u></b> FAO to:					
9. Strengthen the focus on regionally-specific priorities, in particular Regional Priority “Managing natural resources sustainably and preserving biodiversity in a changing climate”;		Continued	Regional	Goal 1 Goal 6	-
10. Continue addressing cross-sectorial matters through initiatives and land use policies aimed at halting and reversing forest loss and land degradation, and promoting restoration, as well as promoting sustainable agriculture and forest management in ways that lead to more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agri-food systems		Continued	Regional	Goal 1 Goal 3 Goal 6	-
<b><u>Global processes and initiatives:</u></b> FAO to:					
11. Play an active role in advancing the United Nations Secretary-General’s Initiative on Turning the Tide on Deforestation and related activities;		Continued	All	Goal 1 - Goal 6	-
12. Explore how the related pledges from UNFCCC COP26 can be monitored;		Continued	All	Goal 1 - Goal 6	-

<i>Area/action for FAO programme of work</i>	<i>Priority (H, M, L, De-emphasis)</i>	<i>Type (new, continued)</i>	<i>Level of action (subregional/ regional/global)</i>	<i>Global Forest Goals</i>	<i>Area/action for FAO programme of work</i>
13. Continue to take an active role as the Chair of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and through this enhance advocacy on forests through relevant global processes and initiatives		Continued	All	Goal 1 - Goal 6	-
<b><u>Preparations for the thirty-third Regional Conference for Europe (ERC 33), twenty-sixth session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO 26) and the XV World Forestry Congress:</u></b>					
FAO to:					
14. Continue to synchronize the calendar of future EFC sessions, taking into account its joint sessions with COFFI (ECE), with the timetable of the European Regional Conference (ERC) sessions in order to provide inputs from EFC to the ERC in a timely manner;		Continued	Regional	Goal 5 Goal 6	-
15. Invite the EFC Chairperson to attend the Regional Conference and enhance inter-sessional activities by improving interactions between EFC and ERC Members, including Rome-based delegations, with a view to strengthening cross-sectoral policy dialogue and to ensure that important regional forestry matters are integrated in the themes of the Regional Conference;		Continued	Global, Regional	Goal 5 Goal 6	-
16. Consider undertaking a review of the EFC with the aim to further enhance its relevance, including the focus on Agenda 2030 and the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, and its efficiency and effectiveness;		New	Regional	Goal 5 Goal 6	-
17. Communicate the results of the discussion on this item to the next session of COFO, for its consideration.		Continued	Global, Regional	Goal 5 Goal 6	-