



ITTO

**INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL
TIMBER COUNCIL**

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1 - 6 November 1999
Yokohama, Japan

DECISION 5(XXVII)

**ITTO YEAR 2000 OBJECTIVE AND ITS PROMOTION
THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS**

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling Decision 10(XXVI) on a preliminary review of progress on the ITTO Year 2000 Objective; Decision 3(XXIV) on the revised ITTO Criteria and Indicators; Decisions 8(XX) and 2(XXIV) on the 1995 Mid-Term Review of Progress; and Decision 3(X) on the strategy for making progress on achieving sustainable management of tropical forests and trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed resources by the year 2000,

Also recalling the Annex to Decision 3(XXII) on the terms of reference of the Informal Advisory Group (IAG), including priorities related to public relations and public education of the ITTO in the context of overall policy and strategic priorities of the Council,

Recognizing that sustainable forest management is an evolving concept which will continue to benefit from improved scientific knowledge of how forest ecosystems function and respond to human interventions,

Aware of the importance of public perception and understanding of the nature of the Year 2000 Objective, of the efforts made to date by the Organization and individual Members toward this Objective, and of the Organization's recognition that much remains to be accomplished and that enhanced efforts are required in the future,

Decides to:

1. Continue to encourage Members to submit their national overviews on progress towards the ITTO Year 2000 Objective, as soon as possible and not later than 15 January 2000, as called for in Decision 10(XXVI);
2. Request the Executive Director to prepare a progress report on the priority activities contained in the Annex to Decision 10(XXVI) for review by Council at its Twenty-eighth Session that identifies for each priority activity:
 - (a) relevant policy decisions taken by Council;
 - (b) projects, pre-project and activities financed by voluntary contributions from ITTO Members in support of the priority area;
3. Authorize the Executive Director, in consultation with the consultants selected to implement Decision 10(XXVI), to engage additional consultants to provide analytical reports of progress in each producer region, to assist them in their tasks;

4. Request the Executive Director to convene an Expert Panel comprising three producer and three consumer Members to consider and report to Council at its Twenty-eighth Session on ways to promote public education and awareness of ITTO's progress toward the Year 2000 Objective as per the attached Terms of Reference, with a view to increasing the Organization's visibility and effectiveness; and
5. Authorize the Executive Director to allocate funding for this work through the unearmarked provisions of sub-account B of the Bali Partnership Fund.

ANNEX

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EXPERT PANEL ON ITTO YEAR 2000 OBJECTIVE
AND ITS PROMOTION THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS**

In its work, the Expert Panel will:

1. Draw upon the work of relevant consultant reports and Members' overviews submitted to ITTO on progress toward the Year 2000 Objective;
2. Discuss ways to improve public education and awareness of the purposes and functions of the ITTO, with a view to reaffirming the ITTO's role in international tropical forest matters;
3. Develop options for consideration by Council on effective methods of communication of the message to the range of audiences important to ITTO, e.g., relevant international and non-governmental organizations; and
4. Report to Council at its Twenty-eighth Session.

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