Country: REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

Date of submission: 11/12/2014

Voluntary National Report to the 11th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

Background

The eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) will be held from 4 to 15 May 2015 in New York. In accordance with the Forum's Multi-Year Program of Work for 2007-2015, the overall theme of UNFF11 is *Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward on the international arrangement on forests (IAF)*. The UNFF11 will, *inter-alia*:

- Review progress towards the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs) and implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (hereinafter referred to as the "Forest Instrument"), and
- 2. Review the contribution of forests and the IAF, including the Forest Instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The submission of national reports by UNFF Member States on the above items will provide a crucial input to the Secretary-General's analytical, consolidated report to UNFF11 on the progress and trends in the above-mentioned areas, as well as to the Forum's deliberation on the future of the IAF.

Pursuant to Resolution 10/1 of the tenth session of the Forum¹, the UNFF Secretariat (UNFFS) in collaboration with the CPF member organizations and in close consultations with countries, revised and streamlined the reporting format. The attached revised format builds on and further simplifies the UNFF10 reporting format. Specifically, the number of questions has been reduced by consolidating previous areas of overlap, and Member States are asked to submit only information that is not currently provided to CPF member organizations, or that is unavailable in other international databases.

The UNFF11 reporting format is presented in two parts. Part I includes questions related to the progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including achievement of the GOFs. Part II includes questions on the contribution of forests and SFM to the achievement of the MDGs.

To the extent possible, the information submitted by countries to the UNFFS will be supplemented with quantitative data, *inter alia*, from the following international data providers:

- FAO, Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)/Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CRFQ) - FAO, Forest Europe, UNECE, ITTO, Montreal Process and OFAC
- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ) FAO, ITTO, UNECE, EUROSTAT
- FAO, State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2014
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

¹ Resolution 10/1 of UNFF10 requested the UNFF secretariat (UNFFS) to further streamline the guidelines and format for voluntary national reporting to the eleventh session of the Forum including a technical discussion on reporting methodology with relevant experts of Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations, taking into account types of information provided to Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations and through criteria and indicators and other regional processes and balanced regional workshops depending on available resources.(United Nations Forum on Forests, Report on the Tenth Session -8 to 19 April 2013, E/2013/42 _E/CN.18/2013/18, Page 6)

Reporting Guidelines and Format

Member States are kindly requested to:

- Submit their completed national report electronically (in MS Word) in English, French or Spanish to unff@un.org, by 30 September 2014, at the latest. Early submissions will greatly facilitate the Secretariat's preparation of the analytical, consolidated Secretary-General's report to UNFF11. Please note that the MS Word file of the reporting format can also be downloaded from the UNFF website at: http://www.un.org/esa/forests/ /unff11_reporting_template.doc
- Submit, in a separate electronic file, a scanned version of the official, signed letter conveying their submission from their respective Ministry, or a note verbale from their Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.
- 3. Submit any graphic elements included in their national report, as separate electronic files.
- 4. Check all boxes that apply to questions that have multiple-choice components. In addition to the "Yes" or "No" answers, countries are encouraged to provide brief descriptive narratives, as this provides context and background. Please also note that space provided for the descriptive information is limited to 250 words per question.

In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues related to forests and sustainable forest management (SFM), respondents are encouraged to consult with experts from relevant national ministries to complete the reporting format, including, for example, the ministries of environment, economic development, finance and agriculture. Respondents are also strongly encouraged to consult with the national focal points for the FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), the Rio Conventions, other CPF member organizations and C&I processes, where applicable.

Please note that the Year 2007 – the year of the adoption of the Forest Instrument (2007), is used as a baseline throughout the document.

All terms used in this document are consistent with the FAO/FRA Working Paper 180 "Terms and Definitions FRA 2015": http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/ap862e/ap862e00.pdf

Abbreviations

NFP

C&I	Criteria and Indicators	processes

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FLEGT Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade

FRA FAO's global Forest Resources Assessment

National Forest Programme

GOF Global Objectives on Forests

ITTO International Tropical Timber Organization

MDGs Millennium Development Goals

3

ODA Official Development Assistance
SIDS Small Island Developing States
SFM Sustainable forest management

UN United Nations

UNFF United Nations Forum on Forests

General information

UNFF national focal point

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Organization:	
Phone:	
Fax:	
Email:	

Person to contact concerning the national report, if other than the UNFF national focal point

Name:	Nikolai Yurevich
Title:	Head of the departament of forestry
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PART I:

<u>Progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument,</u> <u>including achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)</u>

