



Joint Meetings of the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group (WFAG), International Liaison Committee (ILC) for the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference, and the International Fire Aviation Working Group (IFAWG),

In cooperation with and supported by the

UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Forestry and Timber Section

Euro-Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA), Council of Europe

the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

United Nations University (UNU)

Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Freiburg, Germany

29 June – 3 July 2012

Objectives and Final Agenda

Rationale

Following the recommendations of the International Wildland Fire Summit (2003), the foundation of the Global Wildland Fire Network, and the recommendations of the 4th and 5th International Wildland Fire Conferences in 2007 (Spain) and 2011 (South Africa), the response of countries, multilateral organizations and international organizations to enhance international cooperation in fire science, management and policy development has been growing. Besides the recommendations for enhancing sharing of knowledge, expertise and resources in fire management, the 2011 Conference Statement¹ called, among other, for the development of

- Common international principles in fire management
- Common international fire management tools
- Proposal for a Global Agreement on Transboundary Cooperation in Fire Management
- Increased efficiency of sharing ground and aerial fire management resources
- Policies addressing global change and fire

Objectives

One year after the 5th and three years before the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference members and associates of the Global Wildland Fire Network, represented by the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group (WFAG), members of the International Fire Aviation Working Group (IFAWG), the International Liaison Committee (ILC) and representatives of the host country South Korea of the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference (2015) will meet to discuss the roadmap 2012-2015. The joint meetings will be co-sponsored and attended by the Euro-Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA), Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations University (UNU).

On the first day regional networks and international organizations will reports on the status, projects or strategic plans for enhancing transboundary cooperation in fire management. On the second day regions and international organizations will present their views and approaches in preparation of the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference (Korea, 2015). Suggestions from regions and international organizations for themes to be addressed by the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference will be solicited. The IFAWG will meet on the third day and report about progress of developing draft common rules/voluntary guidelines for international cooperation in fire emergencies. These will have implications for the ongoing process of developing similar standards for ground operations.

¹ Complete conference statement, regional and thematic statements of the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference: <http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/southafrica-2011.html>

Agenda

Friday, 29 June 2012

Arrival of participants in Freiburg

Saturday, 30 June 2012

09:30-17:50 Wildland Fire Advisory Group (WFAG) meeting Part I

Participants take shuttle train from Freiburg Main Station at 09:24, arrival Airport Campus at 09:27

Introduction

Objectives of the joint meetings (GFMC) and short update of activities of the Global Wildland Fire Network and the *UN White Paper on Vegetation Fires and Global Change* (Johann G. Goldammer)

Regional / Thematic Briefings (I)

Short regional and thematic reports from networks will be given in a "briefing style". Briefings will address significant events, developments, priority issues identified.

Setting the stage

Subsahara Africa (David Asare, Ghana): To Sun City and back: Review of the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference and the way ahead.

Regional and national public policies addressing wildland fire

South East Asia (K. Rauf, Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia; Bambang Saharjo, Indonesia): The ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, the REDD scheme and international commitments: The Indonesian view.

Public policies addressing fire in countries in transition

Eurasia (Andrey M. Eritsov, Russia): Decentralization of responsibilities in fire management: Lessons learned in the Russian Federation

Building cooperative regional capacity in fire management

Southeast Europe / Caucasus (Nikola Nikolov, FYR Macedonia): Review of establishment and outreach work of the Regional Fire Monitoring Center for SE Europe / Caucasus Region

Eastern Mediterranean / Near East (Ibrahim Ciftci, Deputy Director General of Forestry, Turkey, and Ertugrul Bilgili, Trabzon University, Turkey): Regional fire management training: Achievements and prospects of the Regional Fire Management Training Center

Eastern Europe (Sergiy Zibtsev, Ukraine): Building cooperative regional capacity in fire management: Establishment of the *Regional Eastern European Fire Monitoring Center* (REEFMC) in Ukraine

Central Asia (Byambasuren Oyunsanaa, Mongolia): Status of preparation of the establishment of the Regional Central Asian Fire Monitoring Center in Mongolia

South America (Larah Steil, IBAMA-Prevfogo, Brazil; and Patricio Sanhueza, CONAF, Chile): Strengthening the Regional South America Wildland Fire Network

Northeast Asia / Pan Asia (Kim Kyongha, South Korea): The Pan-Asia Wildland Fire Network – a cooperative approach within a cluster of four Regional Wildland Fire Networks in the greater Asian Region

Community-Based Fire Management

Subsahara West Africa (David Asare, Ghana): The Ghanaian Experience
Subsahara Southern Africa (Val Charlton, FireWise South Africa, and Anja A. Hoffmann, GIZ/GFMC): Review and prospects of Community-based fire management approaches between concept papers and reality.

Peatland fires

South East Asia (Bambang Saharjo, Indonesia; Ahmed Ainuddin Nuruddin, Malaysia): Peatland use and fires in the SE Asia: Scientific, policy and legal aspects

Eurasia (Mark Jones, United Kingdom): Wildfires in the United Kingdom: A changing story

Agricultural / pastoral fires in grassland / steppe landscapes

Eastern Europe (Sergiy Zibtsev, Ukraine): Agricultural / pastoral fires in grassland - steppe landscapes: Eastern Europe / Ukraine

Central Asia (Byambasuren Oyunsanaa, Mongolia): Speppe / pastoral fire situation in Mongolia

High-altitude fires

Euro-Alpine (Harald Vacik, Austria): Findings and achievements of the ALP FFIRS community in the context of the Euro Alpine Network

Wildfire risk management at landscape level addressing changing socio-economic and environmental conditions, and changing risks

Australasia (Gary Morgan, Australia, and Murray Dudfield, New Zealand): Risk Management Position and National Bushfire Policy.

