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DECISION 8(XIII)

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Affirming the importance of project activities as described in Article 23 of the ITTA, 1983,

Recalling Chapter III of the Financial Rules and Rules relating to Projects as set forth by the Council at its Third Session in Document ITTC(III)/17,

Noting the high transaction costs incurred, and the additional administrative demands inherent in the existing system of receiving voluntary contributions and disbursing funds to Executing Agencies for projects, pre-projects, and activities being implemented in ITTO producer member countries.

<u>Desiring</u> to minimise transaction costs, and to increase the efficiency of the transfer of funds to ITTO projects,

Authorizes the Executive Director, in accordance with Rule 10 of the Financial Rules and Rules relating to Projects, to open one account at a major bank in the United States of America in the name of the "International Tropical Timber Organization (Special Account: Overseas Sub-Account No.1)", and one account at a major bank in France in the name of the "International Tropical Timber Organization (Special Account: Overseas Sub-Account No.2)",

<u>Decides</u> that both Overseas Sub-Accounts may be used to receive voluntary contributions and to make disbursements to projects, pre-projects, and activities **provided that** the amount of each disbursement shall be refunded within two months of disbursement either by a remittance from the Special Account funds held in the Japanese bank already approved by Council to the relevant Overseas Sub-Account or by debit entry against the relevant earmarked voluntary contribution already deposited within the Overseas Sub-Account.

<u>Further decides</u> that either Overseas Sub-Account may be used as an intermediary banking facility for receipt of the revenues described in Rule 6 (b) of the Financial Rules and Rules relating to Projects **provided that** such revenues shall be transferred within two months of their receipt to the bank already approved by Council under the aforesaid Rule 6 (b).

Re-iterates that all provisions of Chapter III of the Financial Rules and Rules relating to Projects shall continue to enforce the implementation of this Decision.

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