



MCPFE

Ministerial Conference
on the Protection of Forests in Europe

growing life

Work **Programme**

**Pan-European Follow-Up of the 5th Ministerial Conference,
5-7 November 2007, Warsaw, Poland**

MCPFE Work Programme

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Foreword



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From their start in the early 1990s, Ministerial Conferences on the Protection of Forests in Europe have been milestones in our work for sustainable forest management in the pan-European region. Based on our experiences in Norway, I can say that the commitments made at the ministerial conferences and the follow-up work has significantly influenced the formulation and implementation of national forest policies. The outcome of the ministerial conferences has made it possible for us to approach our challenges effectively. The political declarations and concrete actions have made a significant difference: they have established a solid ground for growth and diversity in today's forests.

At the latest conference held in Warsaw in November 2007, the ministers responsible for forests in Europe made decisions on forest issues of highest political priority within Europe. These priorities, climate change mitigation, energy supply and water protection, are essential for quality of life for the people in Europe and throughout the world. The Warsaw conference was a new milestone in European forest policy deliberations, pointing out the directions in the years to come. The Warsaw declaration and the two resolutions have proven to be highly relevant, addressing issues that

attract interest and attention among the public as well as policy and decision makers far beyond the forest sector.

Now we have the opportunity, and the obligation, to show that the forest sector is capable of providing the goods and services from sustainably managed forests to the benefit of our societies. The MCPFE has been a success story. To keep it that way we need to set strategic priorities for the follow-up of the Warsaw Conference. This work programme is a significant instrument in this regard. Norway is looking forward to a fruitful cooperation in the years to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lars P. Brekk". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lars Peder Brekk
Minister of Agriculture and Food Norway

1 Introduction

The Fifth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (5th MCPFE) "Forests for Quality of Life" was held on 5-7 November 2007 in Warsaw, Poland. At the Conference, ministers and high-level representatives of 46 European countries and the European Community endorsed the Warsaw Declaration and two Warsaw Resolutions: "Forests, Wood and Energy" and "Forests and Water" (Annex 2).

The European forest ministers committed themselves to ensuring that forests and sustainable forest management (SFM) play an active role in the sustainable development and well-being of European society. In particular, the ministers highlighted the role of forests and sustainable forest management in combating negative effects of climate change, for energy supply and in water protection.

The ministers also endorsed two ministerial statements. They declared the week of 20-24 October 2008 to be "The pan-European Forest Week 2008" and expressed their solidarity with the people and the governments of the countries of Southern Europe who have suffered during recent years from the effects of huge forest fires.

The high-level political commitments made at the Warsaw Conference provide an important framework for actions dedicated to sustainable forest management in Europe in the coming years. While all commitments of the Warsaw Conference are being implemented at the national level, added value is generated through joint implementation of some activities at the pan-European level.

In the Warsaw Declaration the ministers decided to "develop a work programme for the implementation of commitments of the 5th MCPFE in cooperation with relevant organisations, institutions and processes and to reinforce implementation of previous commitments" (Warsaw Declaration, para 38).

The MCPFE Work Programme is elaborated with the aim to put the ministerial commitments into pan-European actions and to progress towards the envisioned long-term objectives of sustainable forest management.

2 *MCPFE* Commitments 1990-2007

Since 1990 nineteen resolutions have been adopted at five Ministerial Conferences. In Figure 1 an overview of these MCPFE commitments is presented in relation to the three pillars of sustainable forest management.

Through the MCPFE commitments the concept of sustainable forest management has been defined and continuously developed at the pan-European level. The commitments have also served as a framework for implementing sustainable forest management in the European countries.

The MCPFE Work Programme gives prominence to issues highlighted by the ministers at the Warsaw Conference (2007). The implementation of the resolutions adopted at the ministerial conferences in Strasbourg (1990), Helsinki (1993), Lisbon (1998) and Vienna (2003) is ongoing. The pan-European aspects of these commitments are implemented in cooperation between the MCPFE Liaison Unit and organisations and institutions operating as international coordinators for the respective resolutions.

