

# **Economic and Social Council**

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# Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

# **Economic Commission for Europe**

# **Food and Agriculture Organization**

Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry European Forestry Commission

Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management

Forty-second **session** Geneva, 24-25 March 2020 Item 1 of the Provisional Agenda Adoption of the Agenda

# Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-second session\*

Session to be held at the Palais des Nations (Room VIII), Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 24 March 2020.

#### Summary

This annotated agenda provides guidance to delegates to the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (Joint Working Party) on the structure of the meeting and main topics to be discussed.

The Joint Working Party will be invited to provide guidance on the implementation of all areas of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work, supervise the work of Teams of Specialists and facilitate the exchange of information on their work, and identify priorities for action and relevant emerging issues. The Joint Working Party will suggest priorities and specific recommendations to the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the European Forestry Commission for consideration. The Joint Working Party shall, for each Work Area, on the basis of the background documents prepared by the secretariat, review and comment on the activities undertaken during the past year, the current year and the plans for the forthcoming year.

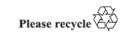
Work delivered by the secretariat since the forty-first session of the Joint Working Party can be found in the meeting documents, which will be made available on the website of the Forestry and Timber Section before the meeting (<a href="www.unece.org/jwpfsem2020">www.unece.org/jwpfsem2020</a>). Presentations by the secretariat will not repeat the content of the background documents, but rather highlight main achievements by the secretariat under each Work Area.

In addition to the review of the work accomplished, this year's session of the Joint Working Party is planned to discuss the Strategic Review of the Integrated Programme of Work with a focus on the possible activities and areas covered by the Teams of Specialists in the next Integrated Programme of Work (2022-2025).

<sup>\*</sup> Documents and more information, including the registration form, at www.unece.org/jwpfsem2020.









# I. Provisional agenda

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. Outcomes of the joint seventy-seventh session of the Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the fortieth session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations European Forestry Commission.
- 3. Information on a possible future Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe.
- 4. Revision of the Rules of Procedure for the Joint Working Party.
- 5. Guidance on Work Areas:
  - (a) Work Area 1: Data, monitoring, reporting and assessment;
  - (b) Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice;
  - (c) Work Area 3: Communication and outreach;
  - (d) Work Area 4: Capacity-building.
- 6. Strategic Review of the Integrated Programme of Work.
- 7. Overview on forest and forest sector related work by the Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and list of Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work activities for 2021.
- 8. Election of officers.
- 9. Date and place of next meeting.
- 10. Any other business.
- 11. Adoption of the report.

# II. Background information

- 1. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (Joint Working Party) is a subsidiary body of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) and contributes to the implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work of those two bodies. It does so by coordinating the Teams of Specialists and the activities of the Integrated Programme of Work as well as providing technical advice. It takes instructions from the COFFI and the EFC and meets annually to:
- (a) Provide guidance on the implementation of all areas of the Integrated Programme of Work;
- (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 the COFFI and the EFC for consideration, and
- (d) 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.
- 2. The Joint Working Party 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 Working Party 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 and within the relevant bodies in the United Nations.
- 3. The Joint Working Party, as part of its work for the COFFI and the EFC, 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, analyzing 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 and forest policies and institutions;
- (d) Contribute and provide technical advice to the COFFI and the EFC 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 Outlooks 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 and processes, 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.

# III. Annotations to the Provisional Agenda

#### 1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/1

4. The Chair will introduce the agenda and ask for its adoption.

# 2. Outcomes of the joint seventy-seventh session of the Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the fortieth session of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations European Forestry Commission

