

SIXTEENTH SESSION
16-23 May 1994
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

DECISION 2(XVI)

CERTIFICATION OF ALL TIMBER AND TIMBER PRODUCTS

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling Decision 6(XV) requesting the Executive Director to engage two experts, one from a producer country and one from a consumer country, to undertake a consultancy on certification and labelling of all timber and timber products,

Noting the report of the consultant experts entitled "Certification Schemes for All Timber and Timber Products",

Further noting the report of the Working Party on Certification of All Timber and Timber Products held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 12 to 16 May 1994,

Recognizing that timber certification schemes should be neither discriminatory nor be the basis for trade measures incompatible with the GATT,

Recalling the desirability of 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,

Recalling also the statement of commitment to maintain, or achieve by the year 2000, the sustainable management of their respective forests made by consuming members,

Desiring to promote the free exchange of information on matters affecting trade in timber and timber products,

Decides to:

- (i) register its appreciation to the consultant experts for preparing an informative and comprehensive paper for the consideration of the Working Party;
- (ii) request members to furnish to the ITTO information on the development, organization and implementation of certification schemes covering internationally traded tropical and non-tropical timber and timber products;

- (iii) request the Executive Director to continue gathering information and monitoring developments and report to the Council in respect of the formulation and implementation of certification schemes covering internationally traded tropical and non-tropical timber and timber products, through appropriate consultancies;
- (iv) request the Executive Director to engage two consultant experts, one from a producer country and one from a consumer country, to undertake a detailed study on markets and market segments for certified timber and timber products, for consideration at its Eighteenth Session;
- (v) authorize the Executive Director to arrange for the financing of the above consultancies and study from the Special Account.

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