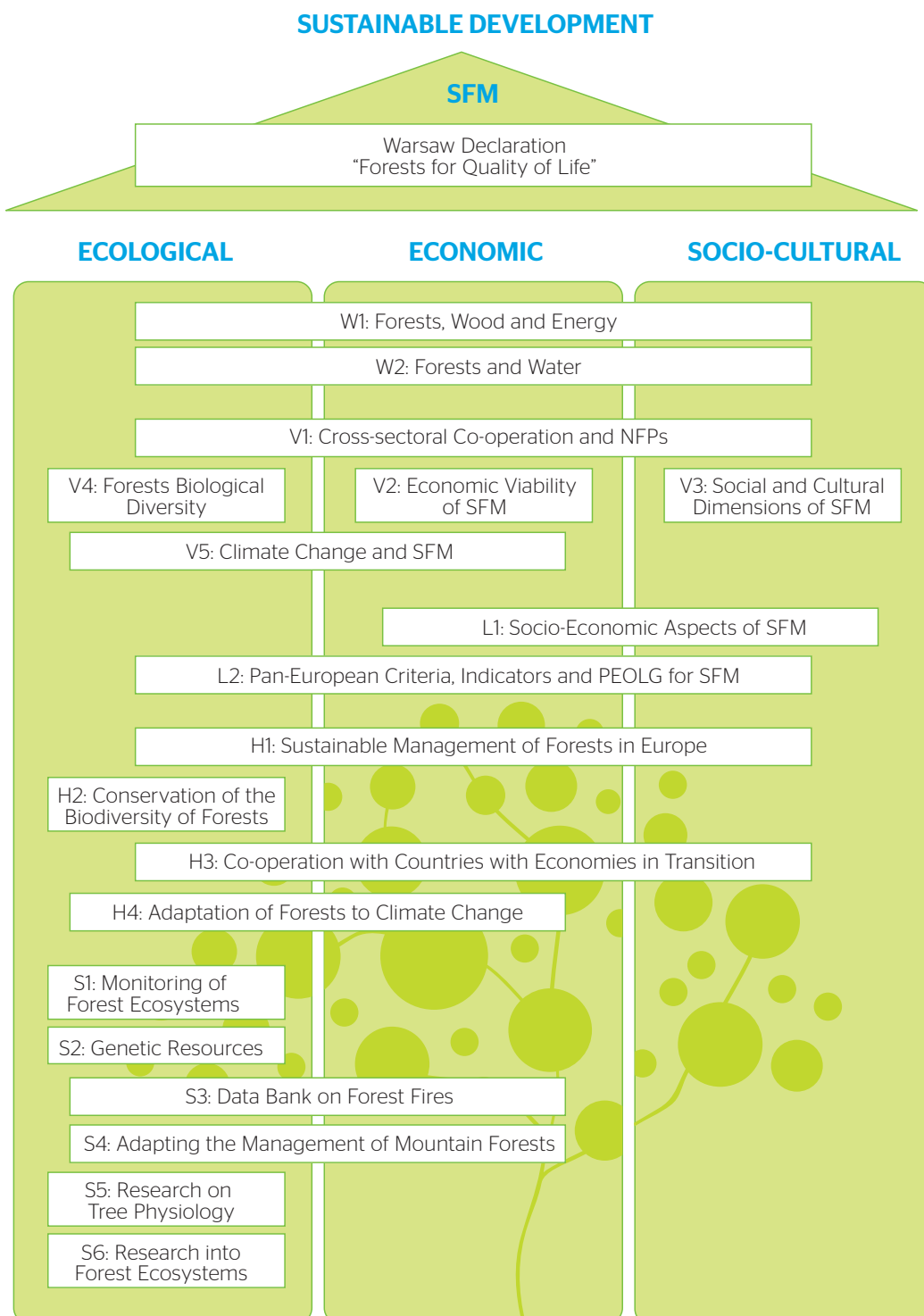


Figure 1. Resolutions adopted at five Ministerial Conferences, 1990-2007, and their relation to the three pillars of sustainable forest management (SFM). Please note that the titles of the Resolutions are short titles.

3 Principles and Structure of the **MCPFE** Work Programme

The MCPFE Work Programme is to be guided by the following principles:

- The Work Programme should reflect the political priorities addressed by the ministers at the Warsaw Conference and be in accordance with the mandate and capacity of the MCPFE;
- The Work Programme should embrace activities with added value at the pan-European level;
- The tradition of transparency and flexibility with regard to developing, implementing and reporting on the Work Programme should be continued, including the ability to accommodate emerging issues;
- Programme elements and activities should build upon, and be coordinated with work carried out by other partners and organisations, as well as work carried out to implement previous commitments;
- The Work Programme should contribute to the implementation of forest related global commitments and the achievement of relevant global goals as well as to strengthening collaboration with forest related institutions, processes and initiatives at global, regional and sub-regional levels;
- The Work Programme should build on relevant scientific knowledge and strengthen the science-policy interface

The MCPFE Work Programme comprises two parts: Implementation of the Warsaw ministerial commitments (chapter 4) and Strategic Direction of the MCPFE (chapter 5).

4 Implementation of the Warsaw Ministerial Commitments

Chapter 4 comprises activities clustered according to thematic elements arising from the commitments at the Warsaw Conference in the following structure:

- Sustainable Forest Management and Climate Change
- Wood Mobilisation and Sound Use of Wood
- Multiple Forest Ecosystem Services, including Forests and Water
- Regional-Global Cooperation and Partnerships
- Cross-Cutting Activities

4.1 Programme element: Sustainable Forest Management and Climate Change

In the Warsaw Declaration and the Warsaw Resolution 1: "Forests, Wood and Energy" the ministers responsible for

forests recognised the role of forests, sustainable forest management and forest products in climate change mitigation and the ongoing need for adaptation to climate change. They expressed their commitment to ensure that forests and sustainable forest management play an active role in combating the negative effects of climate change.

The pan-European activities under this programme element aim to increase the adaptability of forests to climate change and enhance the contribution forests and forest products make to mitigating climate change. The activities also aim to clarify the applicability of the concept of sustainable forest management, as developed by the MCPFE, with regard to developing sustainability criteria for production of energy from forest biomass and to further develop pan-European guidelines for afforestation and reforestation.

