

International Poplar Commission WP6 and the 23rd Session China, October 2008

Dear Colleague

You may already have received notification of the forthcoming 23rd Session of the International Poplar Commission to be held in Beijing, China between 26th and 30th October 2008.

I am contacting you now as Chair of the working party on 'Environmental Applications of Poplar and Willow' (WP6), to invite you to consider submitting a paper to the WP6 session.

The 23rd Session theme is "*Poplars, Willows and People's Well-being*" which includes but is not limited to;

- Recent status and advances of poplar and willow afforestation and reforestation for industry applications;
- Recent status, progress and advances in application of poplars and willows for ecological/environmental restoration, biofuels (bioenergy) and carbon sinks to mitigate climate change; and
- Advances in poplar breeding, biotechnology and forest health

Hence, it can be seen that the topics of primary interest to the WP6 are also key to the overall Session.

Abstracts for papers and posters will need to be submitted through the formal IPC channels detailed on the IPC website (www.fao.org/forestry/site/ipc2008). Information about the event can also be found on the host nation website (www.ipc2008bj.com.cn). However, it would be useful to the organisation of the WP6 session if you would inform us if you intend to submit a paper abstract and, at a later date, to copy the abstract to the Technical Secretary of WP6 (drusilla@lupus-science.co.uk). The deadline for abstract submission is 30th June.

It is the planned intention of the Working Party committee to arrange for the WP6 papers accepted to the conference to be published in a journal special issue. More details will be forthcoming in the next two months.

Since the 22nd Session held in Chile and Argentina in December 2004, the Environmental Applications Working Party has held meetings in Sweden and Estonia (May 2005) Northern Ireland (May 2006) and Canada (June 2007). All the presentations and site visit reports for these meetings can be found on the IPC website (<http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/ipc/en/>). Please take the time to look at the website to see the diversity of material the working party has covered since the last IPC Session.

I urge to consider participating in the meeting in October whether or not you are able to submit a paper or poster. It promises to be a stimulating and exciting event. I would also ask you to forward this invitation to anyone you think might be interested in participating.

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