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

- 5. The secretariat will present a summary of the discussions and will highlight implications for the work of the Joint Working Party. The summary will include an update on the outcome of the new structure of the Teams of Specialists since the last session of COFFI and EFC, that:
- (a) Established a new Team of Specialists (ToS) on Boreal Forests for the period 2020-2021 and agreed to its Terms of References;
- (b) Approved the merging of the ToS on Forest Policy into the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook and agreed to the new Terms of Reference of the ToS on Forest Sector Outlook. The Terms of Reference of the other teams remained unchanged as contained in Annex I: Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work in the document ECE/TIM/2017/2-FO:EFC/2017/2;
- (c) Extended for the period 2020-2021 the mandate of the remaining five Teams of Specialists;
- (d) Thanked the FAO for agreeing to provide the secretary to the Forest Communicators' Network.
- 6. The following set of eight Teams of Specialists will provide support to the work of the Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section:
  - (a) ToS on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management (SFM);
  - (b) ToS on Sustainable Forest Products;
  - (c) ToS on Forest Products Statistics;
  - (d) ToS on Wood Energy;
  - (e) ToS on Forest Communication Forest Communicators' Network;
  - (f) ToS on Green Jobs Joint ILO/ECE/FAO Expert Network;
  - (g) ToS on Forest Sector Outlook;
  - (h) ToS on Boreal Forests.
- 7. The Joint Working Party will be invited to take note of the information provided.

# 3. Information on a possible future Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe

- 8. The secretariat will present a summary of the developments regarding a possible negotiation on a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe.
- 9. The Joint Working Party will be invited to take note of the information.

# 4. Revision of the Rules of Procedure for the Joint Working Party

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2019/2 and ECE/TIM/2018/2

- 10. At its forty-first session the secretariat informed the Joint Working Party that COFFI approved a new set of Rules of Procedure of COFFI during its seventy-sixth session, held in Vancouver, Canada in November 2018. The secretariat further explained that this could also be applied to the Joint Working Party should its membership decide so.
- 11. Taking into account the Guidelines on procedures and practices for ECE bodies adopted by the Economic Commission for Europe at the fifth meeting of its sixty-fifth session on 11 April 2013 (E/ECE/1464), the Working Party was invited to decide on whether to be governed by the Rules of Procedure of the ECE COFFI and, where applicable, Rules of Procedure of ECE (E/ECE/778/Rev.5) mutatis mutandis.
- 12. The most important change between currently applied rules of procedure of the Joint Working Party and the current version of the Rules of Procedure of COFFI would be in the composition of the bureau. The bureau of the COFFI is now composed of a chairperson and three vice-chairs, while the bureau of the Joint Working Party is composed of a chairperson and two vice-chairs.
- 13. At its forty-first session the Joint Working Party decided that, given the still ongoing discussions to amend the COFFI Rules of Procedure, it preferred to defer the decision to the forty-second session of the Joint Working Party in 2020.
- 14. The Joint Working Party will be invited to decide on whether to apply the new set of rules of Procedure of COFFI or to keep applying ECE Rules of Procedure.

#### 5. Guidance on Work Areas

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/3

ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/4 ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/5 ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/6

- 15. Delegates will be requested to review the activities of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020. They will also be expected to review future work plans for 2020 and indicate their support or where changes are needed. This guidance should cover both the work of the secretariat as well as the work of the Teams of Specialists.
- 16. The secretariat has invited each Team of Specialists to prepare a report to the Joint Working Party by 15 February 2020 and will publish these separate reports on the website of the meeting. The leader, deputy leader or a designated member of each team will be invited to present the work of their Team of Specialists under their respective Work Area.
- 17. Work delivered by the secretariat since the forty-first session of the Joint Working Party can be found in the four "Reports by the secretariat" on Work Areas 1-4, which will be made available prior to the meeting. The secretariat presentation at the meeting "Implementation by the secretariat" will highlight only the major achievements in order to allow for more discussion time. The documentation will contain a detailed description on the topics.
- 18. Some highlights from the work areas are listed below.

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

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/3

- 19. The secretariat will update the Joint Working Party on the progress of ongoing work and planned activities for 2020, on reporting on forests, forest management, forest products markets and the analysis of data collected on these topics.
- 20. The secretariat will only provide a short overview on the items outlined in the background documentation and will offer the opportunity to comment on the Work Area in

general and including the following items:

- (a) Update on the initial results of the 2020 reporting on forests;
- (b) Update on the study on state of the forests in Caucasus and Central Asia;
- (c) New items in JQ 2017;
- (d) Feedback on electronic versions of the FPAMR 2019;
- (e) Joint Wood Energy Enquiries 2017 and 2019.
- 21. Information on the detailed setup of the presentation of and the format of the discussion will be included in the background documentation.
- 22. The following Teams of Specialists will be invited to present the results of work completed since the previous session of the Joint Working Party, and plans for work under the current mandate (until 2021):
  - (a) Team of Specialists on Monitoring Sustainable Forest Management;
  - (b) Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics;
  - (c) Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products; and
  - (d) Team of Specialists on Wood Energy.

