

WG, Europe and North America

Moderation/servicing: Alex Korotkov/Kewin Kamelarczyk

15 participants

“How to strengthen regional collaboration and sharing of information and experiences”

1. NC network members: who?

- **One officially nominated person should be responsible for the entire report (convene the national team, e.g. invite representatives for FRA-related events in the region)**
- **What is the task of the NC? This should be clearly described by UNECE and FAO**
- **Should the role of the NC be wider than just reporting? Continuity of his role is stressed as important. Maybe NC's tasks should be extended to also include promotion of the FRA**
- **There are some problems with the nominations (who should do the nominations, missing tools or processes for the nominations)**
- **FAO/UNECE should keep track of NC changes in order to be able to train new NCs**

2. Benefits (if any) of being member of NC network

- **Exchange experiences**
- **Improve quality of national data set**
- **National reporting and acquisition of data at national level (even beyond FRA)**
- **Be informed on the latest development in the area**
- **Strengthening professional views as part of the continuity**

3. Regional vehicles to increase networking

- **Example of a North American network for national inventory program (USA, Canada and Mexico)**
- **Joint UNECE working party on forest economies & strategies**
- **FAO EFC**
- **NAFC**
- **UNECE Timber Committee**

- Etc.

4. Other networking models

- C&I networks, Empowering NCs + collaborators
- FAO Forestry Commissions
- MCPFE and MP networks

5. How to improve networking

- Proposal of establish electronic discussion forum
- Forest authorities should be responsible together with NCs
- There should be a recommendation a FAO letter (an FAO “empowerment letter”) that call for authorities to facilitate and assist the national FRA process. This letter might be issued annually and formulated and addressed differently according to NC recommendations for the specific country. The letter should be copied by email to NCs.

6. How can FAO and other int. org. help?

- A letter from FAO that state their responsibilities in relation to FRA is wider than capacities of NC offices
- Regional workshops
- Translation to other languages

7. Benefits from NC network to other organisations

- Improve awareness of NCs existence and use of data
- Classification, definition and consistency of data
- Use our data
- Data beyond NFI scope

8. How to ensure that reporting burden remains manageable?

- Prevent overlap of data requests
- Limit the request for data
- Use other international databases
- Joint Working Party request (May 2006)

9. What's next?

- To continue maintaining and empowering NC network. Establish linkages with other regional processes, network of NFI, ToS on monitoring forest resources for SFM in UNECE regions. Focus on elaboration of the MCPFE 2007 report and preparation for global FRA 2010

10. Other points?

- **No networking in the region of Near East, though some countries from this region were participating in the meeting in Budapest. The working group was in general open for including NCs from other countries that might be considered as European.**