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Yokohama, Japan

DECISION 6(XXI)

REVISION OF THE ITTO ACTION PLAN

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling the publication by ITTO in 1990 of the "ITTO Action Plan";

Welcoming the report of the Executive Director on Preparation for Entry into Force of the ITTA, 1994, which highlights the changing context of ITTO's work and recommends the revision of the ITTO Action Plan;

Also welcoming the Final Report of the Independent Consultants on the Strengthening of the ITTO Project Cycle;

Noting the importance of focusing project work as much as possible on ITTO's aims and objectives;

Also noting that an updated Action Plan would provide guidance and constitute the basic framework for project formulation;

Reaffirming ITTO's commitment to the Year 2000 Objective;

Noting the programme of work of the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) Ad Hoc Open-ended Intergovernmental Panel on Forests(IPF);

Decides to:

1. Authorize the Executive Director to engage two consultants (one from a producer country and the other from a consumer country) to prepare a working paper on the revision of the ITTO Action Plan;
2. Request the Executive Director to convene an Expert Panel comprising sixteen members, six from producer countries, six from consumer countries, two representatives from the NGO community and two from trade/industry (one each from producer countries and one each from consumer countries). The members of the Expert Panel will act in their expert or personal capacity and prepare a report with possible elements on the adjustment of the ITTO Action Plan in the light of the ITTA, 1994, for consideration by the Council at its Twenty-third Session in November 1997;
3. Adopt the Terms of Reference in Annexes I and II for the work of the consultants and the Expert Panel;

4. Authorize the Executive Director to arrange for financing the Expert Panel and the two consultants from the Special Account and invite members to contribute to this ITTO activity;
5. Request the Executive Director to circulate to members by June 1997 the working paper prepared by the consultants and by October 1997 the report of the Expert Panel.

Annex I Terms of Reference of the Consultants
Annex II Terms of Reference of the Expert Panel

ANNEX I

Terms of Reference of the Consultants

1. The consultants shall attend the Twenty-second Session of the ITTC in May 1997 and take note of comments made by members on the priorities for revision of the Action Plan, and produce a working paper on the revision of the ITTO Action Plan for the Expert Panel by 1 June 1997;
2. The working paper produced by the consultants should be based on:
 - The ITTA, 1994;
 - The existing Action Plan;
 - Relevant Council Decisions;
 - Papers submitted to the Council by Members on Progress Towards the Achievement of the Year 2000 Objective and on Estimates of Resources and Costs Incurred to Achieve the Year 2000 Objective.
3. It should also take the following into consideration as appropriate:
 - Relevant reports of the International Tropical Timber Council;
 - Relevant reports to the Council, in particular the Report of the Executive Director on Preparation for Entry into Force of the ITTA, 1994 (Document ITTC(XXI)/6) and the Report of the Expert Panel on Estimating Resources and Costs Incurred to Achieve the Year 2000 Objective (Document ITTC(XIX)/5);
 - General comments of the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals;
 - Comments made by members;
 - Reports of relevant debates in other international fora;
 - Relevant recent publications;
4. The Consultants shall act as rapporteurs during the meeting of the Expert Panel in Yokohama in June 1997.

ANNEX II

Terms of Reference of the Expert Panel

1. The Panel should be convened for a period of eight days in June 1997 in Yokohama. The Panel should be assisted by the two consultants and members of the Secretariat. The Panel shall submit its report by 15 September 1997. The working language of the Expert Panel will be English;
2. The Panel should base its work on:
 - The ITTA, 1994;
 - The Working Paper provided by the consultants;
 - The existing Action Plan;
 - Relevant Council Decisions;
 - Papers submitted to the Council by members on Progress Towards the Achievement of the Year 2000 Objective and on Estimates of Resources and Costs Incurred to Achieve the Year 2000 Objective.
3. The Panel should also take the following into consideration as appropriate:
 - Relevant reports of the International Tropical Timber Council;
 - Relevant reports to the Council, and in particular the Report of the Executive Director on Preparation for Entry into Force of the ITTA, 1994 (Document ITTC(XXI)/6) and the Report of the Expert Panel on Estimating Resources and Costs Incurred to Achieve the Year 2000 Objective (Document ITTC(XIX)/5);
 - General comments of the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals;
 - Comments made by members;
 - Reports of relevant debates in other international fora.

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