

Annex 1

2nd WORKING SESSION

SUSTAINABLE WOOD BIOMASS MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Bled, Slovenia, 9-11 November 2005

CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND FOLLOW UP

Conclusions

Participating countries concluded that:

- The project responds to the real needs of the countries in the region;
- Countries will have multiple benefits from the regional cooperation proposed by the project;
- The participatory approach adopted by the project formulation team, which is highly appreciated, has shown to be effective;
- The multidisciplinary aspects of bioenergy and its inter-sectoral links between energy, agriculture, forestry, environment and sustainable development might be properly addressed by the future project;
- Additional activities for the reformulation of the existing project idea have to be undertaken;
- Once a project concept is drafted and agreed by the project formulation team, countries will be invited to express their interest and nominate focal points.

Recommendations

The session recommended:

1. To identify financial resources and possible (public and private) donors and initiate contacts to assess their willingness and interest to provide funds;
2. To improve the description of specific backgrounds, problems, objectives and expected outputs of each participating country;
3. To improve project objectives, outputs and activities to be undertaken at regional as well as at national level;
4. To define national and regional benefits and beneficiaries of project implementation;
5. To consider an integrated approach to cover links with other biofuels;
6. To include activities of exchange of information and experiences among countries;
7. To highlight connections and references to related international issues and agreements.

Follow-up activities

The result of the present meeting will be sent by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food of The Republic of Slovenia and by FAO to all invited countries encouraging them to join efforts to prepare a regional project proposal and nominate focal points to become part of the project formulation team.

Preparation of a new draft of the project concept based on the discussions held during the meeting in Bled and the respective conclusions and recommendations. FAO volunteered to prepare the project concept with the inputs from focal points.

The proposal should clearly identify and differentiate regional and national activities through various modules.

In addition, the project formulation team should identify and contact financial sources and contact possible donors.