#### (b) Work Area 2: Policy dialogue and advice

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/4

- 23. The secretariat will update the Joint Working Party on the progress of ongoing work and planned activities for 2020, on forest policies and Forest Sector Outlook.
- 24. The secretariat will only provide a short overview on the items outlined in the background documentation. Delegates will be offered the opportunity to comment on the Work Area in general including the following topics:
  - (a) Forest Landscape Restoration in the ECE region;
- (b) ECCA30, a regional initiative to restore thirty million hectares of degraded lands in Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia by 2030;
  - (c) National Forestry Policy Dialogues;
  - (d) Boreal Forests;
  - (e) Forest Sector Outlook.
- 25. Information on the detailed setup of the presentation and the format of the discussion will be included in the background documentation.
- 26. The Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook will be invited to present the results of work that have been completed since the previous session and plans for work under the current mandate (until 2021).

#### (c) Work Area 3: Communication and outreach

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/5

- 27. The secretariat will update the Joint Working Party on the progress of ongoing work and planned activities for 2020 on communication and outreach.
- 28. The secretariat will only provide a short overview on the items outlined in the background documentation. Delegates will be offered the opportunity to comment on the Work Area in general including the following topics:
  - (a) The Trees-in-Cities-Challenge;
  - (b) The 5<sup>th</sup> European Forest Week on "Forests and Circular Economy";
  - (c) International Day of Forests 2020 "Forest and Biodiversity";
  - (d) The Forest Information Billboard;

- (e) Project on improving access to existing data.
- 29. Information on the detailed setup of the presentation and the format of the discussion will be included in in the background documentation.
- 30. The Team of Specialists on Forest Communication (Forest Communicators' Network) will be invited to present the results of work that has been completed since the previous session and plans for work under the current mandate (until 2021).

#### (d) Work Area 4: Capacity-building

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/6

- 31. The secretariat will update the Joint Working Party on progress of work and planned activities for 2020, regarding capacity building. Delegates will be invited to comment on the work are in general, including the following items:
- (a) United Nations Development Account (UNDA) Project on "Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia", which was extended with additional funding to 2020;
- (b) Strategy for Landscape Restoration and Greening infrastructure for the Caucasus and Central Asia;
  - (c) Wood energy and forest products statistics.

# 6. Strategic Review of the Integrated Programme of Work

Documentation: ECE/TIM/2019/4 FO:EFC/2019/4 and ECE/TIM/2019/2 FO:EFC/2019/2

- 32. The Strategic Review (SR) is a thorough assessment of the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) for the ECE COFFI and the FAO EFC, covering the scope, structure and content of the programme; methods; partnerships; outputs from its implementation; objectives; and work of joint EFC and COFFI subsidiary bodies in order to prepare the Programme of Work for the following four year period (2022-2025).
- 33. A first Strategic Review of the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) was undertaken in 2000, and a second in 2004. A third thorough Strategic Review took place in 2008 and resulted in the programme of work for the period 2008-2012. The extension of the programme's cycle by one year to 2013 made it compatible with the United Nations (UN) and FAO biennial programming structures. To maintain the cycles' alignment, the fourth review was undertaken in the period 2012-2013, and the resulting revised programme of work for 2014-2017 was adopted by COFFI and the EFC in 2013. The fifth review was undertaken in the period 2016-2017, and the resulting revised IPoW was adopted in Warsaw, Poland in 2017 for the four-year period 2018-2021 (Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work). The sixth review will be undertaken in the period 2020-2021, and the resulting revised IPoW is expected to be adopted by the COFFI and the EFC in 2021 for the four-year period 2022-2025.
- 34. The joint seventy-seventh session of the ECE COFFI and the fortieth session of the FAO EFC endorsed the timeline as contained in Annex I of document ECE/TIM/2019/2-FO:EFC/2019/2. After the Joint session, the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section consulted the Joint Bureaux of COFFI and EFC and started a review of the draft questionnaire for the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) stakeholders' survey and sought their approval of the Strategic Survey roadmap on the preparation of the 2022-2025 IPoW.
- 35. The Secretariat, in line with the endorsed timeline, invites the Joint Working Party to discuss the possible future structure and work of the Teams of Specialists and how the secretariat could service these teams within the given resources. The outcome of the discussion is an early, but important step in the process of the Strategic Review and the outcomes of the discussion will directly feed back into the review process as outlined in the Annex.