Table 1: Activities within Sustainable Forest Management and Climate Change

FOCUS AREA	ACTIVITIES	LEADING ACTORS	TIME FRAME	COMMITMENTS
FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE - MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION	Workshop on harvested wood products in the context of climate change policies	Switzerland, UNECE, FAO	9-10 September 2008	WD paras 11, 13
	Analysis of pan-European challenges in forest adaptation to climate change (building on global report by IUFRO)	IUFRO, Liaison Unit Oslo	2009	WD paras 11, 26 W2 paras 22, 23
	Workshop on sustainable forest management and climate change - optimising the contribution of the forest sector	MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo, Liechtenstein	Spring 2009	WD para 11 W2 para 23
	Workshop on the assessment of forest fire risk and innovative strategies for fire prevention	USSE, Cyprus, Greece, Silva Mediterranea, UNECE ToS on Forest Fires	2010	WD para 11 W2 paras 22, 23 Warsaw Ministerial Statement on forest fires
SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	Open-ended ad-hoc working group on sustainability criteria for forest biomass production, including bio-energy	Sweden, Norway, MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo	2008-2009	WD paras 13, 18 W1 paras 13, 14, 28
PAN-EUROPEAN AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION GUIDELINES	Drafting meeting on the elaboration of pan-European afforestation and reforestation guidelines	MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo, PEBLDS, Ireland	2008	WD para 19

4.2 Programme element: Wood Mobilisation and Sound Use of Wood

In the Warsaw Declaration and Warsaw Resolution 1 the ministers recognised the need to enhance wood supply to meet an increasing demand. They expressed their commitment to ensure enabling conditions for increased sustainable wood production and mobilisation. The ministers also emphasised the need to enhance the use of wood from sustainably managed forests, and to cooperate on and promote public procurement policies that demand timber and timber products from legal and sustainable sources.

The pan-European activities under this programme element aim to improve information on wood resources and consumption in Europe, to improve knowledge and understanding of conditions necessary for an increase in sustainable wood mobilisation, and to facilitate increased use of wood from legal and sustainable sources.

Table 2: Activities within Wood Mobilisation and Sound Use of Wood

FOCUS AREA	ACTIVITIES	LEADING ACTORS	TIME FRAME	COMMITMENTS
WOOD MOBILISATION	Collecting, validating, and disseminating information and analysis of wood availability and potential wood supply	UNECE	Ongoing	WD para 17 W1 paras 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23
	Analysing energy-related issues, including demand and supply for wood energy	UNECE	Ongoing	WD paras 13, 17 W1 paras 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 23
	Workshop on strategies for increased mobilisation of wood resources from sustainable sources	CEPI, CEPF, UNECE/FAO, COPA-COGECA, EFI	2009	WD paras 13, 17 W1 paras 21, 22
SOUND USE OF WOOD	Workshop on public procurement policies for timber	Denmark	7-8 April 2008	WD para 23
	Exchange of experiences on public procurement policies for timber and code of conduct for legality in timber trade in Europe	tbd	tbd	WD para 23
	Expert meeting on forest law enforcement and governance (FLEG) - progress and lessons learned	Romania, EFI, Liaison Unit Oslo, World Bank	2008	WD paras 23, 36

4.3 Programme element: Multiple Forest Ecosystem Services, including Forests and Water

In the Warsaw Declaration and Resolutions the ministers recognised the importance of the full economic value of the multiple services provided by forests as well as measures to secure these services. In previous commitments ministers have also drawn attention to the issue of improving conditions for the market-based provision of a diversified range of non-wood goods and services from sustainably managed forests.

The Warsaw Resolution 2: "Forests and Water" recognises in particular the interrelations between forests and water. The resolution stresses the role of forests and forest mana-

gement in protecting water quality and in overall watershed management. Other benefits of forests, such as carbon sequestration, biodiversity, leisure and socio-cultural aspects are recognised through several commitments.

The activities below build on ongoing activities and experiences related to valuation of and compensation for forest goods and services. The interrelation of forests and water is particularly emphasised. The activities aim to improve understanding of the relationship between forests and water and to elaborate on European approaches for developing measures to secure multiple forest services.

Table 3: Activities within Multiple Forest Ecosystem Services, including Forests and Water

FOCUS AREA	ACTIVITIES	LEADING ACTORS	TIME FRAME	COMMITMENTS
FORESTS AND WATER	Conference: Forest and water	Poland	14-17 September, 2008	WD paras 3, 14, 26 W2 paras 14, 20, 21, 22, 24
	Conference: Water and Forest: a convenient truth?	EFI, IUFRO	30-31 October, 2008	WD paras 3, 14, 26 W2 paras 20, 21, 22
	Workshop on water related ecosystem services and implications for forest and water policies	Liaison Unit Oslo, FAO, UNECE Water Convention, Turkey	2009	WD paras 14, 20, 21, 35 W2 paras 17, 21, 23, 25, 26
MULTIPLE FOREST ECOSYSTEM SERVICES	Workshop on pan-European approaches for development of measures to secure multiple forest services	MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo, UNEP tbd	2010	WD paras 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 21 W2 paras 9, 24, 25, 26
SOCIO-CULTURAL DIMENSIONS OF SFM	Workshop on implementation of Social and Cultural Values in Sustainable Forest Management - Vienna Resolution 3	IUFRO, Liaison Unit Oslo, ECE/FAO/ILO Expert Network, Italy	Spring 2009	V3 (Decision at the MCPFE ELM October 2006)

4.4 Programme element: Regional - Global Cooperation and Partnerships

In the Warsaw Declaration the ministers responsible for forests emphasised that sustainable forest management contributes significantly to the achievement of internationally agreed goals, including the Four Global Objectives on Forests, the Millennium Development Goals and the 2010 Biodiversity Targets. They expressed their commitment to contribute to the international forest policy dialogue by continued cooperation on forest issues in Europe and by sharing European achievements and experiences with other regions.

