

Press release, 6 March 2015

## **Sveaskog's CEO Per-Olof Wedin to be New Chairman of EUSTAFOR**

**Sveaskog's CEO Per-Olof Wedin has been elected as the new Chairman of EUSTAFOR. EUSTAFOR is the association for European state-owned forest management organisations, who manage almost one-third of all forest land in Europe, corresponding to around 30 million hectares.**

"EUSTAFOR is a key platform from which to pursue, at a European level, issues relating to forests and their sustainable management. Forests are a renewable resource and have an important role to play, particularly in the transformation towards a green bio-based economy," says Per-Olof Wedin.

EUSTAFOR's member organisations are based in 21 countries and employ approximately 100,000 people. The purpose of the Association is to highlight the role of forests in the emerging bioeconomy and to provide the EU institutions with information about European state forests, forest management and the potential to develop the significance of forests from a social, environmental and economic perspective.

"Views about forests and forest management differ widely between the countries of the EU. But what EUSTAFOR's members have in common is that they practice sustainable forest management which develops the multiple values of forest – such as biodiversity, recreation, renewable raw material as well as jobs and prosperity. As a Swedish representative in the role of President of EUSTAFOR I will particularly focus on the significance of forests for Europe's climate, innovation and employment objectives," says Per-Olof Wedin.

Per-Olof Wedin will be the first Swedish representative to be President of EUSTAFOR. The appointment is for 2 years. Mr Wedin will continue to work full time as CEO of Sveaskog.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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### **Facts about EUSTAFOR:**

Established 2006. Members are state forest management organisations from 21 European countries. These organisations manage a total of around 30 million hectares of forest area, including 13 million hectares of protected forests. They harvest nearly 123 million m<sup>3</sup> of timber annually. EUSTAFOR's members employ approximately 100 000 people.

*Sveaskog is Sweden's largest forest owner and sells sawlogs, pulpwood and biofuel. Sveaskog also works with land transactions and develops the forest as a venue for hunting, fishing and other nature-based experiences. The forest and its assets are Sveaskog's core business and sustainable development permeates every aspect of Sveaskog's activities. Sales in 2014 totalled over SEK 6.2 billion and the company has approximately 680 employees.  
Read more at [www.sveaskog.se](http://www.sveaskog.se)*