

Session 1 10 : 30 am to 11 : 50 am (JST)

Toward Net zero and Circular economy with Sustainable Wood Use

Sustainably managed forests absorb carbon dioxide and store carbon during their growth, while use of wood legally harvested from such forests for buildings and other purposes enables to store carbon over a long term. In addition, wood consumes less energy during manufacturing and processing than other building materials, such as steel, iron and concrete, and thus contributes to reducing emissions as the most effective climate-friendly substitute materials.

Expectations are particularly high for the potential reduction of CO2 emissions from wooden buildings. We believe that the sustainable use of wood, as a renewable natural resource produced through sustainable forest management, will make a significant contribution to reducing CO2 emissions and realization of circular economy.

Through this seminar, we intend to promote policy dialogue, research and innovation focused on the sustainable use of legally and sustainably harvested wood based on sustainable forest management globally within G7 member countries and with Non-G7 member countries in cooperation with international organizations, private sector and research institutes. We will assert the importance of sustainable forest management and the potential role of sustainable wood use to achieve net zero and circular economy.



Program



■ Opening Remark

Mr. TSUNODA Hideo, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan

■ Keynote speech "A Role for Forest Products in Climate Restoration"

Mr. Alan ORGANSCHI, Senior member of the faculty at the Yale School of Architecture

■ Panel Discussion

Panelists

- "Mass Timber one of our great natural advantages"
 - Honorable Jagrup Brar, Minister of State for Trade, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation for British Columbia
- "International Perspectives on Sustainable Wood"
 - Ms. Maria Helena SEMEDO, Deputy Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- "Potentials and Innovations for sustainable utilization of forests and wood"
 - Dr. NAKASHIZUKA Tohru, Director General of the Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute
- "Private Sector's Perspective on Sustainable Wood in Producer Countries"
 - Mr. TAN Ting Wai, Acting Chief Operations Officer cum Director of International Business Development Division, Malaysian Timber Council

□ Moderator

- Ms. Sheam SATKURU, Executive Director of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)



Mr. TSUNODA Hideo (Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan)

TSUNODA Hideo has served as Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries since 2022. After graduating from Soka University, Faculty of Law, in 1985, he worked for Suido Sangyo Shinbun Co., Ltd. from 1986 to 1998. Then, he served as Member of the Funabashi City Council from 1999 to 2014, and he was elected to the House of Representatives twice in 2014 and 2021.



Mr. Alan ORGANSCHI (Senior member of the faculty at the Yale School of Architecture)

Senior member of the faculty at the Yale School of Architecture, Principal and partner at Gray Organschi Architecture, and Director of the Innovation Lab at the Bauhaus Earth, "A Role for Forest Products in Climate Restoration". His co-authored scientific paper "Buildings as a Global Carbon Sink" published in *Nature Sustainability* was honored with an Aquila Capital Transformation Award. His book *Carbon: A Field Manual for Building Designers* was published in 2022 by Wiley International.



Honorable Jagrup BRAR

(Minister of State for Trade, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation for British Columbia)

Honorable Jagrup Brar has served as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in Surrey multiple times since 2004. He previously served as a government caucus chair, and the chair of the Special Committee to Review Provisions of the Elections Act. He earned the Master of Philosophy in India and the Master of Public Administration from the University of Manitoba in Canada.



Ms. Maria Helena SEMEDO

(Deputy Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)

Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General of FAO, is an economist and politician from Cabo Verde, where she was the first-ever woman Minister. Semedo leverages cross-sectoral engagement and strategic partnerships, to better position FAO to support Members to transform to resilient, efficient, inclusive and sustainable agrifood systems. Semedo gained valuable experience and insight in Africa, first as FAO Representative in Niger, then as Deputy Regional Representative for Africa and Sub-regional Coordinator for West Africa.



Dr. NAKASHIZUKA Tohru

(Director General of the Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute)

Dr. Nakashizuka joined the Forestry Agency in 1985. He is currently the President of the Forest Research and Management Organization. His previous positions include a professor in the Center of Ecological Research, Kyoto University and a professor in the Graduate School of Life Sciences, Tohoku University. His key research interests include plant ecology, forest ecology and biodiversity.



Mr. TAN Ting Wai (Acting Chief Operations Officer cum Director of International Business Development Division, Malaysian Timber Council)

Tan Ting Wai is the Acting Chief Operations Officer cum Director of International Business Development Division of MTC. Graduated from the Campbell University, North Carolina, USA, he joined MTC in 1994 in the Management Information System Division. He was later assigned to the Public & Corporate Affairs Division from 1997-2012 and to Guangzhou, China in 2012.



Ms. Sheam SATKURU (Executive Director of the International Tropical Timber Organization)

Ms Satkuru has nearly 30 years of experience in tropical forest policy and the wood products industry and was appointed as ITTO's first female Executive Director in December 2021. She holds a Masters in Corporate and Commercial Law from King's College, University of London and was called to the English Bar in 1993.



Mr. Jarrett Hutchinson (Executive Director of the Office of Mass Timber Implementation with the Province of British Columbia on the west coast of Canada)

Jarrett Hutchinson is the Executive Director of the Office of Mass Timber Implementation with the Province of British Columbia on the west coast of Canada. He has been instrumental in advancing the use of mass timber. Throughout his career, Jarrett has held leadership roles in the development, application and enforcement of codes, standards and built environment policies locally, provincially, nationally and internationally.

Council from 1999 to 2014, and he was elected to the House of Representatives twice in 2014 and 2021.



Mr. MITSUGI Hiroto (Special Advisor of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)

Mitsugi Hiroto is currently a Special Advisor, FAO. Previously, he served as Assistant Director-General of FAO's Forestry Department, where he contributed to the development of international forest policy. Prior to joining FAO, he worked in development assistance as Director General of Rural Development Department, JICA. He holds a Master of Science degree in Forestry Extension from the University of Reading, UK.