. Since the adoption of the Forest Instrument in 2007, what actions has your govern taken to strengthen forest-related policies, legislation, and law enforcement in su of sustainable forest management (SFM)? Please specify:					
			New	Amendment of e	existing
	Forest policy			\boxtimes	
	Forest legislation				
	National forest prog	gramme		\boxtimes	
	Forest land tenure				
	Other actions				
	None				
	Please provide furt	her information of	on these and/or ot	her actions:	
	following changes took place in the forest legislation of the republic: the powers of President of the Republic of Belarus in the field of forest policy were defined, classification forest protection categories was revised, new organization of hunting management active was introduced, withdrawal of the forest fund lands of the I group is realized by agreement with the President of the Republic of Belarus, the institution of environmental improvement assessment of forest regulation plans was introduced, the social status of school forest increased.			ned, classification of inagement activities ilized by agreement vironmental impact	
	To what extent has Instrument?	ve these actions	been effective in	advancing implemen	ntation of the Forest
		Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
	Forest policy	\boxtimes			
	Forest legislation				
	NFP	\boxtimes			
	Forest land tenures	\boxtimes			
	Other actions				
	Please provide 2-3 link(s) to relevant of		ective actions in s	upport of the Forest I	nstrument and web-
-		gally-harvested ces?		en to prevent and re s such as timber,	

	\boxtimes	Improved enforcement of existing legislation
		Export controls
		Import controls
		Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries
		None
		Other, e.g. public procurement policies, public-private partnerships. Please list below:
		t certification is carried out according to two international forest certification systems and PEFC)
		www.mlh.by/ru/certification/development.html
	Please	provide 2-3 examples and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):
		ee of the President of the Republic of Belarus N 214 of May 7, 2007 "On Some
	Meas	ures to Improve the Activity in the Field of Forestry"
	http://	www.mlh.by/ru/official/acts.html
3.	Since	2007, what steps has your government taken to raise the importance of forests
	and S	FM in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies or other
	equiva	llent plans?
		Forests/SFM are now included in national development plans/strategies
	\boxtimes	Forests/SFM now have a higher priority in national development plans/strategies
		The contribution of forests/SFM to poverty eradication, food security, water security,
		employment is an ongoing subject of discussion
		Other, please list below:
	Have th	nese steps resulted in:
	Ш	More Official Development Assistance (ODA) being programmed to SFM-related activities
	\boxtimes	More domestic public resources devoted to SFM-related activities
	\boxtimes	Increased awareness of the importance of forests/SFM to sustainable development
		Increased awareness of the importance of forests/SFM to poverty eradication
		Other, please list below:
		describe these steps, and, if possible, provide 2-3 examples and web-link(s) to at document(s):
		Program for the Development of Forestry in the Republic of Belarus for 2011-2015
	Progra	am of forest road construction in forests of the Republic of Belarus in 2011-2015
	http://	www.mlh.by/ru/official/docs.html
4	Since	2007, has your government taken measures to strengthen coordination across
т.		ries and departments whose policies have an impact on or may affect forests
	and SF	
		⊠ Yes □ No

If Yes, please specify which ministries and/or departments are involved and how effective these measures have been in implementing SFM:

Measures have been taken to improve the coordination of the work of the Ministry of Forestry with other authorites: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, State Inspectorate on Wildlife Protection under the President of the Republic of Belarus, Ministry of Defense, Ministry for Emergency Situations, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Industry

		Effective	Partially effective		Not in place
	Agriculture/Rural Development		\boxtimes		
	Climate Change				
	Environment		\boxtimes		
	Mining		\boxtimes		
	Energy		\boxtimes		
	Water				
	Tourism		\boxtimes		
	Other				
	Please provide 2-3 example relevant document(s):	les of cross-se	ctoral coop	eration and, if poss	ible, web-link(s) to
	National program for devel http://energoeffekt.gov.by/l1593q.html The set of measures to imphttp://www.mlh.gov.by/lioh/	aws/resolution/ prove the work	<u>15151005</u>		
5.	Does your government's contain time-bound and q Yes If yes, please list the targets	uantified targe No and dates by v	ets related to	o the forest area?	
	provide web-link(s) to relevant State Program for the Deve	` '		Depublic of Delegue	for 2011 2015
	http://www.mlh.by/ru/officia The draft project of State Belarus for 2016-2020 was	al/docs.html e Program for		·	
6.	Since 2007, what activitie forest cover and/or to enh				
	Affores		35 200	ha	
	⊠ Refore ⊠ Restora		44 200 198 700	ha ha	
	_		150 700	Tia .	
	Introduction or enforcement Existing legislation and or reforestation	aimed at redu	uction of de	forestation and/or so	upport afforestation

