

CONVENTION ON LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

International Co-operative Programme
on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests

MINUTES

of the twenty fifth meeting of the Programme Task Force
held from 23 to 25 May 2009 in Saint Petersburg, Russia

Opening

1. The meeting was attended by 97 experts from the following 30 countries:
Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.
2. The meeting was chaired by the Chairman of the Programme (Mr. M. Köhl, Germany) and the Head of the Programme Coordinating Centre (PCC) of ICP Forests (Mr. M. Lorenz, Germany). Represented were the Lead Country of ICP Forests (Ms. S. Strich, Germany) and the ICP on Integrated Monitoring (Mr. L. Lundin, Sweden). Apologies had been received from the Chairman of the Working Group on Effects (WGE) and the Secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). A list of participants is attached as Annex 1.
3. Mr. Köhl opened the Task Force meeting, welcomed the participants, and thanked the Government of Russia for hosting the meeting. He extended his thanks in particular to Mr. A. Savinov, Head of the Federal Forestry Agency of the Ministry for Agriculture of the Russian Federation.
4. Mr. A. Ermolenko (Russia), Head of the Forest Health and Protection Department of the Federal Forestry Agency welcomed the participants on behalf of the host country. Mr. M. Kobel'kov, (Russia) Director of the Russian Centre for Forest Health of the Federal Forestry Agency, presented the status and the history of forest monitoring in Russia. He referred in particular to the participation of Russia in ICP Forests and presented first results of monitoring activity related to ICP Forests in Russia.

Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

5. Mr. M. Lorenz presented the agenda and gave an overview of the meeting documents, mentioning the following amendments: The Strategy of ICP Forests 2007-2015, the Implementation of the Strategy of ICP Forests 2011-2015 and the first announcement of a workshop on forest monitoring under the Swedish EU-Presidency in Uppsala, Sweden, in

November 2009. The agenda was adopted. Also adopted were the Minutes of the 24th Task Force Meeting of ICP Forests with a change proposed by the Lead Country.

Item 2: Reports by the Chairman and PCC

6. Mr. Köhl and Mr. Lorenz reported on the main activities of PCC, in particular with respect to the deliverables submitted to WGE under its the medium-term workplan. Mr. Lorenz reported on the outcome of the main meetings, making special mention of the 27th WGE meeting (24-26 September 2008 in Geneva, Switzerland), the Programme Coordinating Group (PCG) meeting (6 October 2008 within the Forest Monitoring Week held in Hamburg, Germany), and the Combined Expert Meeting (back-to-back with the kick-off meeting of the FutMon project on 12-16 January 2010 in Hamburg, Germany).

7. In the context of the cooperation with FutMon, Mr. Lorenz highlighted the development of a joint Level-I and Level-II database with on-line data submission and semi-automated data validation. Since the 24th Task Force Meeting, ICP Forests data had been provided to seven universities and research centres for purposes of their own projects. Mr. Lorenz also mentioned the updating of forms and related explanatory items for submission of 2009 data.

8. With respect to the preparation of the 25th Task Force Meeting, Mr. Lorenz referred to the analysis of crown condition and deposition data as well as to the 2009 Technical Report, the 2009 Executive Report, the 2009 Executive Report to UNECE, and several publications in scientific journals.

9. Mr. Lorenz also reported on the persisting cooperation with the International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO), the North American Forestry Commission (NAFC) and the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USDAFS). He thanked all participating countries and bodies of the programme for their active participation. The Task Force took note of the progress made by PCC and adopted its report.

Item 3: Reports by other ICPs

10. Mr. L. Lundin (Sweden), Chairman of ICP Integrated Monitoring, presented the programme's recent activities. The main priorities of the programme are currently heavy metal budgets and critical loads; budgets, trends and acidification recovery related to sulphur, nitrogen and base cations; site specific dynamic modelling; nutrient nitrogen loads and effects; and ground vegetation lichens and biodiversity indicators. In this respect Mr. Lundin highlighted cooperations of the programme with ICP Forests, GTOS, ALTER-Net, AMAP, LTER Europe, LIFE Watch, EUROLIMPACS, BRIM and SCANNET.

Item 4: Results and Reports of ICP Forests in 2009

11. Authors of the 2009 Technical and Executive Reports presented the contents of their chapters: Status and development of defoliation (Mr. Lorenz), spruce forest in Russia (Ms. N. Lukina, Russia), development of deposition and soil solution (Ms. S. Iost, Germany), deposition of chloride (Mr. N. Clarke, Norway, Chairman of the Expert Panel on Deposition), and deposition and forest growth (Mr. M. Dobbertin, Switzerland, Chairman of the Expert Panel on Forest Growth). Mr. Lorenz explained that the 2009 Executive Report will be

published jointly with FutMon as the FutMon Laymen's Report. He stressed the permanent need of attractive illustrations for publications of this kind and encouraged the participants in the meeting to submit suitable photographs to PCC. Mr. Lorenz also presented the Executive Summary intended for adoption by the Task Force (Item 8) and for official submission to the WGE. In the ensuing discussion the Task Force acknowledged the work of the authors and made several proposals regarding future data analysis and reporting.