The ministers highlighted the importance of developing consistent inputs from the pan-European region to the work of the UNFF for 2007-2015, in cooperation with other regional bodies, processes and agreements.

The aim of the activities below is to elaborate and cooperate on regional inputs to the UNFF and to contribute to the implementation of the relevant programmes of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in particular the Expanded Work Programme on Forest Biological Diversity.

Table 4: Activities within Regional - Global Cooperation and Partnerships

FOCUS AREA	ACTIVITIES	LEADING ACTORS	TIME FRAME	COMMITMENTS
REGIONAL - GLOBAL COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS	Elaboration of the MCPFE input to UNFF sessions: 2009 - Forests in a changing environment and Means of implementation 2011 - Forest for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication	MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo	2008-2011	WD paras 27, 29, 30, 31, 37
	Integration of the MCPFE input into UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, UNFF and other relevant processes at the global level in cooperation with the relevant CPF members	Liaison Unit Oslo	2008-2011	WD, paras 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 37
	Forests in the changing environment - pan-European workshop as a regional contribution to the UNFF	Finland, Liaison Unit Oslo	3-5 September 2008	WD paras 27, 29, 30, 31, 37
	Analysis of a potential role of MCPFE as a regional process in the implementation of the NLBI	Liaison Unit Oslo	2008/2009	WD para 29, 31
	Workshop on sustainable forest management in the context of CBD and pan-European 2010 Targets	MCPFE, UNEP/PEBLDS, CBDS, UNFFS	2009/2010	WD paras 27, 31, 34, 37

4.5 Programme element: Cross-Cutting Activities

Activities outlined in this programme element are characterised as cross-cutting, and complete the programme elements outlined above. Cross-Cutting activities in the MCPFE Work Programme include activities within Communication and Outreach and Monitoring and Reporting, including Criteria and Indicators (C&I).

Communication and Outreach

In the Warsaw Declaration the ministers responsible for forests expressed their commitment to raise the profile and awareness of the multiple benefits of forests and forestry, as well as the role of the forest sector. They also decided to organise, in collaboration with stakeholders, actions towards raising public awareness on the cross-sectoral importance of forests and the forest sector. The ministers declared the week of 20-24 October 2008 to be the European Forest Week. The European Forest Week aims to increase the visibility of forests and the forest sector and raise awareness about their importance.

The objective of the MCPFE communication activities is to raise the profile and awareness of sustainable forest management, the multiple benefits of forests and the role of the forest sector, within government structures, private sector and with the general public.

The MCPFE communication and PR activities should be based on a communication strategy with definite and strategic goals.

Monitoring and Reporting, including C&I

Monitoring and reporting are necessary to document trends in the state of Europe's forests and progress in implementing MCPFE commitments. They also provide information helpful to guide policy development and implementation.

Table 5: Cross-Cutting Activities

FOCUS AREA	ACTIVITIES	LEADING ACTORS	TIME FRAME	COMMITMENTS
COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH	MCPFE Communication Strategy	MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo	2008-2009	WD paras 16, 39
	European Forest Week 2008	FAO, UNECE, EC, MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo, FCN	20-24 October 2008	Statement at 5th MCPFE Warsaw, WD paras 16, 39
	MCPFE contribution to Forest Days at UNFCCC COP14 (Poznan) and COP15 (Copenhagen)	CIFOR and other Collaborative Partners on Forests (CPF) members, Liaison Unit Oslo, Poland	December 2008, December 2009	WD paras 16, 39
	Contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity	Liaison Unit Oslo	2010	
	Contribution to the International Year of Forests 2011	MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo, UNFFS	2011	WD paras 16, 39
MONITORING AND REPORTING, INCLUDING C&I	Preparation of next "State of Europe's Forests"	UNECE/FAO, Liaison Unit Oslo	2008-2010	WD para 16 VD para 25
	Further work on refinement of forest types	UNECE ToS on monitoring SFM, EEA, IUFRO	2008-2009	V4

5 Strategic Direction of the MCPFE

Over the last eighteen years the MCPFE has defined and further developed the concept of sustainable forest management in the pan-European region through commitments, declarations and resolutions adopted at five ministerial conferences. The MCPFE is now a well established and well recognised entity in the European and global forest policy arena.

At the Warsaw Conference several ministers and heads of delegations, referring to the important achievements of MCPFE, argued that it is time to consider new and innovative forms for future cooperation in order to meet challenges ahead and to progress towards the envisioned long-term objectives. It was proposed to explore the potential for a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe.

In the Warsaw Declaration the ministers also decided to carry out a review of the MCPFE process by the sixth ministerial conference, assessing progress made and obstacles faced in the implementation of its commitments.

