

An immediate and radical organizational and economic restructuring of the timber industry is needed. First priority must be given to the following.

1. Concentrating the administration of the nation's forests, independently of their ownership, in the hands of highly qualified foresters in a single Union-Republic departmental system, responsible to the people and the State for the condition of all the forests and forest lands. Only this department (and not Gosplan) will have the right to decide the allowable cut, determine sites, volumes and felling, monitor the work of the loggers, arrange for a forest revenue and based on the profit-and-loss accounting system, use it to regenerate and protect the forest from fires, insect pests and diseases, and organize hunting expeditions.

2. Eliminating the existing contradictory duality in the functions of forestry enterprises, that is to say: release them once and for all from the requirement to do fellings (except improvement fellings).

3. Placing forestry on a self-supporting footing and unreservedly acknowledging that the main commodity of the sector is not felled and converted timber, as is accepted at present, but raised and preserved forests that are highly valuable as a source of raw material and have a beneficial effect on our habitat. The revenue derived from the forest sector should be used in the main for forest regeneration and for maintaining ecological equilibrium in nature.