



www.european-foresters.org

Union of European Foresters

The Presidency Letter

n° 5

June 2008

The President words

The work for the matters in the interest of the foresters of Europe has been active also during the past months. The Presidency members have all within their own responsibility areas been active bringing our common things forward.

In April 2008 the Presidency spent some days in Finnish Lapland at the cottages of Meto discussing mostly about the EU-matters present just now and studying forest matters far above the Polar Circle in Saariselkä. Presidency was happy to notice that the planning for the UEF Congress in Poland 4-8 of June 2009 is proceeding very well. We also noticed that different groups of foresters around Europe show interest in joining Union of European Foresters. I hope that the Governing Council Meeting in Gmunden, Austria 15-19 of October 2008 will again have the pleasure to notice a growing UEF and decide about new members joining the work for the foresters and the forest matters.

UEF had good experiences of participating in the 5th Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, which was arranged last year in Warsaw, Poland. Therefore, we have now decided to be active also talking about the expert level meetings of MCPFE between the Conferences. One of our Vice-Presidents, Mr Piotr Grygier, has been appointed by the Presidency as the contact person for the expert level meetings of the MCPFE process.

I am happy to notice that the international forest student organisation IFSA has invited UEF to be present and have a presentation speech at their meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria in august this year. Vice-President Michael Diemer will attend this IFSA meeting. We want to go on building contacts to this forest student organisation and also open the doors for new students within the UEF group to be members in IFSA. →

Director : Håkan Nystrand, President

Presidency news

XII. International Forestry Work camp

In the period from 5. July to 3. August, the International Forestry Work camp will be held the second time under the partnership of UEF. Once again it is located in the Forest district of Kastellaun in Rhineland-Palatinate (Germany). Meanwhile the partnership is establishing more and more and the cooperation between UEF and Landesforsten Rheinland-Pfalz (state forest Rhineland-Palatinate) is coming into a yearly routine.

Up to now there are applications from 13 different countries for participating in the Work camp 2008. Forest students from Australia, Belgium, France, Hungary, Ireland, Nepal, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, South-Korea, Spain, Sweden wants to take part.

UEF will at least support two participants by a travel expenses subsidy. Requests are to be submitted to the UEF Presidency over the member organizations. On the other hand, UEF will support the project by financing a one-day-fieldtrip during the work camp.

Detailed information can be found under <http://www.wald-rlp.de/index.php?id=397&L=2>.

MD

The President words (end)

The Presidency sees this matter as a win-win situation for both organisations.

The work on the European Union level is going on continuously. It is clear that UEF as the organisation for foresters and experts in Europe has a position to take care of talking about the EU forest matters. In order to further develop our important work on this scene I hope that we can present new models and tools for working in Brussels already at the Governing Council Meeting in Gmunden. I look forward to meet you all there!

I wish a sunny and nice summer to all of you.

Håkan Nystrand

PL n°5

Editor : Hervé Némoz-Rajot, Assistant secretary

Our activities

UEF Round Table Meeting 2008

The Presidency decided this year to organize our UEF annual Round Table Meeting in Brussels in November. We are preparing this important meeting, able to give a positive image of UEF between the actors in Brussels and the European Commission.

Our contacts from Brussels do appreciate the informal and nice atmosphere of this lunch together, with interesting presentations and exchanges.

Please note, for your information, the RTM of the Presidency, in Brussels to be arranged: 13th of November. A Presidency meeting will also take place in Brussels the same day.

HNR



Focus on: The EU advisory group on forestry and cork

The EU Advisory Group on Forestry and Cork is one of several advisory groups connected to the EU-Commission. The UEF has for a very long time been a member of this advisory group and has even some years ago fulfilled the post of vice chairman for a period.

The advisory group consists of a large number of interest groups and organisations with interests in the development of forestry and cork in Europe. Normally there is held 2-3 meetings a year, always in Brussels and on a one day basis. In this advisory group, the UEF is recognized as the official spokesman ("expert") of the professional foresters of Europe and is granted one vote and one representative.

Having the position as expert, the travelling costs are paid by the EU. The UEF is welcome to be represented by one additional person who however does not have voting rights nor is refunded for the travelling costs. Depending on the agenda and the time available, the UEF is represented at the meetings by both Hakan Nystrand and me (Niels Christiansen).

The entire Advisory Group on Forestry and Cork consists of 54 "experts" representing forest industries, producers, nurseries, trade, consumers, forest research, forest employees and environmentalists...

NC

Our Next Governing Council meeting in Gmunden (Austria)



Every organisation member of UEF is kindly invited this year in Austria by our Austrian colleagues.

A nice and fruitful meeting will take place in a nice place, in Gmunden, not far from Salzburg.

Gmunden is the southern district of High Austria land.

The official invitation, with the official program and all kind of information will be very soon available in our home page.

The topic of our seminar will be about "wood and energy", a very up to date matter!

After Herning in Denmark last year, see you soon in Gmunden (16-18 October 2008) with a warm Austrian welcome !

HNR