The pan-European activities under Strategic Direction of the MCPFE aim to facilitate a discussion on the role of the MCPFE and future work and means of cooperation.

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Table 6: Activities within Strategic Direction of the MCPFE

FOCUS AREA	ACTIVITIES	LEADING ACTORS	TIME FRAME	COMMITMENTS
STRATEGIC DIRECTION OF THE MCPFE	MCPFE External Review	MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo	2008-2009	WD para 40
	MCPFE Working Group on exploring the potential added value of and possible options for a legally binding agreement on forests in the pan-European region	MCPFE, Liaison Unit Oslo, Austria, Greece, Norway	2008-2009	Country statements at the 5th MCPFE
	Consideration of strategic directions of the MCPFE	MCPFE	Autumn 2009/ spring 2010	WD para 40 Country statements at the 5th MCPFE

Annexes

Annex 1. International activities supportive to the follow-up of the Warsaw Conference

- International Conference; Role of Forests in Climate Management: Research - Innovations - Investments - Capacity Building; Co-organised by the Federal Forest Agency of Russia, the World Bank Group, FAO, IUFRO and WHO, 4-7 October 2008, in St. Petersburg, Russia.
- International Conference; Adaptation of Forests and Forest Management to Changing Climate with Emphasis on Forest Health: A Review of Science, Policies, and Practices; Organised jointly by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, 25-28 August 2008, Umeå, Sweden.
- International Conference; The European Forest-Based Sector: Bio-Responses to Address New Climate and Energy Challenges?; Organised under the auspices of the French Presidency of the European Union (second semester 2008) and in connection with the pan-European Forest Week 2008, 6-8 November 2008, Nancy, France.
- European Commission, Standing Forestry Committee (SFC) working groups:
 - > SFC ad hoc Working Group on valuation and compensation methods of non-wood forest goods and services; European Commission, Liaison Unit Oslo; 2008-ongoing
 - > SFC ad hoc Working Group on mobilisation and efficient use of wood and wood residues
- Promotion of conservation and use of forest genetic resources through the European Forest Genetic Resources Programme (EUFORGEN) to contribute to the implementation of sustainable forest management in Europe. Coordinated by Bioversity International, Time frame: ongoing
- Establishment of a European Information System on Forest Genetic Resources (EUFGIS). Coordinated by Bioversity International, Time frame: 2008-2010

FIFTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF FORESTS IN EUROPE

5-7 November, 2007, Warsaw, Poland



WARSAW DECLARATION

Conditions of life on our planet are threatened and call for immediate action. The challenge for all governments and civil society is to protect and sustainably use the Earth's natural resources. European forests have a vital role to play, as they can improve and benefit the quality of life and in particular contribute to climate change mitigation, energy supply and water protection.

1. Being aware of continuous change of climate conditions and the foreseen consequences for forest ecosystems and forestry, and recognising the role of forests, sustainable forest management and forest products in climate change mitigation, as well as the ongoing need for adaptation to climate change.
2. Stressing the importance of using sustainably produced wood as a renewable raw material and renewable energy source and recognising the need to enhance wood supply.
3. Stressing the role of forests for water quality and quantity and for alleviating floods and droughts, as well as noting impacts of climate change on forest and water.
4. Recognising the importance of the full economic value of the multiple services provided by forests and the need to have adequate means and measures to secure these services.
5. Acknowledging that secure property and land tenure rights are a prerequisite for the implementation of sustainable forest management.
6. Emphasizing that sustainable forest management contributes significantly to environmental, economic, social and cultural dimensions of sustainable development and particularly to the achievement of internationally agreed goals, including the Four Global Objectives on Forests agreed by the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the Millennium Development Goals, the 2010 Biodiversity Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS).
7. Highlighting the importance of providing European input to the international forest policy dialogue.

8. Welcoming the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests and the Multi-year Programme of Work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for 2007 – 2015 adopted at the Seventh Session of UNFF.
9. Building on the 17 years of achievements and experiences and continuous efforts of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) to strengthen the economic, environmental, social and cultural aspects of forests at all levels.

As representatives of the Signatory States and the European Community, we commit ourselves to:

Benefiting Quality of Life

10. ensure that forests and their sustainable management play an active role in the sustainable development and well being of European society, for both rural and urban areas,
11. ensure that forests and their sustainable management play an active role in combating the negative effects of climate change through both mitigation and adaptation measures,
12. maintain, conserve, restore and enhance the biological diversity of forests, including their genetic resources through sustainable forest management,
13. enhance the use of wood as a renewable raw material and source of energy from sustainably managed forests,
14. ensure that forests and their sustainable management play an active role in maintaining and enhancing water quality and quantity and in mitigating natural hazards, such as floods, droughts, avalanches, land slides as well as in combating soil erosion and desertification,

Tackling Challenges

15. strengthen the competitiveness of the forest sector in order to increase its capacity to benefit the quality of life,
16. raise the profile and awareness of the multiple benefits of forests and forestry as well as the role of the forest sector, within government structures, private sector and with the general public,
17. create enabling conditions in order to increase the mobilisation of wood from sustainably managed forests for all uses,
18. ensure that all wood production, including short rotation and fast growing energy crops, is guided by the principles of sustainability in order to provide for fair competition between sectors,
19. continue to contribute to mitigation of and adaptation to climate change and in this regard to further develop pan-European guidance for afforestation and reforestation,
20. establish coherence between policies on forest and water resources and coordinate sustainable forest management and integrated water resources management,

