

## **Minutes of the 7th Management Committee Meeting in Vienna, Austria 16 September 2003**

### **1. Opening**

Peter Glueck, chairman of COST Action E 19, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda, proposal of new items**

The agenda was adopted. The presentation of the items followed the preliminary agenda.

### **3. Approval of the minutes of the 6th MC Meeting**

The minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> MC meeting were approved without changes.

### **4. Status of signatories, new applications**

There are no new applications. Peter Glueck is pleased to welcome participants from the following non-member countries: Canada, China, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro.

### **5. Chairman's report**

After the Savonlinna meeting in April 2002 Peter Glück was informed by COST secretary Arne Been that there is no money available for additional meetings in 2002 due to the reorganisation of the COST programme within FP6. However, the planned WG2 meeting in Sopron in June 2002 could take place but the envisaged Porto meeting in November 2002 had at first to be moved to spring 2003 and finally to be cancelled at all. According to our work programme the final meeting should take place in July in Vienna. During the preparations for the Vienna meeting Arne Been sent a letter (dated 17 February 2003) of COST CSO Chairman Gösta Diehl to me which says that no COST activities can be reimbursed until mid-September 2003. Peter Glück was not longer prepared to accept the budget cuts announced at short notice and asked the Austrian minister responsible for the COST programme Mr. Hubert Gorbach to protest against these decisions. In consequence, € 5 mio. were transferred from the FP5 to the European Science Foundation which will act as the future administrative entity for COST. Due to this intervention the Vienna seminar from 15-16 September 2003 was made possible and 41 participants could be reimbursed.

### **6. Short Term Scientific Missions**

Due to the budget constraints no more STSM could be offered though highly recommended by the mid-term evaluation team.

## 7. Deliverables

At the beginning of this year a special issue of Forest Policy and Economics on NFPs and the (Interim) Report on COST Action E19 have been published. At the end of this year a book on country reports and the Proceedings of the Vienna Seminar will be available.

## 8. Proposals for EU projects

Peter Glück in concurrence with Erling Berge and Floor Brouwer (Wageningen) formulated an Expression of interest (EoI) on “Governance of natural resources in agriculture, forestry and fisheries (multi-purpose)”. In the follow-up the proponents of this EoI and of another one lead by Konrad Hagedorn (Humboldt University Berlin) formed a consortium targeting at the formulation of a proposal on this topic. However, the final Workprogramme 2002-2006 for the Thematic Sub-Priority 1.1.6.3 Global Change and Ecosystems does not put much weight on new modes of governance; only Topic V.1.1.a “Enhanced impact assessment and management tools for sustainable land-use with a multifunctional approach” to be implemented in 2004 is of some relevance to NFPs.

## 9. Other topics

The evaluators of COST E19 presented first results of their final evaluation based on questionnaires and interviews.

Mr. Arne Been reported on new developments in the COST Secretary. Within the European Science Foundation he will take over full responsibility for COST from 1 January 2004. A contract has been signed between ESF and the Commission.

## 10. Closing

The chairman thanked the participants for their great interest in the meeting and terminated COST Action E19. In particular he thanked WG1 Chair Ine Neven, the editor of the country reports David Humphreys and Homepage administrator Harri Hänninen for their outstanding contributions to the success of COST Action E19.

Vienna, 16. September 2003

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