

COST ACTION E19 - National Forest Programmes in a European Context

Provisional Minutes of the 6th Management Committee Meeting in Paviljonki, Savonlinna, 6 April 2002, 17.00-17.30

Place: Paviljonki, Savonlinna, Finland

1. Opening

Mr. Glueck opened the meeting and welcomed the participants (see Appendix 1).

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 5th MC meeting

The provisional minutes of the 5th MC meeting were approved without changes.

4. Status of signatories, new applications

There are no new participants; according to Mr. Birgelis from the Latvian Ministry of Agriculture the Republic of Latvia considers its participation this year.

5. Chairman's report

- Meeting of the Steering Committee (Pajuoja, Neven, Mendes, Glueck), supplemented by Hogn and Voitleithner, on 16 February 2002 in Vienna. Agreement has been achieved about the future working approach in both WGs. Based on theoretical and empirical papers on a certain topic propositions are to be developed by both WGs which are to be discussed in a plenary session.
- Elaboration of background papers on participation (Marie Appelstrand), inter-sectoral co-ordination (Karl Hogn), adaptive iterative planning (Johan Barstad), and decentralisation (Ine Neven) which serve the co-operation of both WGs. They are an important basis for the work of WG1 and simultaneously an undeniable precondition for the work of WG2.
- Approval of the WG2 meeting on 28-29 June 2002 in Sopron by COST Secretariat; about 20 participants are expected.

- Reminder to Mr. Solano and Dr. Gonzalez to publish hardcopy proceedings of the Madrid Seminar.
- Reminder to Mr. Miller to publish the Aberdeen proceedings by CD-ROM.
- Publication of the papers on legal aspects presented in Aberdeen by Willi Zimmermann and Franz Schmithüsen (editors).
- Quick survey on NFPs in European countries participating in COST Action E19 by Willi Zimmermann and Ueli Mauderli (authors).
- Proceedings of the Oslo Meeting in progress (EFI proceedings series)

6. Consequences from the mid-term evaluation

The evaluation team found a gap between “leader countries” and “learning countries” which should be closed by joint papers in WGs and STSMs. Furthermore, a greater interaction between WG1 and WG2 by plenary sessions has been proposed. The evaluation team expects a method of development/implementation of the NFP concept for the participating countries. Some participants pointed out that there is a gap between the theoretical NFP concept and the empirical approach which should be bridged. The evaluation team found that some members contribute in a very limited way to the Action’s work. Finally, regarding STSMs a pro-active approach has been recommended to the MC so that members of the learning countries go to the leading countries.

7. Co-ordination of WG1&2 (common concept, mutual information needs)

Both WGs apply now the same concept in order to arrive at theoretically based propositions scrutinised against empirical evidence. At each meeting the results of both WGs are discussed in a plenary session.

8. Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)

The STSMs have not been prolonged yet. According to Mr. Paschalis the next call for applications for STSMs cannot be expected before June 2002.

9. Future meetings (Porto, Vienna)

The following COST E19 meetings will take place in the near future:

Seminar in Porto: 7-9 November 2002

Meeting in Vienna: 4-5 July 2003

WG2 Meeting in Sopron: 28-29 June 2002

In order to enable the Ministerial Conference of the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) to make use of the main results of COST Action E19 it has been decided to deliver an executive summary by 31 December 2002. The editorial committee (Neven, Shannon, Mendes, Berge, Glueck) will try to deliver preliminary results at the Porto Seminar.

10. Mid-term evaluation on the need for “guidelines” on the formulation and implementation of NFPs (according to COST E19 work programme)

The evaluation team as well as the steering committee meeting in its meeting on 16 February 2002 support the need for “guidelines” in the sense of policy recommendations. The proposal was endorsed by the MC. The policy recommendations should be the main content of the final executive summary and should be easily readable and understandable and not too long.

11. Deliverables (common report of WG 1&2, special issue of “Forest Policy & Economics”, book on country reports)

The following deliverables are envisaged:

1. Executive summary of main results: 31 Dec. 2002
2. Final report of WG 1&2: 4 July 2003
3. Special issue of “Forest Policy & Economics”: 2003
4. Book on country reports (edited by David Humphreys): 2003
5. Proceedings of all meetings and seminars

12. Proposals for EU-Projects

Mr. Glueck informed the participants in a previous session on 4 April 2002, 18.00-19.00 hrs., on the new instruments of the Sixth Framework Programme of the EU for Research (FP6); they are the “Integrated Projects” and Networks of Excellence”. Both have to refer to major societal problems, so called “priority thematic areas in FP6”. In the context of NFPs the following thematic areas are relevant:

- 1.6.3 Global change and ecosystems
- 1.7.2 Citizenship, democracy and new forms of governance

Integrated Projects will contribute to strengthening European competitiveness and help solve major societal problems, by mobilising a *critical mass of research and development* resources and skills existing in Europe.

Networks of Excellence will contribute to strengthening European scientific and technological excellence through a better integration of *multidisciplinary research capacities* across Europe.

On average, in financial terms, the Community contribution to an Integrated Project or a Network of Excellence may represent several million Euros per year. This will be the most significant difference in comparison to research projects of previous EU framework programs for research. The organisation of research in these new institutions require new management structures.

After detailed discussion Mr. Berge declared his readiness to formulate an Expression of Interest (EoI) for an integrated project on “Governance of natural resources towards sustainable development, applied to forests” (working title) which has to be submitted to Brussels by 7 June 2002. Mr. Glueck will support him in project management aspects. The MC gratefully acknowledged Mr. Berge’s readiness.

13. Other topics

Mr. Tikkanen announced that the contributions to the Savonlinna meeting will be published in the EFI proceedings series.

Mr. Dubé (FAO) would appreciate to be invited to the next meeting.

4. Closing

Mr. Pajuoja and Mr. Glueck thanked the organisers for the excellent organisation of the meeting.

Vienna, 10 April 2002

Peter Glueck
Chairman

Arne Been
COST Secretary

Helga Puelzi
Minutes checker

Appendix 1:

Attendance List of the Management Committee meeting, 6 April 2002, 17.00 - 17.30 hrs. in Savonlinna

Austria:	Peter Glueck Josef Hackl Karl Hognl Helga Puelzl
Denmark:	Tove G. Boon
Finland:	Pekka Ollonqvist Heikki Pajuoja Olli Saastamoinen Ilpo Tikkanen
France:	Gerard Buttoud
Germany:	Juergen Pretzsch K.-R. Volz
Greece:	Dimitrios Trakolis Alexandra Vakrou
Hungary:	Attila Lengyel
Netherlands:	Evelien Verbij
Norway:	Johan Barstad Erling Berge Olav Gislerud Birger Solberg
Portugal:	Americo Mendes
Spain:	Gloria Dominguez Cristina Montiel-Molina
Sweden:	Marie Appelstrand Sven A. Svensson
Switzerland:	Willi Zimmermann
USA:	Margaret Shannon