21. develop and implement innovative tools for securing water-related services provided by forests, such as payments for ecosystem services (PES)¹ or other measures,
22. further promote national forest programmes or equivalents for cross-sectoral coordination and as a means for coherent implementation of forest related international commitments,
23. further strengthen efforts to promote good governance and forest law enforcement to combat illegal logging and related trade of forest products, inter alia by cooperating on and promoting public procurement policies that demand timber and timber products from legal and sustainable sources,
24. take effective measures to improve understanding between policy makers, practitioners and the scientific community in order to better use scientific knowledge and research results relevant to forests and the forest sector as a sound basis for decision making,
25. strengthen forest and forest sector related employment, education, training and communication and ensure equal opportunities in accessing them,
26. promote research, especially on the role of forests in climate change mitigation, adaptation of forests to climate change as well as the use of wood and biomass, the relationship between forest and water and functioning of forest ecosystems,

Global - Regional Cooperation and Partnerships

27. further promote effective implementation of sustainable forest management at all levels and contribute to the international forest policy dialogue by continued cooperation on forest issues in Europe and by sharing European achievements and experiences with other regions,
28. further support and cooperate with countries undertaking forest sector reform, particularly those countries with economies in transition to fully incorporate the principles of sustainable forest management in their forest sectors,
29. contribute to the achievement of the Four Global Objectives on Forests as well as the implementation of the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests and the Multi-year Programme of Work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for 2007 – 2015,
30. develop, in cooperation with other regional bodies, processes and agreements, consistent inputs from the pan-European region to the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for 2007 – 2015, addressing issues of the agenda items of UNFF sessions and strengthening the collaboration with the international arrangement on forests, *inter alia*, through sharing regional perspectives, approaches and experiences,
31. support objectives and actions at the pan-European level that enhance the regional contribution to the achievements of the Four Global Objectives on Forests agreed by the UNFF and other relevant global commitments,
32. undertake further efforts towards strengthening collaboration of the MCPFE with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) with the aim to recognise diverse roles of forests and their products in climate change mitigation, in the

¹ payments for ecosystem services (PES)- contractual transactions between buyers and sellers for ecosystem services or land use/management practices likely to secure those services. In: “Recommendations on Payments for ecosystem services in Integrated Water Resources Management”, UNECE Water Convention, 2006.

context of the post-2012 climate regime, as far as it contributes to the ultimate objectives of the UNFCCC,

33. strengthen collaboration of the MCPFE with the United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification (UNCCD) with the view to enhance the role of forests in combating desertification and combating floods,
34. contribute to the implementation of the relevant programmes of work of the CBD through effectively implementing the MCPFE commitments,
35. encourage joint activities of the forest and water sectors and enhance cooperation between the MCPFE and the Water Convention of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE),
36. support Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) ministerial processes and enhance collaboration between the MCPFE and the Europe and North Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENA FLEG),
37. use innovative and effective approaches to further strengthen the existing cooperation with other regional bodies and processes in Europe, such as Environment for Europe/PEBLDS, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations European Forestry Commission (FAO EFC), and UNECE Timber Committee (UNECE TC) in order to benefit from synergies, including for the development of consistent pan-European input to UNFF sessions,

Putting MCPFE commitments into action

38. develop a work programme for the implementation of commitments of the Fifth Ministerial Conference on the Protection on Forests in Europe in cooperation with relevant organizations, institutions and processes and to reinforce implementation of previous commitments,
39. organise in this context together with stakeholders actions to communicate at all levels and to raise public awareness on the cross-sectoral importance of forests, and the forest sector,
40. carry out a review of the MCPFE process by the Sixth Ministerial Conference, by assessing progress made and obstacles faced in the implementation of its commitments.

FIFTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF FORESTS IN EUROPE

5-7 November, 2007, Warsaw, Poland



WARSAW RESOLUTION 1

Forests, Wood and Energy

1. Supporting the objectives of mitigating climate change and increasing security of supply of energy.
2. Emphasising that forest biomass, wood processing residues and recovered wood represent important sources of renewable energy that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by replacing fossil fuels.
3. Recognising the need to improve both energy and resource efficiency in production and consumption of bio-energy.
4. Recognising the need to increase knowledge on the role of forest ecosystems as well as forest based products in long term carbon sequestration as a contribution to mitigate climate change in the context of the post-2012 climate regime.
5. Acknowledging that sustainable forest management practices and enlargement of the forest area in Europe have resulted in an increased availability of forest resources, providing in many parts of Europe the potential for increasing wood mobilisation while respecting the principles of sustainable forest management.
6. Recognising the significance of European forestry and forest-based industries, as well as the importance of maintaining their long term economic viability and competitiveness and emphasising that forests provide raw material for the forest-based sector as well as for energy.
7. Noting the increased competing demand for wood as a renewable raw material and as a renewable energy carrier and the need to avoid undue distortion of competition between different end uses.
8. Noting a need for improved and more comprehensive information on wood resources and wood consumption as a basis for better informed policy making and strategy setting.
9. Recognising that an increasing demand for wood, creates new income opportunities for forest owners, entrepreneurs and managers and also for wealth, jobs and economic growth, especially in rural areas.

