

EIGHTEENTH SESSION
10-18 May 1995
Accra, Ghana

DECISION 7(XVIII)

CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNCSD INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON FORESTS

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Noting the decision by the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development at its third session in New York in April 1995 to establish an open-ended Intergovernmental Panel on Forests to pursue consensus and formulation of coordinated proposals for action in the area of forests,

Also noting that secretariat support to the panel should be provided by a small team under the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (DPCSD), coordinated by a temporary direct hire assuming the availability of funds and with the secondment of relevant personnel from the U.N. system and other organizations, particularly FAO, UNEP, UNDP and ITTO;

Further noting that voluntary extra-budgetary contributions from governments and international organizations will be a important source of funding to support the work of the panel;

Recognizing the potential valuable contribution of ITTO to the work of the panel in areas within its mandate;

Decides to:

1. Authorize the Executive Director to:
 - (a) offer to provide DPCSD with funds to appoint a direct hire for a maximum of two years to coordinate the work of the panel secretariat;
 - (b) offer to provide on secondment to DPCSD one ITTO staff member to work under the direction of the coordinator of the panel secretariat for a maximum of two years;
 - (c) appoint a liaison officer to the ITTO staff for a maximum of two years to assist the ITTO to carry out any tasks it may be requested to undertake by the panel;
2. Request the Executive Director to:
 - (a) raise the necessary funds for (i) above, and encourage ITTO members to contribute to the Special Account for this purpose;
 - (b) contact DPCSD in order to make the appropriate arrangements and to inform all ITTO members of the results of this contact as soon as possible.
3. Request the Executive Director to respond positively to any requests from the panel to the ITTO to undertake work within its mandate, including seeking necessary finances.

