

It is also intended to further develop industrial specialization and cooperation by establishing direct links between the Ministry's enterprises (associations) and enterprises and organizations of COMECON member countries, and to make more extensive use of such progressive forms of cooperation as joint ventures, and international associations and organizations.

The Economic Efficiency of Sector Development

The economic efficiency of the timber industry complex will be assured above all else by radical structural changes in the production and consumption of forest products. According to projections, the proportion of effective substitutes for timber will be 36 per cent in 2005 as against 20 per cent in 1985 and they will have almost tripled in volume. This increment will be achieved in the main through the extensive involvement of secondary resources, hardwood and low-grade timber in the economic turnover.

In 2005 the proportion of paperboard in the structure of container and packaging material will have risen to 59 per cent from 30 per cent in 1985.

The perfecting of structural shifts in the production and consumption of forest products will make it possible to preserve from felling about a million hectares of forested area, or 150 million cubic metres of timber, and to save not less than 9 billion roubles in capital investments.

The output of merchantable goods from a cubic metre of harvested timber will increase 1.8-fold throughout the sector.