



ITTO

INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

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TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION
28 May – 3 June 1999
Chiang Mai, Thailand

DECISION 10(XXVI)

ITTO YEAR 2000 OBJECTIVE

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling the ITTO Action Plan, 1990, Document ITTC (VIII) D.I. 1990 and the Libreville Action Plan;

Further recalling Decision 3(X) on the strategy by which, through international collaboration and national policies and programmes, ITTO members will progress towards achieving sustainable management of tropical forests and trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed resources by the year 2000;

Noting Decision 8(XX) on the Mid-Term Review of Progress Towards Achievement of the ITTO Year 2000 Objective, particularly with regard to the priority actions as set out in Annex B of the Decision;

Further noting Decision 3(XXIV) which encourages member countries to consider applying the revised ITTO Criteria and Indicators for reporting to ITTO in relation to the Year 2000 Objective;

Also noting the approaching year 2000 and recognising that progress towards achieving sustainable management of tropical forests is on-going;

Underlining the importance of Article 1(d) of the ITTA, 1994, towards enhancing the capacity of members to implement a strategy for achieving exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources by the year 2000, and its relation to Article 21 regarding the Bali Partnership Fund;

Recognising the need for reporting to identify factors promoting and impeding progress towards achieving the Year 2000 Objective in order to make further advances;

Decides to:

1. Undertake a preliminary review at its Twenty-eighth Session of the progress made by:
 - (a) member countries towards achieving the Year 2000 Objective;
 - (b) the ITTO in enhancing the capacity of member countries to implement a strategy for achieving the Year 2000 Objective.
2. Request each member to provide to the Executive Director by 1 November 1999 an overview on the progress achieved towards the Year 2000 Objective, on the basis of the format used for the Mid-Term Review, as set out in the Annex of Decision 4(XIV), attached to this decision as Annex A, taking into account the revised ITTO Criteria and Indicators where possible, and with emphasis on the priority activities as set out in Annex B of Decision 8(XX), attached to this decision as Annex B.

3. Request the Executive Director to engage two consultants, one from a producer member country and one from a consumer member country, to prepare for circulation to members by 31 March 2000 on the basis of the terms of reference attached to this Decision as Annex C:
 - (a) a report on members' progress towards achieving the Year 2000 Objective;
 - (b) a report on ITTO's contribution towards enhancing the capacity of member countries to implement a strategy for achieving the Year 2000 Objective.
4. Authorise the Executive Director to arrange the financing for the consultants from the Special Account and invite members to contribute to the Special Account for this purpose.

ANNEX A

INFORMATION SHARING

The following format has been agreed by the Council to assist Members in the preparation of information as required under Articles 27 and 28 and for informing the Council of progress towards meeting the Year 2000 Target.

In agreeing to this format, Council sought to rationalise the various statistical and other returns which are requested by the Organization into one which would be completed annually. However, Members would continue to be encouraged to provide updated data to the Organization as soon as possible.

The Council would expect Members to provide information only on those aspects relevant to their own specific circumstances and which are within the scope of the Agreement. At the same time Council recognised the benefits to be gained from information sharing for individual Members, in promoting the activities of the Organization and objectives of the ITTA and encouraged Members to provide as comprehensive information as possible.

Council recognises that the availability of data is presently limited for some Members and that this will affect their ability to prepare this information.

FORMAT

1. INTRODUCTION/SUMMARY

2. INSTITUTIONAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

- Legal and institutional framework for relevant national forest policy and implementation of relevant forest management plans.
- Relationship of ITTO Decisions, the Year 2000 Target and ITTO Guidelines to national forest policy.
- Relevant legislation and other measures affecting trade in timber.
- Measures to increase the efficiency of relevant timber utilisation and promote production of value added timber products.

3. FOREST RESOURCE BASE

- Areas and distribution of relevant protection forests, production forests and plantations and their relation to national goals and targets.
- Plantation establishment targets and annual planting regimes

4. PRODUCTION AND TRADE OF LOGS, SAWNWOOD, VENEER, PLYWOOD

(where possible, trade data should be based on the internationally agreed harmonised tariff schedule)

- Production level, capacity and efficiency by major products by species groups (where possible) and estimates of future production.
- Export and import values and volumes.
- Prices for major products by species groups.
- Stocks.
- Share of tropical timber in total timber trade.

- Annual trends in timber production from the forest, consumption and international trade.

5. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

- Relevant international financial and technical co-operation.
- Relevant Research and Development in forest resource conservation, management and development.
- Measures to increase production and utilisation efficiency including measures to increase value adding in producer countries.
- Measures to promote international trade in tropical timber derived from sustainably managed forests.

6. RELEVANT ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES

- Environmental legislation and policies as related to timber: environmental assessments, regulations for forest operations, and other measures.

7. RELEVANT SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS

- Economic flows associated with production and/or use of timber.
- Employment.
- Provisions for involvement of local communities.
- General economic conditions which affect supply and demand of wood products.

ANNEX B

PRIORITY ACTIONS

- To adopt a forest policy and enforce legislation.
- To establish and secure a Permanent Estate (PFE)
- To reduce the damage done by timber harvesting to the physical and social environments and to the forest eco-system.
- To train the work force to accelerate the use of reduced impact logging thus becomes of the utmost priority and urgency.
- To limit harvest levels to the sustained yield capacity.
- To raise political and consumer awareness of the fact that timber harvesting can be consistent with the sustainability of the tropical forest.
- To concentrate research on the analysis and application of existing data and knowledge so as to ascertain what is or can be made relevant to the operational knowledge of forest eco-system behaviour and put that information into preliminary management prescriptions.

ANNEX C

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CONSULTANTS TO REPORT ON PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ITTO YEAR 2000 OBJECTIVE

1. To produce an analytical report on progress made by ITTO member countries toward achieving the Year 2000 Objective, based on country overviews and other relevant information. This report should, among others, identify factors that have promoted or impeded progress toward achieving the Year 2000 Objective.
2. To produce an analytical report on ITTO's contribution to enhance the capacity of members to implement a strategy for achieving the Year 2000 Objective.
3. Based on the above two reports, to prepare recommendations:
 - a) on promoting further progress toward achievement of the sustainable management of tropical forests;
 - b) on ITTO's contribution to enhance the capacity of members to achieve the Year 2000 Objective.
4. To submit their reports to the ITTO Secretariat by 1 March 2000.

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