Item 5: Obligations towards WGE and CLRTAP

12. Mr. Lorenz presented the draft 2009 Workplan on Effects-oriented Activities (EOA) of WGE. The Task Force noted that ICP Forests had fulfilled its obligations under WGE. As activities of ICP Forests in 2010 Mr. Lorenz proposed to continue the analysis of deposition trends and the impact of deposition on soil solution. In this context he also proposed an update of an earlier comparison of deposition data measured by ICP Forests and modelled by the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP). The Task Force approved the proposal.

Item 6: Cooperation with the LIFE+ FutMon project

13. Mr. Lorenz informed the Task Force on the status of the FutMon project and made reference to the 1st FutMon Status Workshop to be held on 26 and 27 May 2009 at the same venue. He described the intensive present and future cooperation with FutMon, making special mention of the integration of the Level I monitoring with national forest inventories (NFI), of the focussing of Level II monitoring onto a reduced number of plots, of the application of new monitoring and quality assurance (QA) approaches, of the updating of the ICP Forests Manual, of joint data submission and management, as well as of joint reporting.

14. Mr. O. Granke (Germany) presented the forms for future joint data submission to PCC. The Task Force adopted the joint ICP Forests and FutMon data submission forms and agreed on the use of a common web-based computer system for on-line data transmission and validation. In the ensuing discussion on data ownership and data access by third parties, Mr. Lorenz presented proposals for a data dissemination and acknowledgement policy which did not find final approval by the Task Force. The Task Force welcomed the suggestion by Mr. Lorenz to further elaborate the proposal. Moreover, it decided to follow the decisions of the 24th Task Force Meeting in 2008 in Larnaca, Cyprus, as long as no other data dissemination and acknowledgement procedure would be developed and approved.

Item 7: Monitoring activities

15. Mr. Granke proposed preliminary deadlines for submission of Level I data for the years 2009 and 2010 as well as for Level II data for the years 2007 to 2009. The Task Force agreed to these deadlines.

16. Mr. Clarke presented the update of the Sub-manual on deposition for application from 2010 onwards. Mr. P. Rautio (Finland), Chairman of the Expert Panel on Foliage, presented the up-date of the Sub-Manual on litterfall for application from 2010 onwards. The Task Force adopted both Sub-manuals.

17. Mr. P. Neville (Ireland), Chairman of the Expert Panel on Biodiversity and Ground Vegetation, and Mr. B. Petriccione (Italy), suggested sharing the Chairmanship in the future. They stressed that the responsibility for issues related to ground vegetation would remain with Mr. R. Canullo (Italy). The Task Force approved the suggestion.

18. Mr. N. König (Germany), Chairman of the Working Group on Quality Assurance and Quality Control in Laboratories, proposed Ms. A. Kowalska (Poland) as his Co-Chair. The Task Force agreed to the proposal.

19. Mr. M. Ferretti (Italy), Chairman of the Quality Assurance Committee of the PCG, and Mr. A. Szepesi (Hungary) resigned from their Co-Chairs of the Expert Panel on Crown Condition. The Task Force thanked both of them for their successful work and nominated as their successors Mr. G. Sanchez (Spain) and Mr. P. Roskams (Belgium).

20. As agreed at the 24th Task Force Meeting, Mr. Petriccione presented activities of LTER Europe and stressed the potential of a cooperation between LTER and ICP Forests. The ensuing discussion focussed on purpose and nature of a cooperation as well as on the mutual benefit for both programmes. The Chairman of ICP Forests proposed that PCC and LTER check the potential of a cooperation bilaterally. The Task Force adopted the proposal.

21. Mr. Lorenz informed the Task Force on plans for a follow-up project of FutMon for the years 2011-2013 to be proposed under LIFE+ in autumn 2009. The Task Force supported the plan.

Item 8: Organisational issues

22. The Task Force took note of the list of activities and tasks of ICP Forests (Annex 2).

23. The Task Force took note of the financial statement given by PCC for 2008 (Annex 3) and agreed on the revised budget of ICP Forests for 2010 (Annex 4).

24. The Task Force took note of the list of voluntary contributions towards financing of ICP Forests. It reiterated its invitation to all participating countries to provide their voluntary contributions through the UNECE secretariat as early as possible in the year.

Item 11: Other business

25. Mr. A. Bytnerowicz (USA) reported on critical loads assessments on ICP Forests Level II plots in the USA. Ms. B. McAfee (Canada) reported on forest monitoring activities in Canada.

26. Ms. S. Strich (Germany) stressed that ICP Forests in 2010 would look back on 25 years of its existence and that on this occasion the Lead Country invites ICP Forests to hold its 26th Task Force Meeting in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, on 29 May to 1 June, 2010. The Task Force thanked Germany for the invitation.

