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DECISION 2(XIII)

CONCERTED ACTION TO PROMOTE POLICIES CONDUCIVE TO SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recognizing the importance of the objectives of the ITTO as set out in Article 1 of ITTA, 1983;

Reaffirming the obligations of all Members under the ITTA and their commitment to the objectives of that Agreement;

<u>Conscious</u> of the need, in consonance with the ITTA, "to provide an effective framework for cooperation and consultation between tropical timber producing and consuming Members with regard to all relevant aspects of the tropical timber economy";

<u>Further recognizing</u> the importance of creating conditions of cooperation in consonance with Article 1(h) of the ITTA, "to encourage the development of national policies aimed at sustainable utilization and conservation of tropical forests and their genetic resources, and at maintaining the ecological balance in the regions concerned";

 $\underline{\textit{Recalling}}$ the Final Declaration of UNCTAD VIII "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment;"

<u>Further recalling</u> the documents adopted at UNCED, in particular the Non-legally binding authoritative statement of principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation, and sustainable development of all types of forests;

<u>Recognizing</u> that unilateral action restricting international trade in tropical timber is considered by many Members to be harmful to forest conservation and sustainable management;

 $\underline{\text{Noting}}$ that issues related to possible restrictions on trade in tropical timber are under active discussion at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;

<u>Calls upon</u> Members to ensure that any actions regarding tropical timber ininternational trade should be taken in conformity with the spirit and objectives of the ITTA, 1983, and should promote conditions of better market access and equitable prices for tropical timber.

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