and/or reforestation		n of deforestati	on and/or suppor	t of afforestation
New legislation and		at conservation	and protection of	forests
Subsidies for fores			•	
☐ Subsidies for fores			g	F
Reduced/deferred	•	land		
Low-interest loans	for forest activit	ies/managemer	nt	
Other, please list b	elow:	-		
Transfer of unproductive ag Implementation of the Sta Belarus for 2011-2015 and Republic of Belarus for 201	te Program for d of the State	the Developme	ent of Forestry in	the Republic of
Please describe, and, if document(s):	possible, provi	de 2-3 examp	oles and web-lin	k(s) to relevant
http://www.mlh.by/ru/officia	I/docs.html			
☐ Roundtables/commi☐ Forest authorities not them arise☐ Other, please list be	neet with stake		•	•
The set of measures to imp	rove the work o	of forestry		
http://www.mlh.gov.by/lioh/	2010-7/2.pdf			
http://www.mlh.gov.by/lioh/		Partially	us approaches:	Not in place
	chanisms in proi			Not in place
How effective are these med	chanisms in pror	Partially		Not in place
How effective are these med Private sector Forest workers	chanisms in proi	Partially		Not in place
How effective are these med Private sector Forest workers Local communities	chanisms in pror	Partially		Not in place
How effective are these med Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities	chanisms in pror	Partially		Not in place
Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities NGOs	chanisms in pror	Partially effective		Not in place
Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities NGOs General Public	chanisms in pror	Partially effective	Not effective	
Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities NGOs	chanisms in pror	Partially effective	Not effective	
Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities NGOs General Public	chanisms in pror	Partially effective	Not effective	
Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities NGOs General Public	chanisms in pror	Partially effective	Not effective	document(s):
Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities NGOs General Public Please provide 2-3 examples	chanisms in pror	Partially effective	Not effective	document(s):
Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities NGOs General Public Please provide 2-3 examples To what extent do local a publicly-owned forests?	chanisms in pror	Partially effective	Not effective	document(s):
Private sector Forest workers Local communities Indigenous communities NGOs General Public Please provide 2-3 example: To what extent do local a publicly-owned forests? Completely	chanisms in pror	Partially effective	Not effective	document(s):

Please provide 2-3 examples how local and indigenous communities are benefiting from goods and services produced by forests and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

Local people have the right to unlimited access to the forest, to collection of non-timber resources for their own needs, to purchase timber from forest fund holders http://www.mlh.by/ru/official/acts.html

	\boxtimes	Yes		No				
If Yes,	what is the	he timefrai	me of th	ese strateg	ies?			
\boxtimes	2-5 yea	ırs						
	5-10 ye							
	10-20 y		.,					
	Other, p	olease spe	city:					
These	strategie	s take into	accoun	t:				
	\boxtimes	Domesti	c public	funding				
			•	e funding				
				•	ng ODA and F	REDD+)		
		External	private	funding				
Please	provide	2-3 examp	oles, and	d, if possible	e, provide wel	b-link(s) to r	elevant documen	t(s):
•• • •			4 1.12-1					
						ems/mechai	nisms for payme	ent f
	stem ser	vices (PE		ided by for		ms/mecha	nisms for payme	ent f
ecosy	stem ser	rvices (PE Yes	S) prov	ided by for No	rests?			
ecosy	stem ser	rvices (PE Yes	S) prov	ided by for No	rests?		nisms for paymo	
ecosy	stem ser please serections.	Yes Yes specify, ar	S) prov	ided by for No ssible, prov	rests?			
ecosy	stem ser	Yes Yes specify, ar ned protect	s) prov	ided by for No ssible, prov er supply	rests?			
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If Yes, since 2	please section of the control of the	Yes Yes specify, and med protect storage (in conservation lease list be	s) prov	ided by for No ssible, prov er supply REDD+)	rests? ride the estim USD USD USD			
If Yes, since 2	please section of the control of the	Yes Yes specify, and ned protect storage (in	s) prov	ided by for No ssible, prov er supply REDD+)	rests? ride the estim USD USD USD			
If Yes, since 2	please section of the control of the	Yes Yes specify, and med protect storage (in conservation lease list be	s) prov	ided by for No ssible, prov er supply REDD+)	rests? ride the estim USD USD USD			
If Yes, since 2	please section of the control of the	Yes Specify, and sed protect storage (in conservation lease list butter for recre	s) proving and, if position/water actuding on below:	ided by for No ssible, prov er supply REDD+)	rests? ride the estimate USD USD USD USD	ated total v		