# 7. Overview on forest and forest sector related work by the Economic Commission for Europe and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and list of Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work activities for 2021

Documentation: ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/Inf.1

- 36. The joint seventy-fifth session of the ECE COFFI and the thirty-ninth session of the FAO European Forestry Commission requested in the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work [ECE/TIM/2017/2–FO:EFC/2017/2] Annex I para 4: "A specific list of activities to implement the Programme is agreed on an annual basis by the Working Party and the ECE COFFI and the FAO EFC. ECE and FAO are asked, in line with their governance structures, to present an overview of their forest-related work in the region to each session of the Working Party in order to facilitate the review of the proposed list".
- 37. The secretariat will present a preliminary list of activities planned for 2021 to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party (ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2020/Inf.1). In line with the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work 2018-2021, the Joint Working Party is invited to review and agree on the list. "The final list of activities prepared every year should help member States and regional economic integration organizations to further prioritize the work of the secretariat. A related budget will be prepared and shared with the Joint Bureaux, member States and regional economic integration organizations after the approval of the list to understand the feasibility of activities and identify funding needs".
- 38. In accordance with this request, the secretariat will invite ECE and FAO to compile such an overview and present this list of activities planned for 2021 to the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party.

#### 8. Election of officers

- 39. The Joint Working Party will be expected to elect a Chair and two Vice-Chairs, who will hold office until the end of the forty-third session. At its forty-first session, the Joint Working Party re-elected Mr. M. Dieter (Germany) as Chair and Mr. J. Prestemon (United States of America) and Ms. M. Wolicka (Poland) as Vice-Chairs until the end of the forty-second session. According to current procedure, Mr. J. Prestemon would leave the bureau and Mr. M. Dieter will conclude his term of office as the Chair of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party and Ms. M. Wolicka would become Chair.
- 40. Should the Joint Working Party decide to adopt the Rules of Procedures of COFFI under Agenda Item 4, it should elect a Chairperson and three Vice-Chairpersons among individuals nominated by member States of UNECE instead. The Joint Working Party Bureau shall consist of those four officers in accordance with the COFFI Rules of Procedure:
- (a) "The term of office shall be one year. Bureau members can be re-elected for maximum seven additional terms. Efforts shall be made to ensure continuity within the Bureau, as appropriate. The terms of office of elected officials will begin at the end of the session in which they are elected. This will allow the current officers to preside over the session that they have prepared and organized.
- (b) Candidates for the Bureau of the Committee and other subsidiary bodies shall be nominated by member States based on the person's expertise, professionalism, and expected support from the membership.
- (c) Geographical balance should be taken into due consideration when examining the candidatures of potential Bureau members.
- (d) Member States, while making their nomination, shall ensure that candidates or their employers have no contractual agreement with ECE, from which they or their employers may financially benefit, in order to avoid conflicts of interest.
- (e) The elections for the Bureau will take place in accordance with the Guidelines on Procedures and Practices for ECE bodies (E/2013/37-E/ECE/1464, Annex III, appendix III)".

- 41. In case the Joint Working Party decides to stay with the current ECE rules of procedures, it will only be asked to elect one new incoming chairperson.
- 42. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party is reminded that the selection of the incoming Vice-Chair should take in consideration gender and regional balance. The secretariat will circulate an official communication on this matter to the Heads of Delegation and the respective Missions in Geneva.

