



Seminar on

Protocol on Forest Management under the Carpathian Convention

Budapest, Hungary, 19-20 September 2007

Various recent reports, analyses and international workshops indicated that the forest management framework is scattered institutionally and instrumentally into various policy areas. Biodiversity and nature protection address the increasing needs in public services, whereas forestry, hunting also deal with the economic opportunities of forest management. The fragmentation of the policy framework has led to certain losses in efficiency in terms of the contribution of a common multifunctional forest management to overall sustainable development of the Carpathian Region.

The Carpathian Convention (<http://www.carpathianconvention.org/index.htm>) addresses forest management policy issues in various Articles, respectively Working Groups, mainly in Article 4 "Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity" as well as in Article 7 "Sustainable agriculture and forestry". The Working Groups took note about the interrelations and recognised the need for a coordinated approach towards a multifunctional use of forests, considering the increasing importance of public forest services, such as biodiversity and nature conservation as well as the economic potentials from forest management for rural development in the Carpathian region.

Heads of Forestry from countries of the Carpathian region met in Budapest in May 2006 and discussed the subject of a protocol on forest management under the Carpathian convention.

Building on this, the FAO Sub-Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe in collaboration with Padua University, Italy and the UNEP Secretariat in Vienna organises an international seminar, inviting from countries biodiversity and forest management experts. The objective is to discuss opportunities for a common: "Protocol on Forest Management under the Carpathian Convention" to be held in Budapest, FAO Office, 19-20 September 2007. You will receive in due time a revised draft protocol as a base for the discussion. A preliminary agenda of the seminar is attached as Annex 1.

In case you need any assistance for travel costs please indicate this in the attached registration form (see Annex 2), which should be returned **not later than 5 September** to Mr. Gabor Feher (email: gabor.feher@fao.org or fax +36-1-351-7029). Please also note that as from 1 July 2007 the Hungarian Government has discontinued granting entry visa, upon FAO request, at Budapest airport. Participants are responsible to obtain their entry visa to Hungary if needed.

If you have any question about the content of the workshop please don't hesitate to contact Mr. Volker Sasse, Forestry Officer, FAO/SEUR (email: volker.sasse@fao.org, phone: +36-1-4612028).