

Outline for country statements on

“Capacity Building in Sharing Forest and Market Information”

an international workshop under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Timber Committee and hosted by Ministry of the Czech Republic and Forests of the Czech Republic S.E. in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization, Sub regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe, 24 – 28 October 2005, Prague and Křtiny, Czech Republic.

The purpose of this country statement is to provide a description (maximum 20 pages) of the forests resources of your country and their benefits to society, developments of markets for forest product and services as well as the policies affecting them. Accordingly the country statement is structured into an overview and three specific parts (see below).

The three specific statements will be written by the three respected country experts/participants. Each participant is requested to present the major aspects of his specific statements during a brief presentation (10 minutes) in the corresponding working group on Wednesday/Thursday preferably in English, but alternatively in Russian.

With regard to the overview we particularly suggest elaborating this part of the statement in close collaboration with the state forestry administration. We would request one of the three expected participants/experts from each country to present the “Overview” presentation (10 minutes) on Monday/Tuesday during the plenary session. May we kindly ask you to coordinate the elaboration and the presentation of this by yourselves.

Please provide the statement preferably in English, but send also the Russian version. If statistics are not available, please use estimates. Indicate sources of the information for the basic forest resources and forest sector statistics. If possible, please convert values into US dollars. We kindly ask you to prepare your statement in Microsoft Word and **submit a copy not later than 31 August 2005** preferably via e-mail to: Mr. Douglas Clark, Forest Products Marketing Consultant, UNECE/FAO Timber Branch, 435 Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva10, Switzerland, phone: +41 22 917 2870, fax: +41 22 917 0041, e-mail: Douglas.Clark@unece.org. If you need any clarification or further information for the preparation of your country statement, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Clark.

Overview (1-3 pages)

Please describe briefly:

- Forest resources of your country and their major benefits to society: problems/issues and expected developments
- Markets for forest products and services (state and private) and their contribution to economic prosperity in your country: problems/issues and expected developments
- Policy framework for forest land use including financial regulations for wood processing and trade; highlight societal demand towards forest land use
- Major policy institutions and instruments the level of participatory approaches in policy decision making involving all stakeholders
- Place of forestry, wood processing and trade of forest products in your country, compare to the national economy
- Regional context of the forest sector of your country in comparison to other countries in the region
- Conclusions and recommendations

1. Forest Resources Assessment for SFM (4-5 pages)

Specific questions related to this part of can be addressed to Mr. Alexander Korotkov (phone: +41-22-917 2879 fax: +41 22 917 0041 or email: alexander.korotkov@unece.org)

a) Forest resources, brief general overview

Information (statistics and description on status and trends) on areas of Forest and Other wooded lands (OWL), percentage of the total land area, distribution on the territory, characteristics and categories of forests, forest types, age-classes distribution, designation and main functions of Forests and OWL, species composition, growing stock, etc.

b) Forest ownership and forest holdings

Information on the state, private and other types of the ownership in the country, status and trend. Description of the forest management units (size, structures, etc). Link to the national forest legislation (Forest Law). Relations between the forest ownership and forest utilization. Management practices of public (state) and private forests.

c) Protective and Protected forests and OWL

Information on the forest functions other than wood production (natural and national parks, other protected areas, soil and water protection, protective forests belts, historical and cultural forest areas, etc), recreation and other health-supporting/ sanitary forest areas. Providing non-wood goods and other services. Natural (primary, old-growth) forests and forest plantations.

d) Growing stock and its utilization

Information/ statistics on the growing stock (GS), net annual increment (NAI), cuttings/ fellings/ removals, ratio Fellings/ NAI (by species groups, if data are available): status, changes and trends. Non-wood forest products, their categories, importance of specific products... Employment in the primary production forestry work.

e) National forest management planning

Information on the National Forest Inventory, Accounting and Forest Management Planning Systems (methods of work, organizational aspects, resources availability, support from the state, investments into this work, partnership, support from international organizations, etc). Existing country capacities to collect and process the forest resources information, national and international forest resources assessment (FRA) projects...Sampling or aggregation of data? What variables are is covered/ assessed? ...Institutions and the organizations involved. Quality and reliability of the FRA information...

f) Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

Availability of the National Forest Plans... National Criteria and Indicators (C&I) of the Sustainable Forest Management (if available)... Regional and Global Forest Resources Assessment and Reporting on Criteria and Indicators for SFM... International processes on SFM, where the national forestry sector participate. Reporting at the national and international levels on SFM... Certification in the national forestry (areas certified, certification systems, etc).

