



HELLENIC MINISTRY OF RURAL  
DEVELOPMENT & FOOD



**First meeting  
of the 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**

27 -28 November, 2008, Athens, Greece

**Venue: ZAPPEION CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION CENTRE, Athens**

**Agenda**

Chairs: Ms. Irini Nikolaou, Greece and Mr. Ingwald Gschwandtl, Austria

**27 November, 2008**

- 10:00 - 10:20      **Welcome addresses**  
by the Government of Greece  
by the MCPFE – Mr. Arne Ivar Sletnes, Head of the Liaison Unit Oslo
- Adoption of the agenda**
- 10:20 – 10:30      **Tasks, scope and road map of Working Group**  
Introduction by the meeting chairs
- 10:30 – 11:00      **Key note presentation**  
*“Challenges and emerging issues at national, regional and global level,  
relevant to any type of forest arrangement for the pan-European region”*  
Dr. Ewald Rametsteiner  
International Institute for Applied System Analyses,  
Luxemburg/Austria
- 11:00 – 11:45      General comments and statements, expectations for the work
- 11:45 – 12:15      Coffee break
- 12:15 – 13:00      **Presentation of scientific/technical background**  
**Background document 1:**  
*Overview and basic information on existing international and multilateral  
agreements relevant to the tasks of the Working Group*  
Dr. Helga Puelzl and Dr. Doris Wydra, University of Salzburg  
Dr. Christoph Wildburger, Vienna
- 13:00 – 15:00      Lunch
- 15:00 - 15:30      **Presentation of scientific/technical background**  
**Background document 2:**  
*Forms, structures and prototypes of international and multilateral  
agreements from a juridical point of view*  
Dr. Doris Wydra, University of Salzburg

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

16:00 – 18:00 **Developing a reasonable number of options for a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe for further analysis**

**Two break out groups working in parallel**

Chairs: Christoph Duerr, Switzerland and Heikki Granholm, Finland

Issues to be addressed:

- *Identifying thematic objectives and elements to be tackled by any type of legal framework for forests in Europe*
- *Discussion on which structural elements and prototypes of legal agreements should be used for the identified objectives*

Reception hosted by the Government of Greece.

**28 November, 2008**

09:00 – 10:30 **Developing a reasonable number of options for a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe for further analysis - continued**

- Report to the plenary from the break out groups
- Discussion on which options to elaborate in detail for evaluation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> WG meeting

10:30 – 11:00 **Developing a systematic approach for evaluating the selected options of legally binding agreements on forests in Europe**

- *Introduction of an open ended list of factors for evaluating the potential added value of international and multilateral agreements - Dr. Christoph Wildburger, Vienna*

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00 **Developing a systematic approach for evaluating the selected options of legally binding agreements on forests in Europe – continued**

**Two break out groups working in parallel**

Chairs: Christoph Duerr, Switzerland and Heikki Granholm, Finland

Issues to be addressed:

- *Identifying possible evaluation criteria for analysing the potential added value, pros and cons, implications, etc. of selected options for a legally binding agreement*
- *Identifying further components of a systematic evaluation approach*

13:00 - 15:00 *Lunch*

15:00 - 16:00 Report to the plenary from working groups

Discussion on a systematic evaluation process to be applicable at the 2<sup>nd</sup> WG meeting

16:00 – 16:30            Coffee break

16:30 – 17:00            **Conclusions from the first meeting and decision on follow up actions**

**29 November, 2008**

Field Trip to the Mountain Parnitha.

The trip in the National Park of Parnitha will include a walk in the burnt areas of the forest fire occurred in 2007. Departure back to Athens is scheduled at about 3:00 p.m.