

grupo Portucel Soporcel

CONFERÊNCIA
INTERNACIONAL
DA FLORESTA 2011

"As plantações na floresta de amanhã"



Press Release – 19 September 2011

Speakers included distinguished world experts

Portucel Soporcel group holds International Conference today on "Plantations in Tomorrow's Forests"

Forests form the central focus of the International Conference on "Plantations in Tomorrow's Forests" organized today by the Portucel Soporcel group, bringing together in Lisbon some of the world's best known specialists in the national and international forestry sector.

The event has been organized as part of the International Year of Forests 2011 and is designed to make an important contribution to the debate on the role of forestry plantations in the creation of wealth and social well-being.

The aims of the conference include promoting the sustainability of the forestry sector, effective management of forestry woodland resources and the role of plantations in the sustainability of the world's forests. Reflecting this, the opening session will be chaired by the Portuguese Minister for Agriculture, the Sea, the Environment and Planning, Assunção Cristas, and by the Chairman of the Board of the Portucel Soporcel group, Pedro Queiroz Pereira.

The conference underlines the position of the Portucel Soporcel group as the leading player in Portugal's forestry sector, and is planned to launch nationwide debate on issues of great importance to the country's forestry industry, today regarded as a sector with vast potential which could play a key role in Portugal's economic recovery.

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FAO, WWF and World Bank represented in the debate

The conference is being attended by some of the leading national and international experts on forestry issues. The speakers include **Walter Kollert**, representing the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), **Ed Pepke**, an expert in forestry economics, **Rodney Taylor**, director of the Forests Programme at WWF International, **Celso Foelkel**, a forestry researcher and **Luis Constantino**, an expert in forestry and environmental economics at the World Bank.

"Forestry Resources" is the opening theme of this international conference, to be explored by Walter Kollert, of Planted Forests Officer and Secretary of the International Poplar Commission (IPC) at the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, in Rome.

Ed Pepke will discuss the second topic: "World Demand for Forestry Products". Ed Pepke is currently Senior Timber Trade Analyst for the EU Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Facility at the European Forest Institute, having a few months ago left his post on the staff of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, where he was in charge of market analysis for forestry products.

"Responsible Management of Planted Forests" will be the topic presented by Rodney Taylor, Director of the Forests Programme at WWF International (**World Wide Fund** for Nature).

Celso Foelkel, a distinguished Brazilian researcher in the fields of forestry engineering and cellulose and paper, is set to reflect on "The Role of Planted Forests".

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Luís Constantino, currently working as National Manager at the World Bank offices in East Timor, will speak on the theme: "Plantations in the Forest of the Future".

The programme also features two panel discussions on the topics: "The forestry sector in Portugal – Challenges" and "Plantations in Forestry Policies", which will bring together leading national specialists in fields ranging from economics to the environment, taking in forestry production and industries, offering a Portuguese perspective on planted woodlands and the related policy challenges.

For further information: www.conferencia-internacional-floresta-2011.com