

Declaration of Krtiny

*Prague and Křtiny, Czech Republic, 27 October 2005,
updated in Zamardi, Hungary 18 May 2007*

We, experts and stakeholder representatives of the forestry sectors of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan

Nominated by the responsible Ministries of our countries;

Participating in the workshop on " Exchange of Experiences on Forest Policies and Institutions in Eastern European Countries " held in Zamardi, Hungary, 14-18 May 2007, organised jointly by the Czech Republic (Mendel University Brno), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of United Nations) Sub-regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe, and the UNECE/FAO (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) Timber Section;

Using inputs provided by members of the UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Management in Eastern Europe,

Reaffirming herewith the importance of the Krtiny Declaration as adopted 27 October 2005;

Noting its concrete impact to forest policy decision making in the target countries;

Welcoming input provided by international organization's such as FAO/UNECE and the achievements in terms of forest policy developments reached so far;

Pointing to further challenges in the area of forest policies and institutions, taking into account intergovernmental interests in improved contributions of forest management to the sustainable development in the region;

Considering specifics of sub-regions and particular interests of involved stakeholder groups;

A. Recommend additionally to the current Krtiny Declaration **to national governments** to:

Promote diversification of incomes through multifunctional forest management;

Undertake steps to encourage outsourcing management of state forests into commercially acting entities, considering the separation of management functions from controlling functions, applying international experiences, taking into account political and economic framework conditions in particular countries;

Encourage diversification of forest tenure, considering various types of devolution of forest ownership and management rights;

Develop and monitor NFP implementation;

Create innovative financing mechanisms, in particular with regard to the provision of public services;

Develop human resources in view of restructuring processes in the forestry sector;

Strengthen regional and international training capacities in forest policy and social science, building upon existing training capacities, focussing on:

- Participatory approaches,
- NFPs,
- Forest legislation,
- Public relations,
- Forest ownership and tenure arrangements,
- Forest management aligned with market conditions,
- Rural development,
- Ecotourism.

Support academic and research institutions in the development and strengthening of curricula addressing forest policy science and research, and providing training for trainers;

Strengthen the dialogue with the public, taking into account societal considerations and concerns;

Facilitate training of and information exchange between National Correspondents (FRA, forest products statistics, forest policy);

Promote and support innovative developments in forest management;

Facilitate the establishment of regional and international training capacities, particularly in forest policy and social science

Take the necessary steps towards the implementation of the listed/approved recommendations with increased efforts within the following two years.

B. Recommend additionally to the current Krtiny Declaration **to international organisations** to:

In light of this the meeting **recommended to**:

Initiate and facilitate implementation of national forest programme processes (on the basis of nfp principles);

Conduct further forest policy relevant studies and workshops at the national and regional levels, leading to the preparation of a high level forest policy conference, particularly on cross-border issues, building upon existing intergovernmental institutions;

Facilitate the strengthening of regional and international training capacities in forest policy and social science;

Facilitate study tours with an intersectoral focus, to strengthen cooperation with other sectors and promote international trainings and fellowship programs for foresters;

Update regularly official nominations of national correspondents;

Facilitate harmonization of terms and definitions on forest policy, institutions and instruments;

Organize discussion on the concept and definition of “forest policy“ at follow-up workshops;

Analyse outcomes of recent forest policy studies and workshops and present a compilation of policy relevant recommendations at follow up workshops;

Improve existing inventory methods and forest management planning for forest resources; taking into account the multifunctional role of forests and stakeholder’s capacities and needs;

Undertake further activities on gathering and dissemination of data and information on forest policies and institutions and enhance cooperation between the different initiatives carried out by International Organizations;

Disseminate outcomes of FAO forest tenure studies in Central Asia and to facilitate exchange of experiences with different tenure schemes;

Invest into translation and interpretation into Russian language, particularly to improve the quality of meeting documents; **and if possible, ensure translation of publications also into national languages; (add also to recommendation to national governments)**

Contribute to the dialogue between forest stakeholders and the public through e.g. the organization (promotion) of international competitions; and promotion of the International Forest Day.

This document was approved by the participants in a plenary session of the workshop on " Exchange of Experiences on Forest Policies and Institutions in Eastern European Countries " held in Zamardi, Hungary, 18 May 2007.