

Renata Kuskowska Polish Academy of Sciences Plac Defilad 1 00-901 Warsaw Poland

03 September 2019

Dear Ms. Kuskowska,

I am pleased to confirm you that your organisation, Polish Academy of Sciences has been accepted as an Associate Member of the European Forest Institute (EFI) by the decision of the Board of EFI, effective as of 2 September 2019.

Please find the EFI Convention enclosed.

EFI has currently 122 Associate and Affiliate Members from 38 countries (please see the list of member organisations here). The Associate and Affiliate Members of EFI meet at an Annual Conference. The next Conference will be held in Aberdeen, UK on 18 - 20 September 2019.

The benefits of EFI membership can be summarised as:

- **Regular and timely information** on EFI activities and issues related to European forest research in general (EFI Network News, e-mails from Membership service, Directors' letters).
- Having the opportunity to influence the direction of EFI's programme. Associate Members have the **right** of vote at the Annual Conference.
- Having the opportunity to stand for Board membership and have a direct influence on the functioning of EFI.
- **Networking opportunities**: our networking opportunities mean our Associate and Affiliate Members benefit from co-operation, mobilisation of research capacities and efficient pooling of available resources.
- **Research collaboratio**n: Associate and Affiliate Members can combine their expertise, find synergies, and share facilities.
- Advocacy: We represent the European forest science community on the global and European stages, giving our member organisations a voice at the highest level.
- Policy Support: an avenue for our member organisations. Mobilize and channel the expertise within our
 member organisations to address policy-relevant questions. Our high-level science-policy forum
 ThinkForest works to identify emerging policy needs as well as to highlight new knowledge for informed
 decision-making.
- **Grants**: EFI offers grants for scientific visits for your researchers from forest research and education organisations to visit another institute.
- **EFI Info Pool:** EFI has established an information forum, EFI Info Pool, where EFI and its network can share news about EU and other research funding calls that are relevant for the forest sector, capacity building opportunities, useful meetings to attend etc. This service is exclusively offered to EFI Member Organisations.

• EFI Network Fund: An exciting new initiative to promote pan-European research collaboration. The EFI Network Fund is a unique instrument, which will provide €1m over the next four years exclusively for EFI Associate and Affiliate Members. The Fund supports networking activities like joint research initiatives, knowledge networking and capacity building, focusing on EFI's three strategic themes: bioeconomy, resilience and governance. Funding can be spent on coordination, travel, events, short visits and dissemination.

As an Associate Member of EFI you are encouraged to disseminate information on the activities of your organisation, announcements of conferences, etc. by sending it to the EFI Network News, which is presently sent to appr. 1500 forest research institutions, individual researchers, policy makers and media around the world. EFI website has a special 'Members' page' where member organisations may send short announcements of open posts, seminars etc. free of charge.

Should you have any further questions about the membership or anything related to EFI, please do not hesitate to contact our membership service (memberships@efi.int). You are also cordially welcome to visit the Institute at any time convenient for you.

Yours sincerely,

Marc Palahí Director

European Forest Institute

ENCLOSURES

EFI Convention