

International Commission on Poplars and Other Fast-Growing Trees Sustaining People and the Environment

26th Session, Rome, Italy 5 -9 October 2020

GUIDELINES FOR COUNTRY REPORTS

Activities Related to the Cultivation and Utilization of Poplars, Willows and other Fast-growing Trees 2016-2019

Electronic versions of national reports (including the questionnaire) should be sent to the IPC-Secretariat, E-mail IPC-Secretariat@fao.org no later than 1 April 2020.

The reporting period is 2016 to 2019 (4 years).

National commissions may also elect to include short reports containing relevant information on other fast-growing tree species, in line with the IPC reform and new scope of the IPC to “International Commission on Poplars and Other Fast-Growing Trees Sustaining People and the Environment”¹.

I. POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Summarize major developments in national policies, laws or regulations, which affected the cultivation or utilization of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees, in natural forests, planted forests and agroforestry. For example, include relevant policies concerning growing, harvesting, marketing, transportation, utilization and trading of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees; financial, fiscal or other incentives, environmental regulations which affect the growing of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees; and policies promoting the emerging use of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees for bioenergy (incl. fiscal incentives, subsidies etc.), carbon sinks and other environmental uses.

¹ IPC-Convention (2019)

Article III - Functions

The functions of the Commission shall be:

a) to study and engage on scientific, technical, social, economic and environmental aspects of **Populus and other fast- growing trees. In addition to the Commission’s work on the genus Populus, the Commission’s subgroups may work on other genera that sustain people and the environment.** Priorities of the Commission’s work are forest resources production, protection, conservation and utilization, with a view to sustaining livelihoods, land uses, rural development and the environment. This work includes food security issues, climate change and carbon sinks, biodiversity conservation and resilience against biotic and abiotic threats, and combating deforestation.

II. TECHNICAL INFORMATION

1. Taxonomy, Nomenclature and Registration

Report on accomplishments on identification and on proposals made for the registration of new cultivars of poplars and willows.

2. Domestication and Conservation of Genetic Resources

Report research and applications of technology in genetics, conservation and tree improvement achieved by the following categories:

Poplar sections:

- (a) Aigeiros section
- (b) Leuce section
- (c) Tacamahaca section
- (d) Other poplar sections

Willows

Other fast-growing tree species

3. Plant Health, Resilience to Threats and Climate Change

Report on the incidence, scale and impacts of damage in poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees by biotic and abiotic agents:

- (a) Biotic factors including insects, diseases and other animal pests and outline economic aspects and success of control measures undertaken and damage prevention in the future.
- (b) Abiotic factors including winds, floods, droughts, pollution and others, and outline economic aspects and success of control measures undertaken and damage prevention in the future.

4. Sustainable Livelihoods, Land-use, Products and Bioenergy

Report separately information on the application of new knowledge, technology and techniques in application of the culture of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees different purposes, including production, protection or conservation:

- (a) **Nursery** practices and propagation techniques including applications of biotechnology - particularly plant propagation, reproductive materials, use of GMOs etc.
- (b) **Planted Forests** with emphasis on the choice of cultivars, type of plants, spacing and layout of plantations; planting and tending (fertilization, irrigation, weeding, pruning, thinning etc.); management (growth, rotation in relation to yields and industrial requirements).
- (c) **Naturally regenerating forest**, with emphasis on experiences and experiments concerning silvicultural treatments, harvesting, management, protection and regeneration.
- (d) **Agroforestry and Trees Outside Forests** with emphasis on their effects on forest and agricultural crops or livestock and diversification of the landscape.

Report on the application of new knowledge, technologies and techniques in:

- (a) Harvesting of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees .
- (b) Utilization of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees for various wood

- products:
- (c) Utilization of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees as a renewable source of energy (“bioenergy”).

5. Environmental and Ecosystem Services

Report on the application of new knowledge, technologies and techniques for cultivation of poplars and willows; and brief reports on other fast-growing species for:

- (a) Site and landscape improvement (bank stabilisation, combating desertification and salinization, shelterbelts and windbreaks, soil rehabilitation, urban and peri-urban forestry for climate modification etc).
- (b) Phyto-remediation of polluted soil and water (buffer zones, contaminated sites, waste water management/treatment etc).

III. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Administration and Operation of the National Poplar Commission or equivalent Organization

- (a) Indicate here any changes in the composition of the Commission, amendments to its statutes, changes of address, etc.
- (b) Report briefly on meetings, congresses and study tours, and on other activities of a general nature organized by the Commission at the national level.
- (c) Indicate also the difficulties encountered by the Commission in the course of its work and any lessons learned

2. Literature

List here publications on poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees issued in the period under review, (2016-2019) including technical papers presented at meetings, congresses, etc.

3. Relations with other countries

Include here information also on the international exchange of cuttings and plants of poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees, training etc.

4. Innovations not included in other sections

List here any new developments not included elsewhere.

IV. SUMMARY STATISTICS (Questionnaire)

Complete the attached questionnaire on poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees summarizing statistics of key parameters in poplars, willows and other fast-growing trees resources, production, utilization, trade and future trends.

NOTE: A synthesis of all country reports will be prepared by the IPC-Secretariat and made available at the 26th Session of the IPC to all participants.