					e significantly increased ase specify sources:
				2007	2013
	\boxtimes	Domestic pub	olic funding	USD 67 133 (692 USD 96 464 515
		Domestic priv	ate funding	USD	USD
			itional funding A and REDD+)	USD	USD
		External priva	ate funding	USD	USD
	If there has been	en no increase,	please describe th	e main challenges	s in mobilizing funds:
	FLEG 2, as w http://www.ml		ct "Belarusian Fore <u>eg.html</u>		ountry projects FLEG and Project"
12.		what steps h SFM and fore:		nent taken to e	encourage private sector
	□ Policy	and legal reform	ms that encourage	greater private inv	vestment
	Finance etc.	ial incentives, s	such as credit guar	antees, tax breaks	s, employment subsidies
			kets for ecosystem	•	•
	Outrea forests		te sector (leaflets, o	conferences, fairs	promoting investment in
	□ Develous SFM	pment and imp	rovement of infrast	ructure and other	public services related to
	Other;	please list belo	DW:		
	Development	of ecological a	nd hunting tourism		
	Please provide	2-3 examples,	and, if possible, pr	rovide web-link(s)	to relevant document(s):
			/recreation.html velopment in the Re	anublic of Polorus	for 2011, 2015
	http://minsksp	ort.by/ru/progra	amma_razvitija	•	
				and integrated util	lization of natural resources
		esie for 2010-2 y.gov.by/ru/pro	grammy/polesye		
13.			d in international	cooperation to p	romote SFM?
		Yes [No		
	If Yes, please s	•	om:		
		Government			
		•	ental Organization		
		NGOs	r/philanthropy		
		Others			
	Type of cooper	ation:			
		North-South			

		South-Sou	uth	
	\boxtimes	Technical		
		Financial		
		Others		
And sp	ecify the	areas of co	ooperati	ion:
\boxtimes	Forests	and clima	te chang	ge
\boxtimes	Forest b	oiodiversity	,	
	Valuatio	on of ecosy	stem se	ervices provided by forests
\boxtimes				ncluding livelihoods
\boxtimes			-	ehabilitation
\boxtimes		ic coopera		
\boxtimes		monitoring/		llection
		_		capacity development
П		olease list l		sapaony dovolopinone
	Otrier, p	JICASC IIST I	Jeiow.	
	provide at docume		ples of	international cooperation, and, if possible, web-link(s) to
interna Slova	ational aç kia, Lithu	greements	with the	ions in the field of forestry there were concluded e forestry authorities of the Russian Federation, Poland, den, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Czech Republic. Cooperation loped
Please	list the k	ey challen	ges face	ed by your government in implementing SFM:
				more institutes or centers of excellence engaged in the f scientific, technical and technological innovations for
	\boxtimes	Yes		No
If Yes,	what are	as do thes	e techni	ical/scientific activities focus on:
\boxtimes	Forest i	nventory s	ystems	
\boxtimes	Low-im	pact loggin	g or oth	ner harvesting techniques
\boxtimes	Wood p			and the second s
		production 1	for ener	gy
	Wood p	production for processing		
			technolo	ogy
	Waste	rocessing	technolo	ogy
	Waste r	processing reduction a please list b	technological te	ogy voling
☐ ☐ There	Waste of Other, pare elab	reduction a please list b orated bra	technological te	ogy rcling ndards, specifications and codes of of routine practice
There	Waste r Other, p are elab I on the p	reduction a please list b orated bra	technological te	ogy rcling ndards, specifications and codes of of routine practice nable forest management
There based http://	Waste r Other, p are elab I on the p www.mlh	processing reduction a please list b porated bra principles o h.by/ru/offic	technological recycles to the low: nch start sustair sustair sial/tech.	ogy rcling ndards, specifications and codes of of routine practice nable forest management
There based http://	Waste r Other, p are elab d on the p www.mlh	reduction a please list b orated bra principles o a.by/ru/offic	technologind recycles below: nch star f sustair bial/tech. ed at:	ogy rcling ndards, specifications and codes of of routine practice nable forest management
There based http://	Waste r Other, p are elab I on the p www.mlh	processing reduction a please list be controlled by the controlled	technologind recycles below: nch star f sustair tech. ed at:	ogy rcling ndards, specifications and codes of of routine practice nable forest management

