



## INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

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30 October – 4 November 2000  
Yokohama, Japan

### DECISION 13(XXIX)

#### THE ROLE OF THE ITTO IN INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FORA

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling Decision 7(XXVII) relating to the Work Programme for the year 2000 and Document ITTC(XXVIII)/16, "Report on the Issues Arising in the Forest and Forest-Products Related International Fora, Focusing on the Role of ITTO";

Welcoming the adoption of the resolution by the United Nations Economic and Social Council establishing the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), and recommending the formation of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF);

Noting the critical inter-relationship between the condition of tropical forests and the environmental threats such as climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and desertification;

Further noting the direct relevance to the ITTO of activities of forest-related and other international organizations and processes to address these threats;

Also recognizing the continuing need for the ITTO to cooperate with and contribute to other international organizations and processes;

#### Decides to:

1. Request the Executive Director to convene an Expert Panel composed of six producer and six consumer Members, two representatives from the NGO community and two from trade/industry, (one each from producer and consumer countries within each category), to consider and report to Council at its Thirtieth Session recommendations for the ITTO's involvement in relevant international and regional organizations and fora, as per the attached Terms of Reference.
2. Authorize the Executive Director to participate in appropriate international fora in the interim, in particular in the United Nations Forum on Forests and to be an active member of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests and its successor the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to seek voluntary contributions from Member countries to meet the financial requirements of paragraph 1 of this Decision, which will not exceed US\$120,000. If sufficient contributions are not received by 31 January 2001, the Executive Director is requested to use funds from Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund; and
4. Invite written comments from Members on this subject to the Executive Director by 31 January 2001 for submission to the Panel for its consideration.

## ANNEX

### TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EXPERT PANEL ON THE ROLE OF THE ITTO IN INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FORA

1. The Expert Panel will, within the context of the ITTA, 1994:
  - identify relevant issues in international and regional organizations and fora which have implications for, and direct relevance to, the role and work of ITTO;
  - propose measures for effective participation in, cooperation with, and contribution to these fora;
  - evaluate priorities for the ITTO in carrying out this work, taking into account costs and benefits arising from the above measures; and
  - develop recommendations for the ITTO's involvement in international and regional fora, including inter alia recommendations for the ITTO's next Action Plan.
2. In its work, the Expert Panel will take into account Members' views and on-going developments within relevant international and regional organizations and fora, including inter alia:
  - United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
  - Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)
  - African Timber Organization (ATO)
  - United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
  - World Bank
  - Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
  - International Union for Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO)
  - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
  - International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
  - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
  - Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD)
  - Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
  - Global Environment Facility (GEF)
  - World Trade Organization (WTO)
  - ASEAN Foundation
  - Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
  - Tarapoto Process
3. The Expert Panel will report to Council at its Thirtieth Session.

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