Issues and Opportunities for Investment in Natural African Forests

ITTO, Cancun April 26 2006.



By Jean-Jacques Landrot, Former President

Introduction : Confidence is the basis of good investments

CONFIDENCE CONFIDENCE CONFIDENCE



a) Political risks in the area





b) Weak governance





c) Instability of fiscal policy and forest legislations





d) Unfair competition from the informal sector





e) Technical risks (poor infrastructures)



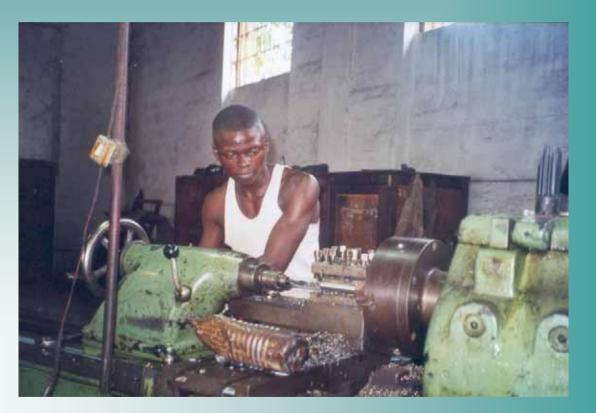


f) Environmental issues (risks and bad image)





g) Difficulty in finding a skilled workforce





h) Pressure in Europe from the campaigning NGOs





i) Complexity and heterogeneity of the forest sector





Informal production



Large companies

a) Reinforcement of Professional Syndicates

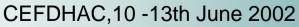




Workshop in Libreville – 26th January 2005 12

b) Partnerships with pro-active NGOs







c) Better access to banking facilities for investment





Small sawmill

d) Suppression of international garanties for African risks



e) National and regional investment policy





Advert for a bank in Ivory Coast : together we build our future

A necessity to develop this kind of advertising in concrete actions

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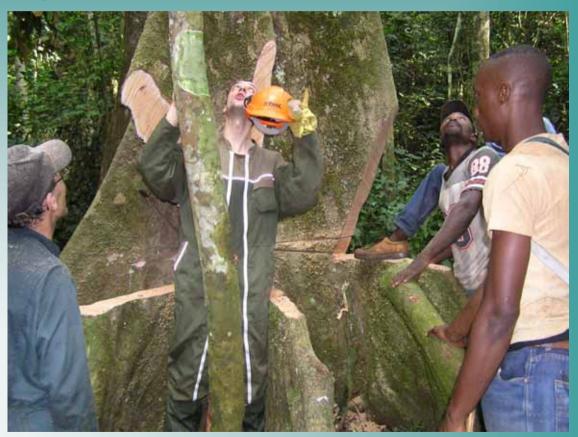
f) Forest legislation and fiscal frameworks which sustainable and an incentive





Gabonese Ministry of Forestry

g) Professional training





h) Participation of all the Stakeholders





Forcoms Workshop, Douala Cameroon 1st and 2nd March 2004

C) Conclusion

Africa has a great potential but only conditions of confidence will attract the good investors