g) Collection and dissemination of the FRA information

Country capacities and potential to respond to the information needs... Current status and plans for building capacities for the collection and dissemination of information on forest resources. Communication and cooperation with the national and international institutions/ organizations, which are involved in this work. Requirements/ needs, issues and problems in this area.

h) List of issues and problems to be addressed

To provide the list of major issues and problems to be solved to establish a reliable national system for the collection, processing, sharing, storage and dissemination of the forest resources information. What help is required form the international forestry community. Suggestions and recommendation from the country's forestry point of view, taking into account the realities of the transition period, and existing national structures and international networks (realistic projects proposals, not a "wishful thinking" ...).

2. Forest Products Markets and Marketing (4-5 pages)

Specific questions related to this part of can be addressed to Mr. Ed Pepke
(phone: +41-22-917 2872 fax: +41 22 917 0041 or email: ed.pepke@unece.org)

a) Forest products markets—general

- Description of major wood products produced, traded (exported and imported) and consumed.
- Description of major non-wood products produced, traded (exported and imported) and consumed.
- Source of raw materials: domestic or import
- General description of the producers: government owned and privately owned
- Major export markets.

b) Forest products markets—specifics

- Domestic wood products market size (value in US\$ and volume)
- Primary-processed wood products (roundwood, sawnwood (softwood and hardwood), panels, pulp and paper
- Secondary-processed wood products (furniture, other)
- Export market size for above (value in US\$ and volume)
- Domestic non-wood products market size (value in US\$ and volume)
- Export non- wood products market size (value in US\$ and volume)
- Competition (among the gathering organizations and processing companies, e.g. state-run companies versus private versus foreign) (competition by substituting products) in both domestic and export markets
- Future market opportunities and threats in the main non-wood forest products markets

c) Forest products marketing

- Marketing organizations: private companies, trade associations, cooperatives and government agencies
- Marketing intelligence: Describe existing marketing intelligence systems, use of market information in decision making, commissioning of marketing studies, collection of statistics from producers and consumers. How do you make marketing connections?
- Channels of marketing (wholesale, retail, agents, traders, etc.) and channels of delivery (transportation, storage)
- Promotion: What is being done to build up the image of the wood and non-wood forest products sector? How is advertising done?
- Pricing: How is pricing done?
- Education in forest products marketing: Does it exist at university level or in technical/vocational schools?

3. Policies affecting forest land use and forest products markets (4-5 pages)

Specific questions related to this part of can be addressed to Mr. Volker Sasse (phone: +36-1-461 2028 fax: +36- 1 – 351 7029 or email: volker.sasse@fao.org)

Please describe briefly:

- a) Structure of ownership rights of forest land, game, harvesting capacities, wood processing and trade of forest products
- b) Major trends in societal demand towards forest land use: e.g. forestry, non-wood goods and services, hunting, landscape protection, water management, recreation, possibly others.
- c) How does the current contribution of forest land use (economic, social and environmental) to sustainable development in your country correspond to demands? In light of this: What are the specifics in urban and rural developments? Do you see possible threats?
- d) Major policy issues with regard to further development of forest resource, forestry, wood processing and trade of forest products, e.g. education, research and development of infrastructure, possibly others
- e) Law enforcement: Are illegal activities (hunting, wood cuttings and exports) an issue in your country?
- f) What assistance provided by international organizations receives your country: What are the current needs and future expectations of your country? How well are current needs met by international organizations?
- g) Please list the governmental institutions, which are responsible for law enforcement on forests, their objectives with regards to forest land use and their main instrument used.
- h) Please list the governmental institutions (Ministries) which have responsibilities for the administration of state-owned forests and indicate who is carrying out the management in these areas.
- i) Please list the governmental institutions on major governing levels (state, regional, local), which are responsible for law enforcement on forest land and the institution responsible for the management of state owned forests.
- j) Please name and list the major stakeholders related to forestry, including NGO's, research and environmental organizations, educational institutions (exclude state administration, see questions g) and h) !).
- k) Are there major changes to be expected with regard to the forest policy framework in the near future?
- l) Would you be interested and able to participate and contribute to an international network on forest policy information? Are there any obstacles to obtain policy relevant information from your country?

With regard to items g) – j) you are invited to fill in the attached EXCEL tables.