### 9. Date and place of next meeting

43. The secretariat proposes 23-25 March 2021 in Geneva, Palais des Nations for the forty-third session of the Joint Working Party. The International Day of Forests will fall on a Sunday in 2021 and the secretariat proposes to observe the celebration on Monday, 23 March 2021. Delegates will be invited to discuss possible topics, dates, and the structure of the Joint Working Party session in 2020.

## 10. Any other business

44. None at the time of writing. Delegates may propose topics for discussion prior to the meeting.

## 11. Adoption of the report

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

## IV. Tentative timetable<sup>†</sup>

46. The forty-second session of the Joint Working Party will take place from 24 to 25 March 2020. The session will be preceded by the celebrations of the international day of forests on Monday 23 March 2020. Three Team of Specialists will meet on Thursday, 26 March 2020. The secretariat proposes the following tentative timetable:

#### Monday, 23 March 2020 (not part of the official meeting)

10:00 – 18:00 Celebration of the International Day of Forests – Forests and Biodiversity (more detailed information can be found on the website: www.unece.org/idf2020)

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

#### Salle VIII

#### Tuesday, 24 March 2020

10:00-13:00 Item 1 (adoption of the agenda) – Item 5 (Guidance on Work Areas)

15:00 – 18:00 Item 5 continued

18:30 Reception

#### Wednesday, 25 March 2020

09:30 – 12:30 Item 6 (Strategic Review of the Integrated Programme of Work)

14:30-17:30 Item 6 continued -11 (Adoption of the report)

#### Thursday, 26 March 2020 (not part of the official meeting)

09:30 - 17:30	Meeting of the Team of Specialists on Wood Energy (Salle XV)
07.50 17.50	recording of the Team of Specialists on Wood Energy (Same 174)
09:30 – 17:30	Meeting of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics (Salle S-4)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> The timetable is purely indicative and may change in the course of planning of the event. It reflects the planning of the meeting on the day of the submission of the document.

# V. List of important abbreviations and acronyms

COFFI Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

ECE United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

EFC European Forestry Commission

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HS Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System

IPoW Integrated Programme of Work

JB Joint Bureaux of the ECE COFFI and FAO EFC

JWP Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management

RoP Rules of Procedure SR Strategic Review

UNDA United Nations Development Account

ToR Terms of Reference
ToS Team of Specialists

#### Annex

# Timeline of the Strategic Review of the Integrated Programme of Work

# Phase I: review of the 2018-2021 Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work

#### November 2019

 Agreement on the methodology and scope of the Strategic Review (SR) at the COFFI/EFC session in November 2019.

#### January 2020 – March 2020

 Discussion on the SR roadmap, review of the draft questionnaire for the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) stakeholders' survey at the Joint Bureaux (JB) meeting, approval of the Strategic Survey roadmap on the preparation of the 2022-2025 IPoW. Relevant discussions on the work of Teams of Specialists (ToS) will be held at the ECE/FAO Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWP) meeting.

#### April 2020

· The questionnaire is shared with stakeholders.

#### April – June 2020

· The secretariat prepares its assessment of work and outputs.

#### **June – July 2020**

· Compilation and analysis of survey results.

#### September 2020

• The Secretariat's first draft of the new IPoW and summary of survey results shared with JB for review.

#### October 2020

 Second draft of the new IPoW and summary of survey results will be shared with member States and other stakeholders. Organization of a special workshop and discussion of the first draft of the 2022-2025 IPoW with the participation of interested stakeholders and members of the JB.

#### November 2020

 Presentation of the SR process and the results of the stakeholders' survey by the secretariat at the COFFI session for further inputs and discussion on the future programme.

#### Phase II: preparation of the 2022-2025 IPoW

#### January 2021

• JB's first draft of the 2022-2025 IPoW to be shared with member States and other stakeholders.

# May 2021

• JB's second draft to be discussed with stakeholders at the JWP, and afterwards by the JB for final review.

## June/July 2021

• JB's final draft to be completed before mid-July 2021.

#### October 2021

• Joint sessions of COFFI and the EFC finalize and adopt the new 2022-2025 IPoW.

## January 2022

• Implementation of the new IPoW begins.