



ITTO

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Chiang Mai, Thailand

DECISION 3 (XXVI)

THE APPLICATION OF CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL TROPICAL FORESTS

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling Decision 3(XXIV) on “Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests,” which encourages Member countries to apply the revised ITTO Criteria and Indicators for reporting in relation to the Year 2000 Objective and urges countries to prepare projects to test the revised ITTO Criteria and Indicators;

Also recalling Decision 8(XXV) on “Management of the Bali Partnership Fund” and noting that implementation of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management also supports the goals of the Bali Partnership Fund;

Also noting that many ITTO Member countries are also members of regional and international Criteria and Indicators initiatives;

Recognizing that sets of Criteria and Indicators are used worldwide to measure progress and make decisions in the sustainable management of forests;

Further noting that the “Manual for the Application of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests” will assist Member countries in implementation of Criteria and Indicators;

Also recognizing that the Manual will require further revision as it is tested in the field;

Decides to:

1. Adopt the “Manual for the Application of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests”;
2. Request the Executive Director to publish the Manual and to widely circulate it to Members and relevant international organizations, particularly to the regional and international Criteria and Indicators initiatives;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to arrange financing from the Special Account to meet the cost of publication and circulation of the Manual, and invite Members to contribute to the Special Account for this purpose;
4. Request the Executive Director to organize workshops to train the trainers for the wide use and implementation of the Manual, based on the attached Terms of Reference in the Annex to the decision;
5. Encourage Member countries to test the Manual in the field;

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6. Request the Executive Director to engage two consultants to conduct testing of the Manual in the field, drawing on country experiences where relevant, based on the attached Terms of Reference in the Annex to the decision;
7. Review the Manual on the basis of the experience acquired and on the consultants' report on field tests;
8. Authorize the Executive Director to arrange financing from the Special Account for the workshops and testing of the Manual by the consultants, and invite Members to contribute to the Special Account for these purposes;
9. Request the Executive Director to cooperate with and support regional and international Criteria and Indicator initiatives worldwide, consistent with the mandate of the ITTO;
10. Request the Executive Director to facilitate active ITTO participation in and representation at international Criteria and Indicators working groups that may be convened to consider common definitions of key concepts and terms related to Criteria and Indicators.

ANNEX FOR DECISION 3(XXVI)

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CONSULTANTS FOR TRAINING AND FIELD TESTING OF THE
MANUAL FOR THE APPLICATION OF CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL TROPICAL FORESTS**

- Assist the Executive Director to organize and implement four ITTO regional workshops (in Asia, Africa, and Latin America) to train the trainers on the effective use of the Manual for the Application of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests. The aim of the workshops is to train the participants to enable them to provide instructions to others at the national and forest management unit levels on the proper use of the Manual.
- In addition to surveying the participants of the above workshops visit four producer countries to evaluate the clarity of the Manual and test if it can be applied effectively and consistently in a range of country conditions. This testing would be done at both the national and forest management unit levels.
- Testing of the Manual should be done making use of the experience of, and in cooperation with, an organization, such as CIFOR, that has experience in field testing of criteria and indicators.
- Based on the experience, from both the training workshops and the field visits, make recommendations to ITTO to revise the Manual and its practical applications.

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