Presentation of the proposed position paper „Integrating the management of wildfire-related risks in rural land and forest management legislation and policies” (Murray Dudfield)

Sunday, 01 July 2011

09:30-17:50 WFAG meeting Part II

Opening Remarks

Short report of the WHO Workshop „Health aspects of wildfire smoke“, organized in conjunction with the Joint LRTAP Convention / WHO Task Force on Health Aspects of Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (21 March 2012). Review of the UN “White Paper on Vegetation Fires and Global Change” and the GFMC Global Wildland Fire Damages and Fatalities Report 2011 (Johann G. Goldammer)

Keynote Speeches on Vegetation Fire Smoke and Human Health

- Review of the 2012 smoke pollution fatalities assessment (Dieter Schwela, Stockholm Environment Institute, University of York)
- Field analysis and monitoring of vegetation fire smoke: The scientific and operational dimensions (Milt Statheropoulos, ECFF)

International Cooperation in Earth Observation

Global Observation of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics (GOFC-GOLD): Status of the GOFC-GOLD Regional Fire Networks (Anja A. Hoffmann)

Fire management economics and budgets

Mediterranean (I) (Elena Hernández Paredes, Spain): Cooperation in fire management in the Mediterranean region: Status and possible impacts of the economic crisis

Mediterranean (II) (Gavriil Xanthopoulos, Greece): Fire management in times of economic difficulties in Greece

Wildfire risk management at landscape level addressing changing socio-economic and environmental conditions, and changing risks

USA (Tom Harbour and Dale Dague, U.S.A.): The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy

Canada (Kim Connors, Canada): Wildland Fire Update 2012

Discussion of the proposed position paper „Integrating the management of wildfire-related risks in rural land and forest management legislation and policies” (Murray Dudfield)

International Organizations

Programmatic briefings from international organizations “Towards coordinated endeavors in enhancing international cooperation in fire management”

- UNISDR / UNECE/FAO: International cooperation in the wildland fire management and policy arena (UNISDR Secretariat) (Demetrio Innocenti)
- Council of Europe: Statement on international cooperation in the wildland fire management (letter directed to UNECE/FAO)
- United Nations University: Statement on international cooperation in the wildland fire management (letter directed to UNECE/FAO and UNISDR)
- International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO): ITTO work programme in fire management (John Leigh)
- FAO: International cooperation (Pieter van Lierop)
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE): The ENVSEC / OSCE Project “Enhancing National Capacity on Fire Management and Wildfire Disaster Risk Reduction in the South Caucasus”: Status of Progress (Nino Malashkhia)
- European Center of Forest Fires (ECFF): Joint work programme of ECFF and GFMC “Development of Guidelines for the Defense of Rural Populations, Settlements and other Assets Against Wildfires and Smoke Pollution” (Ioannis Mitsopoulos)
- Global Observation of Forest and Land Cover Dynamics (GOFC-GOLD): Status of the Global Wildland Fire Early Warning System (Bill de Groot)
- International Fire Aviation Working Group (IFAWG): International cooperation in aerial fire fighting: Status of IFAWG (Richard Alder)

Towards preparation for the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference 2015

Brief introduction by the host country (Nam Songhee, Korean Forest Service, head of Korean delegation) and the International Liaison Committee (Dale Dague, chair).

Note: The first joint meeting of the Korean National Organizing Committee and the International Liaison Committee will be held on the following day (Monday 2 July 2012). Therefore both committees will provide only general information and will not yet provide details since these will be elaborated during the joint meeting next day. However, members of the Global Wildland Fire Network / Wildland Fire Advisory Group will be challenged to:

- Suggest themes to be addressed by the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference, and
- discuss steps to be taken within regions and by international organizations in preparation of the conference

Final Discussion

Monday, 02 July 2012

09:30-17:50 International Liaison Committee (ILC) meeting

Participants take shuttle train from Freiburg Main Station at 09:24, arrival Airport Campus at 09:27. Meeting venue: Same location (Lecture Hall of Building No. 5).

First ILC preparatory meeting for the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference (Korea, 2015). Meeting co-chaired by U.S. Forest Service and Korea Forest Service.

09:30-12:30 Side Meeting: Round Table of Regional Wildland Fire Networks and Centers

Objective: Additional exchange of regional networks allowing exchange of experience in network building and developing informal and formal inter-regional cooperation (details not yet confirmed):

Meeting at GFMC with the following Regional Wildland Fire Networks and / or Regional Fire Monitoring Centers (Co-Chairs: B. Oyunsanaa, N. Nikolov, L. Steil):

- SE Europe / Caucasus (N. Nikolov)
- East Europe (S. Zibtsev)
- Eurasia (A. Eritsov)
- Central Asia (B. Oyunsanaa)
- South America (L. Steil)
- SE Asia (Ainuddin Nuruddin)
- Subsahara Africa (D. Asare)
- Mediterranean (G. Xanthopoulos)
- European Center for Forest Fires (EFCC) (I. Mitsopoulos)

Tuesday, 03 July 2012

09:30-17:00 International Fire Aviation Working Group (IFAWG) meeting

Participants take shuttle train from Freiburg Main Station at 09:24, arrival Airport Campus at 09:27. Venue of Morning session: same location (Lecture Hall of Building No. 5). Venue of afternoon session: Building No.1 (Room Number 16, 3rd Floor).

Participants: IFAWG members (USA, Canada, Italy, Australia, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Chile, South Korea, GFMC [Secretariat]) and WFAG guests