27. Mr. M. Lorenz on behalf of the Task Force thanked the National Focal Centre and the Government of Russia for their perfect meeting arrangements and for their hospitality, in particular for having invited the participants for an excellent excursion and for two sightseeing tours. He closed the meeting.

25th ICP Forests Task Force Meeting

St. Petersburg, Russia

23-27 May, 2009



№	Name of participant / Имя участника	Country / Страна	Signature / Подпись
1	Marcus Neumann	Austria	
2	Varvashenya Natalia	Belarus	
3	Valentin Krasovsky	Belarus	
4	Nathalie Cools	Belgium	
5	Peter Roskams	Belgium	
6	Genoveva Popova	Bulgaria	
7	Todorova Ivanka	Bulgaria	
8	Brenda McAfee	Canada	
9	Nenad Potocic	Croatia	
10	Ivan Seletkovic	Croatia	
11	Andreas Christou	Cyprus	
12	Aristarchou Aristarchos	Cyprus	
13	Vit Sramek	Czech Republic	
14	Bohumír Lomský	Czech Republic	
15	Karin Hansen	Denmark	
16	Annemarie Bastrup-Birk	Denmark	
17	Kalle Karoles	Estonia	
18	Endla Asi	Estonia	
19	John Derome	Finland	
20	Päivi Merilä	Finland	
21	Pasi Rautio	Finland	
22	Egbert Beuker	Finland	
23	Andreae Henning	Germany	
24	Hans-Peter Dietrich	Germany	

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25	Michael Girnth	Germany	
26	Michael Köhl	Germany	
27	Scheibe Olaf	Germany	
28	Sigrid Strich	Germany	
29	Claus Schimming	Germany	
30	Johannes Eichhorn	Germany	
✓ 31	Martin Lorenz	Germany	
32	Nils König	Germany	
✓ 33	Oliver Granke	Germany	
34	Stephan Raspe	Germany	
✓ 35	Susanne Iost	Germany	
36	Maria Chatziioannou	Greece	-
37	Fiona Harrington	Ireland	
38	Patrick Neville	Ireland	
✓ 39	Bruno Petriccione	Italy	
40	Marco Ferretti	Italy	
41	Patrizia Gasparini	Italy	
42	Rosario Mosello	Italy	
43	Aldo Marchetto	Italy	
✓ 44	Giuseppe Parisi	Italy	
45	Albertas Kasperavicius	Lithuania	
46	Aart Sterkenburg	Netherlands	
47	Oldenburger Jan Frederikus	Netherlands	-
48	Van den Briel Jacob Pieter	Netherlands	-

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49	Dan Aamlid	Norway	
50	Nicholas Clarke	Norway	
✓ 51	Pawel Lech	Poland	
52	Ewa Lipka-Chudzik	Poland	
53	Zane Libiete	Republic of Latvia	
54	Jansons Jurgis	Republic of Latvia	
55	Ovidiu Badea	Romania	
56	Stefan Neagu	Romania	
57	Pavel Pavlenda	Slovakia	
58	Priwitzer Tibor	Slovakia	
59	Gal Kusar	Slovenia	
60	Maria Paloma Garcia	Spain	
61	Gerardo Sanchez	Spain	
62	Vicent Calatayud	Spain	
63	Anders Hildingsson	Sweden	
64	Lars Lundin	Sweden	
65	Sören Wulff	Sweden	
66	Matthias Dobbertin	Switzerland	
67	Marcus Schaub	Switzerland	
68	Norbert Kräuchi	Switzerland	
69	Sabine Augustin	Switzerland	
70	KIP Hamit Serdar	Turkey	
71	ÖZTÜRK Sıtkı	Turkey	
72	Şenyaz Ahmet	Turkey	

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No	Name of participant / Имя участника	Country / Страна	Signature / Подпись
73	Andy Moffat	UK	
74	Ingrid Martin	UK	
✓ 75	Andrzej Bytnerowicz	USA	
76	Lukina Natalia	Russia	
77	Orlova Maria	Russia	
78	Eydina Svetlana	Russia	
79	Knyazeva Svetlana	Russia	
80	Torlopova Nadezhda	Russia	
81	Bahmet Olga	Russia	-
82	Polikarpova Natalia	Russia	-
83	Yusim Olga	Russia	
84	Kobel'kov Mikhail	Russia	
85	Bobrinsky Alexey	Russia	
86	Glebov Roman	Russia	
87	Shashkov Maxim	Russia	
88	Shepelev Sergey	Russia	
89	Porohov Alexandr	Russia	
90	Trofimov Mikhail <i>Поликарпов</i>	Russia	
91	Kaupush Konstantin	Russia	
92	Kotov Andrey	Russia	
93	Shtrahov Sergey	Russia	
94	Stepchenko Alexandr	Russia	
95	Yakusheva Tatiana	Russia	
96	Ermolenko Alexey	Russia	
97	Svetlana Perevezentseva	Russia	