	NGOs
	General public
	Since 2007, has funding for forest-related science and research increased?
	⊠ Yes □ No
	Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):
15.	What actions has your country undertaken to increase public awareness of the important benefits provided by forests?
	□ Published broadcasts on TV and/or Radio
	Published materials, e.g. brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, or/and posters, etc.
	Meetings with the general public
	☐ Art events/Exhibitions
	Activities in support of the International Day of Forests
	Other
	Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):
	The annual campaigns "Forest Week", "Clean Forest"
	The work of school forestries
	Participation in TV and radio broadcasts
	annual International specialized exhibitions "Lesdrevtech", "Hunting and Fishing"
	http://mlh.by/ru/offers/vist.html
16.	What sets of criteria and indicators (C&I) for SFM are used in your country:
	National set of C&I
	Regional/international set of C&I (e.g. ITTO, Forest Europe, Montreal
	Process, Taraporto etc.)
	Other
	Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):
	Are these C&I used to:
	_
	Generate information to national reports on forest conditions and management
	Monitor and assess and monitor forest conditions and management
	Review and develop national forest policies and tools for SFM
	☐ Communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders
	Report on forests to regional and international organizations If so, which ones:

er language (not includ Russian and Spanish)?		
lessons learned related ibutions towards the f		
ards of the international	The increase forest certification	
pliance with the Europea	2. Accreditation PEFC system. F	
oal 1);	3. The increase	
	4. Development	
nbat illegal logging. The harvesting volume;		
est management betwee		
unication technologies		
zations engaged in fores		
es related to forestry. In ce 2007 the wood fuel ry of Forestry of the	particular, the te	
zations engaged in fores es related to forestry. In ce 2007 the wood fuel	based on free swithin the Minist (http://www.mlh 7. Building of na particular, the te	

Republic of Belarus.

PART II

Contribution of forests and SFM to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The aim of Part II of this reporting questionnaire is to learn how forests and SFM have contributed to achieving the MDGs in your country, particularly with respect to poverty and hunger eradication (MDG1), environmental sustainability (MDG7) and developing a global partnership for development (MDG8).

Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest)	scale of	1-5 (1 be	ing the lo	west and	5 being the
Ву:	1	2	3	4	5
Improving livelihoods		\boxtimes			
Supporting subsistence needs, including fuel wood, fodder and shelter			\boxtimes		
Contributing to food security, including through agroforestry systems			\boxtimes		
Providing employment, including employment in informal economy			\boxtimes		
Other:					
lease describe, and, if possible, provide web-	link(s) to	relevant o	document(s):	
). How have forests/SFM contributed to en					
your country? Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest)	_			-	
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest)	_			-	
Please rate the scale of contribution on a	scale of	1-5 (1 be	ing the lo	west and	5 being the
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By:	scale of	1-5 (1 be	ing the lo	west and	5 being the
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By: Providing habitat Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic	scale of	1-5 (1 be	ing the lo	west and 4	5 being the
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By: Providing habitat Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity	scale of	1-5 (1 be	ing the lo	west and 4	5 being the
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By: Providing habitat Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity Stabilizing soils and slopes	scale of	1-5 (1 be	ing the lo	west and 4 □ ⊠	5 being the
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By: Providing habitat Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity Stabilizing soils and slopes Safeguarding water resources	scale of	1-5 (1 be	ing the lo	west and 4 □ ⊠	5 being the

Please describe, and, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

1. The principles of sustainable development in the field of forestry are set forth in the national legislation (Forest Code) http://www.mlh.by/ru/official/acts.html

- 2. Forest covered area increased from 7 883.4 thousand ha in 2007 to 8160.4 thousand ha in 2014
- 3. Forests with primary protective functions make more than 50%; the area of specially protected areas increased from 2 479.5 thousand ha in 2005 to 2 522.7 in 2014

21. How have	e forests/SFM	contributed t	o developing a glob	oal partnership fo	r development
(MDG8) iı	n your country	?			

Please rate the scale of contribution on a scale of 1-5 (1 highest)	being	the lov	west an	d 5 be	ing the
Ву:	1	2	3	4	5
Engaging in regional and international collaboration on issues related to improved governance					
Through trade agreements involving forest products (e.g. bilateral/sub-regional/regional/inter-regional free trade agreements, EU voluntary partnership agreements, etc.)		\boxtimes			
Fostering partnerships with the private sector		\boxtimes			
Attracting foreign investment in the forest sector			\boxtimes		
Fostering bilateral and international financial cooperation					
Fostering north-south, and south-south technical, technological and scientific partnerships	\boxtimes				
Other					
Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant	ant doc	ument(s	s): 		
22. Have forests/SFM contributed to making progress in MDGs in your country?					aining
MDG2: Achieving universal primary education					

DG3: Promoting gender equality and empowering women
DC4. Dadinaina ahild maantalitu
DG4: Reducing child mortality
DOC- harmonida a mastama di bisalth
DG5: Improving maternal health
DG6: Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases