

Meeting for an overall ICP-Forests Quality Programme

Hamburg, Germany,
Federal Centre for Forest and Forest Products
26-27 March 2007

Draft Minutes

Prepared by Marco Ferretti

1. The meeting was hosted by the PCC of the ICP-Forests. Participants are reported in Annex 1.
2. Mr. M. Lorenz (PCC) opened the meeting and addressed the participants.
3. Mr. M. Ferretti (Italy) introduced the agenda (see Annex 2) and recall the objectives of the meeting. He emphasised the need for a comprehensive and consistent approach in Quality Assurance and Quality Control.
4. Mr. R. Fischer (PCC), Mr. P. Rautio (EC) and Ms. Houston-Durrant (JRC) described the needs of data customers and users in terms of QA/QC.
5. Several Expert Panels presented their own QA/QC needs: EP Crown (Mr. J. Eichhorn); EP Biodiversity (Ms. M. Allegrini); EP Growth (Mr. M Dobbertin); EP Phenology (Mr. E. Beuker); WG Ambient Air Quality - Visible injury (Ms. M.-J. Sanz); EP Meteo (Mr. S. Raspe).
6. Presentation continued in the second meeting day, with an overview on QA/QC procedures in the laboratory (Mr. N. König) and by individual talks on the parts of several EPs: EP Deposition (Mr. N. Clarke); EP Foliage and Litterfall (Mr. P. Rautio); EP Soil (Ms. N. Cools); WG Ambient Air Quality - Gaseous air pollutants (Ms. M.-J. Sanz).
7. The presentation resulted in a list of valuable issues of concern for the new group (Figure 1). This list is now reported in the revised document in Annex 3.
8. Mr. M. Ferretti introduced vision, possible structure, possible mandate and work programme for the new group. After in-depth discussion, the meeting agreed on several issues, reported in details in Annex 3. Annex 4 reports a summary presentation about the new group.
9. The meeting was closed at 12.00 hrs., Tuesday 27 March 2007.

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Data users, data managers	Expert Panels
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs of measurable indicators • Important to define the scale of management and application (national, international?) • QA essential for trend detection • A comprehensive QA system necessary • QA/QC essential for the main task of monitoring, i.e., trend detection. QA/QC must be comprehensive and with measurable indicators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions important, review the Manual, forms and techniques (many) • Provide Training (Crown) • Continue with intercalibration and cross-calibration, ring-tests (many) • QA/QC guidelines, DQR (many) • Report calibration data and bring QA/QC data in the database. Find the way to handle these data, metadata important (Meteo, Labs). • Rules in case of poor data quality, regular meetings, connect ring-tests results with the survey results (Labs) • Improve sampling and related interpretation (WG AAQ, Deposition, Foliage, Soil and S. Solution) • Routine checks for the database (same between national and international) (Meteo, Labs) • QA/QC important, save time and money, but expensive in itself. Needs improvement and dedicated support (all EPs).

Figure 1 –Main issues emerged from the various presentations given at the meeting in Hamburg. Left: issues on the part of data users and data managers; right: issues reported by the EPs. In brackets: the EP that reported the issue.

Annexes:

1. List of participants
2. Agenda
3. Revised QA-C document
4. Power Point presentation

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