

"The statement is also incorrect for another reason. Forestry in the Soviet Union is precisely what we are interested in. At the time of M.S. Gorbachev's visit to Finland last autumn I succeeded in capturing ten minutes of his time to discuss with him our views on this matter. Naturally, while glancing at the fast moving second-hand on my watch I was unable to make trees the sole object of our attention. The plan for the presentation was hammered out as concisely as possible. Essentially it was as follows.

"Finland has not only achieved notable successes in the development of its own forest resources, but is more and more widely disseminating its experience abroad. Already, 35 states and four international organizations have been able to make use of this. Among our clients are not only Australia, Albania and Nicaragua, but even the giants of the timber industry - Canada and Sweden. For each of them an individual 'Master Plan' was strictly drawn up - this being the conventional term for the "procedures to be followed in the long-term development of forestry and the timber industry" that we formulated. A 'Master Plan' can be likened to a computer. It takes in the maximum amount of data available and plots the optimal path of the technological and socioeconomic evolution of the region as a whole. However, even we are not in a position to apply a 'Master Plan' to one-sixth of the land mass. We are proposing that to begin with, such a plan should be compiled for the Novgorod, Leningrad, Vologda and Archangel oblasts, Karelia and the Komi ASSR, which together account for 200 million hectares of the USSR's timber reserves.

"It stands to reason that such a model should be devised for a clearly formulated task and aimed at the achievement of well defined goals. It is therefore extremely important that at an early stage in the process close contact be achieved between our consultants and the contractor submitting the data for the region, in particular for the forest proper, the timber industry and allied sectors, environmental factors and potential sales markets and human resources. I don't think that this