10. Being aware that the fragmentation of forest ownership in Europe represents a challenge for maintaining active and sustainable management of forests and mobilising wood.
11. Recognising the complementary role of using woody biomass in reducing forest fire risk.
12. Building on previous MCPFE commitments, and recognising the ongoing work in the area of forests, wood and energy carried out by international conventions, organisations and processes.

The Signatory States and the European Community, commit themselves to:

I. Enhancing the role of the forest sector in energy production

13. take effective measures within the framework of sustainable forest management to increase the use of woody biomass for energy generation, taking into account the importance of processing residues and recovered wood as renewable energy sources,
14. assess environmental impacts of wood production for energy including impacts on soil, water, biodiversity and nutrient cycles,
15. adjust policies and instruments, including research and development, to support enabling conditions that encourage investments in the production and distribution of bio-energy, increased mobilisation, efficient use of wood and energy,
16. strengthen the position of the forest sector in cross-sectoral debates concerning energy through developing communication and raising awareness about present assets, the existing potential in the forest sector and the multiple benefits of using wood fuel,
17. encourage partnerships among public and private forest owners, forest based industries and energy producers aiming at the development of markets for bio-energy,

II. Mobilisation of wood resources

18. analyse and assess on a scientific and practical basis, and in dialogue with stakeholders, the existing and potential wood resources in Europe, inter alia, based on national forest inventories, as well as the feasibility and constraints for wood mobilisation,
19. develop and further improve systems of data collection on the consumption of wood for energy,
20. ensure enabling conditions for increased sustainable wood production through stronger interlinking of national forest policies with policies on sustainable development, agriculture, land use, rural development, environment, energy and industry,
21. identify and remove unintended barriers to an increase of sustainable wood production and mobilisation in forests of all types of ownership,
22. examine different practices under sustainable forest management and promote the use of a range of sustainable management systems including short rotation and coppice forestry in accordance with national law, to increase wood production and mobilisation in order to effectively address a growing demand for wood,
23. assess feasibility of mobilising wood resources from areas outside forests,

24. encourage capacity building of forest owners and their cooperatives and facilitate their cooperation and information exchange, inter alia, on access to wood markets, providing information, education, training and extension services, to empower and motivate proactive sustainable forest management in order to mobilise more wood,
25. promote development of the capacity of the forest workforce, entrepreneurs and managers in order to increase their ability to better respond to the needs of wood markets through education, training, and the use of innovative techniques,
26. promote adequate forestry and logistical infrastructures in order to facilitate access to wood resources and flexibility in responding to market demands,
27. support mobilisation of biomass from forests with high risk of fires, decreasing in this way a level of forests vulnerability,
28. encourage the application of sustainable management practices for wood production outside forests.

FIFTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF FORESTS IN EUROPE

5-7 November, 2007, Warsaw, Poland



WARSAW RESOLUTION 2

Forests and Water

1. Recognising the close interrelation between forests and water.
2. Concerned that there is a growing imbalance between freshwater supply and demand.
3. Aware of the need to ensure adequate water quality and quantity.
4. Stressing the need for adequate water conditions in order to sustain European society.
5. Emphasising the role of forests and forest management for biodiversity of water ecosystems.
6. Concerned that climate change will have severe effects on the frequency, scale and intensity of natural hazards such as floods, debris flow, avalanches, storms, and droughts and will have an impact on forest and water resources and their management.
7. Stressing the role of forests and forest management in protecting water quality, managing water resources for the quantity of all waters, flood alleviation, combating desertification and soil protection as well as the importance of mountain forests in the reduction of land slides, erosion and effects of avalanches.
8. Concerned that the frequency and size of forest fires is increasing and that fires occur more frequently, even at higher latitudes and altitudes, resulting in severe impacts on watersheds, water quality, quantity and soil erosion.
9. Emphasising that the full economic value of forests has to be adequately recognised and in particular the value of providing ecosystem services.
10. Recognising that forest owners have rights and responsibilities and noting the importance of prior consultations regarding the provision of water-related services.
11. Stressing the need to involve local communities and other relevant stakeholders in planning and implementation of water related forest policies.
12. Building on previous MCPFE commitments and recognising the ongoing work in the area of forests and water carried out by international conventions, organizations and processes.

