

## INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

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THIRTY-SECOND SESSION 13 – 18 May 2002 Bali, Indonesia

## **DECISION 2 (XXXII)**

## **CIVIL SOCIETY ADVISORY GROUP**

The International Tropical Timber Council,

<u>Recalling</u> Decision 9(XXVIII) on Enhancing Participation of Members of Civil Society in the Relevant Activities of the ITTO, which invited the establishment of open-ended Advisory Groups to contribute to the work of the Council;

Noting its concern that the views of Civil Society Organizations are still not well represented at Council sessions;

<u>Appreciating</u> the continuing contribution of Civil Society Organizations in the formulation of ITTO Guidelines, Expert Panels, Missions and other initiatives;

Wishing to increase the participation and inputs of Civil Society Organizations;

Recognizing the valuable contributions to the ITTO made by the Trade Advisory Group (TAG);

<u>Recognizing</u> the contributions that Civil Society Organizations could make to the ITTO through their own advisory group;

<u>Welcoming</u> the agreement of Civil Society Organization representatives during this Session of the Council to form a Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG);

## Decides to:

- 1. Invite the CSAG to initiate its activities at the earliest date;
- 2. Authorize the Executive Director to publicize the launching of the CSAG, through the ITTO's website, the Tropical Forest Update, and other methods, as a means of attracting broader Civil Society participation in both the CSAG and the ITTO;
- Authorize the Executive Director to explore with the CSAG opportunities for input and participation during Council Sessions in a manner similar to those of the Trade Advisory Group (TAG);
- 4. Encourage the CSAG and the TAG to collaborate on activities, programmes and projects in support of the ITTO Yokohama Action Plan 2002-2006;
- Invite the CSAG and the TAG to showcase examples of collaboration between Civil Society Organizations and forest concessionaires and industry, and further to consider how the ITTO could facilitate such cooperation in the field;
- 6. Invite the CSAG to organize a panel discussion, relevant to the ITTO Yokohama Action Plan 2002-2006, to be held during the Thirty-third Session of the Council; and

7. Authorize the Executive Director to seek voluntary contributions from Member countries to meet the financial requirements of this Decision, not exceeding US\$50,000.00, to facilitate the participation of Civil Society Organizations in the CSAG panel discussion at the Thirty-third Session of the Council.

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