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Geneva, 4-7 November 2019

Item 3(c) of the provisional agenda

**Joint Committee/Commission matters: Integrated  
Programme of work****Fortieth session**

Geneva, 4-7 November 2019

**Strategic Review of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of  
Work****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

This document provides an overview of the approach, methodology and timeline that will be used for the Strategic Review of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work 2018-2021 for the ECE Committee on Forestry and Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission. The review of the Integrated Programme of Work has to be undertaken every four years. The outcome of the Strategic Review process during 2020-2021 will determine priorities for the next Integrated Programme of Work up to 2025.

The Committee and Commission are requested to review the document and endorse the proposed timeline.



## **I. The Strategic Review process and the 2020-2021 Strategic Review**

1. The Strategic Review (SR) is an assessment of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work (WIPoW) for the ECE Committee on Forests and Forest Industry (COFFI; also “Committee”) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC; also “Commission”), 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.

2. A first SR of the ECE/FAO Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) was undertaken in 2000, and a second in 2004. A third thorough SR 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 Committee and the Commission in 2021 for the four-year period 2022-2025.

## **II. Purpose and methodology**

3. The main objectives of the review process are:

(a) The review of the 2018-2021 WIPoW, taking into consideration the results of its implementation and past experience; and;

(b) The development of a proposal for the IPoW for 2022-2025.

4. The IPoW would then provide the basis for the 2022-2023 and 2024-2025 biennial programmes of the ECE Forests and Forest Industry subprogramme and the FAO Programme of Work and Budget, and the joint work of the Committee and the Commission for the same years.

5. Based on experience gained from the previous review, the following exercise should focus on the review of the IPoW itself, in particular on:

(a) Assessing the relevance of the topics covered by the 2018-2020 WIPoW, taking into consideration new and emerging issues, as well as new needs and requests from member States;

(b) Reflecting its contribution to, and therefore alignment with, the Sustainable Development Goals (Goals 6, 7, 11, 12, and 15) as well as the Global Forest Goals;

(c) Addressing new and upcoming developments and priorities of the United Nations (e.g. UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, etc.);

(d) Reflecting priorities and needs of all UNECE member States.

## **III. Review Process**

### **A. Survey**

6. The review should make use of a survey carried out by the secretariat, to be made available in English and Russian, to be shared with the relevant stakeholders. The survey will have open-ended questions, allowing respondents to provide ideas and comments on future work, priorities and new needs/issues.

7. It is suggested that for this survey one comprehensive questionnaire be produced and shared with all relevant stakeholders. The secretariat will then compile the results of the questionnaire and use this as a basis for discussion in review meetings and in the preparation of the proposal for the new programme. A draft set of open questions for the survey is available in Annex I.

## **B. Evaluation of the work of the Teams of Specialists**

8. A SR of the Team of Specialists' (ToS) work will be undertaken collectively by the respective ToS, under the guidance of the secretariat and in consultation with the chair of the ToS, using consultations and the survey questionnaire.

9. The results of these exchanges should also feed into the overall review process.

## **C. Assessment by the secretariat of work and outputs**

10. The ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section benefits from the hands-on involvement of managing and implementing the programme of work and is often aware of challenges encountered in its execution. It is, therefore, proposed that the results of a secretariat internal review of the 2018-2021 WIPoW and its implementation, as well as ideas for the future development of the 2022-2025 IPoW, be compiled and made available for review. This will be done by providing a summary analysis which maps major activities and accomplishments of the WIPoW. This is not intended to be a self-evaluation, but more an assessment of challenges faced by the secretariat in implementing the WIPoW, an evaluation of the structure of the WIPoW, and suggestions for possible improvements and opportunities.

## **D. Meetings with COFFI and the EFC and their subsidiary bodies to discuss the SR and the new IPoW**

11. The involvement of COFFI and the EFC and their subsidiary bodies, in particular the ECE/FAO Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (JWP), and the joint bureaux, in the SR process and in the development of the new 2022-2025 IPoW proposal is listed under item IV.

## **IV. Timeline**

12. The following schedule is proposed for the review process:

### **Phase I: review of the 2018-2021 WIPoW**

#### **November 2019**

- Agreement on the methodology and scope of the SR at the COFFI/EFC session in November 2019.

#### **January 2019 – March 2020**

- Discussion on the SR roadmap, review of the draft questionnaire for the IPoW stakeholders' survey at the JB meeting, approval of the Strategic Survey roadmap on the preparation of the 2022-2025 IPoW. Relevant discussions on the work of ToS will be held at the 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.

## Annex

*Set of open questions:*

### **A. General review of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work 2018-2020**

1. In what ways have you been involved in the implementation of the Warsaw Integrated Programme of Work (WIPoW) 2018-2021?
2. To what extent were the themes of the WIPoW 2018-2021 relevant to challenges in the UNECE region?
3. Did the WIPoW sufficiently contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the UNFF Global Forest Goals? Which goals did you see particularly met, and which goals should receive more attention?
4. What do you think were the main achievements of the WIPoW 2018-2021 for the region?
5. What do you think as not been achieved and where do you see room for improvement, if any?
6. Should the goals and objectives of the new IPoW 2022-2025 be modified? And if yes, in what ways?
7. Did the scope of the programme address challenges of the region in a meaningful way? If not, explain how it could be widened/narrowed.
8. Is the structure of the IPoW, and its organization around the four pillars adequate?
9. Are the existing themes within the work areas adequate? How could they be modified or otherwise improved?
10. Which other areas/themes should the next IPoW address?
11. How could the IPoW 2022-2025 better service the needs of member States and other stakeholders in the region?

### **B. Joint Working Party (JWP) on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management**

12. What do you think are the main achievements and shortfalls of the JWP and how would you like to see it improved?
13. Is the scope and functioning of the JWP adequate to achieve its purposes?
14. Indicate which ToS you are familiar with.
15. How do you think the ToS contribute to the IPoW? What type of improvements would you like to see in the work of the ToS in general?
16. Do you have any specific suggestion regarding the work of other individual ToS?
17. How do you assess the support by the Section to the ToS?

### **C. Communication and publications**

18. Which communications activities did you find successful and which should be improved?
19. Which major publications of the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section are you aware of?

20. How could the publications better service the needs of member States and other stakeholders in the region? Improvements/changes?

#### **D. Capacity Building**

21. How successful do you regard the Section's capacity building efforts?
22. How could capacity building activities better service the need of members States and other stake-holders in the region? What should be changed or improved?

#### **E. Implementation, Resources and Cooperation**

23. How do you assess your country/organization's participation in the implementation of the integrated programme of work?
  24. What are the main reasons that prevent your country/organization from increasing its presence in meetings and its contribution to activities? What would make/convince you to involve more in the work and implementation of the Programme?
  25. What kind of partnerships would better serve the programme addressing the needs of the region?
  26. Do you have any suggestions as to how the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section can improve its work in the implementation of the integrated programme of work 2022-2025?
  27. How do you assess cooperation in the implementation on the IPoW with countries, processes, organizations and with other sectors? What do you see as major obstacles to cooperation and how could it be further improved?
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