The Signatory States and the European Community, commit themselves to:

I. Sustainable management of forests in relation to water

13. maintain and enhance the protective functions of forests for water and soil, as well as for mitigating local water-related natural disasters through sustainable forest management, including through public and private partnerships,
14. assess afforestation and reforestation programmes in terms of their effects on quality and quantity of water resources, flood alleviation and soil,
15. promote the restoration of degraded forests, particularly in floodplains and upper watershed areas for the benefit of the water environment, flood reduction, conservation of biodiversity and soil protection,

II. Coordinating policies on forests and water

16. develop and improve policies for forest and water resources management that contribute to the maintenance of ecosystems and the sustainable provision of their services,
17. coordinate forest and water resources management policies through national forest programmes or equivalents and integrated water resources management plans and strategies at the appropriate levels,
18. develop adequate or improve the existing institutional arrangements to better cooperate in addressing the interrelation between forest and water issues,
19. address the management of forests and water at the transboundary watershed level through enhanced international cooperation,
20. enhance education, training, research and extension services to promote knowledge and understanding of forest and water interactions,
21. increase awareness of the relationship between forests and water as well as the potential of forests and their sustainable management to improve the water environment,

III. Forests, water and climate change

22. develop a deeper understanding of the potential consequences of climate change on forest and water interactions, including desertification and biodiversity loss as well as the frequency, scale and intensity of floods, storms, droughts, forest fires, pests and diseases,
23. develop appropriate policies and strategies for managing forests and water resources sustainably to adapt to climate change and contribute to its mitigation,

IV. Economic valuation of water-related forest services

24. assess the economic value of forest services related to quality and quantity of water resources and flood alleviation from which society benefits,

25. incorporate the economic valuation of water-related forest services into relevant policies and strategies on forests and water,
26. facilitate the development and implementation of measures, which may include economic tools such as payments for ecosystem services (PES)² in order to broaden and diversify the financial basis for sustainable forest management and to maintain the protective functions of forests.

² payments for ecosystem services (PES) – contractual transactions between buyers and sellers for ecosystem services or land use/management practices likely to secure those services. In: “Recommendations on payments for ecosystem services in Integrated Water Resources Management”, UNECE Water Convention, 2006.

FIFTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF FORESTS IN EUROPE

5-7 November, 2007, Warsaw, Poland



MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

on the occasion of the
Fifth Ministerial Conference on the Protection
of Forests in Europe

5-7 November 2007, Warsaw, Poland

We, the Ministers responsible for forests in Europe declare the week of 20-24 October 2008 to be the **pan-European Forest Week 2008**.

This week should increase the visibility of forests and the forest sector and raise awareness about their important contribution to the protection of the environment and the development of economy and society in Europe.

Building on the progress made in Europe towards sustainable forest management over last decades and the well established and effective regional cooperation to this end, this week would also give an opportunity for additional concerted efforts to promote sustainable forest management and to engage other sectors in a participatory dialogue on forest related issues of cross-sectoral nature.

The pan-European Forest Week 2008, jointly prepared by the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, European Forestry Commission and Timber Committee, will provide an umbrella and framework for a series of events and for different European actors, including the public and private sector and civil society.

We encourage governments, national and regional bodies and processes as well as stakeholders to engage in this effort and organize actions at all levels to communicate and to raise public awareness on the importance of forests and the forest sector for Europe.

FIFTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROTECTION OF FORESTS IN EUROPE

5-7 November, 2007, Warsaw, Poland



MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

on the occasion of the
Fifth Ministerial Conference on the Protection
of Forests in Europe

5-7 November 2007, Warsaw, Poland

We, the Ministers responsible for forests in Europe, would like to express our sympathy to and solidarity with the people and the Governments of the countries of Southern Europe who have suffered during recent years from the effects of huge forest fires, the families of people who lost their lives, and those who lost their homes and their ways and means of life, with special reference to the disasters in Greece in the summer of 2007.

We would also like to express our readiness to explore further measures to prevent such forest fires and to restore the economic, social and ecological potential of the affected areas, as soon as possible.

Annex 3.

List of abbreviations in the Work Programme

C&I	Criteria and indicators
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEPF	Confederation of European Forest Owners
CEPI	Confederation of European Paper Industries
CIFOR	Centre for International Forestry Research
COPA-COGECA	Committee of Professional Agricultural Organisations in the EU-General Confederation of Agricultural Co-operatives in the EU
CPF	Collaborative Partners on Forests
EC	European Commission
EEA	European Environment Agency
EFI	European Forest Institute
ELM	Expert Level Meeting
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCN	Forest Communicators Network
FLEG	Forest Law Enforcement and Governance
H1	Helsinki Resolution 1
H2	Helsinki Resolution 2
H3	Helsinki Resolution 3
H4	Helsinki Resolution 4
ILO	International Labour Organization
IUFRO	International Union of Forest Research Organizations
L1	Lisbon Resolution 1
L2	Lisbon Resolution 2
MCPFE	Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe
NFPs	National Forest Programmes
NLBI	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
PEBLDS	Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy
PEOLG	Pan-European Operational Level Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management
S1	Strasbourg Resolution 1
S2	Strasbourg Resolution 2
S3	Strasbourg Resolution 3
S4	Strasbourg Resolution 4
S5	Strasbourg Resolution 5
S6	Strasbourg Resolution 6
Silva Mediterranea	Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions
SFM	sustainable forest management
tbd	to be decided
ToS	Team of Specialists
UNCCD	United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification

UNECE (ECE)	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFCCC COP	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Conference of the Parties
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
USSE	Southern Europe Forest Owners Union
V1	Vienna Resolution 1
V2	Vienna Resolution 2
V3	Vienna Resolution 3
V4	Vienna Resolution 4
V5	Vienna Resolution 5
W1	Warsaw Resolution 1
W2	Warsaw Resolution 2
WD	Warsaw Declaration



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