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## **DECISION 6(XII)**

## **ACTIONS TO IMPROVE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ITTO AND CITES**

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Reaffirming the broad aims of Article 1 of the ITTA and, in particular, Articles 1(b) and 1(h);

Noting that the conservation of forest genetic resources will be an integral part of achieving sustainable forest management and hence Target 2000;

<u>Appreciating</u> that a number of measures is available at the national level to ITTO Members to promote the conservation and sustainable management of tropical timber species but that these can be complemented by appropriate multilateral efforts;

Recalling that the recently proposed listing of several tropical timber species in the Appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has highlighted the need for any such listings to be based on the most comprehensive information and fullest cooperation between ITTO and CITES;

Recognizing that the ITTO and CITES are separate international entities with distinct mandates and separate membership;

Also recognizing that the roles of the two entities are potentially complementary in some areas related to internationally traded tropical timber;

<u>Further recognizing</u> the benefits of facilitating improved cooperation and consultation between ITTO and CITES;

## Decides to:

- Encourage Member Governments to coordinate their actions within ITTO and CITES;
- Encourage Member Governments to inform the ITTO Secretariat at an early stage of any
  proposed listings of internationally traded tropical timber species in the Appendices of CITES
  and to provide relevant information;
- 3. Call upon the ITTO Secretariat to notify Members of any proposal to list internationally traded tropical timber species under CITES Appendices for discussion at the earliest opportunity;
- Call upon the ITTO Secretariat, when an internationally traded tropical timber species is proposed for listing in a CITES Appendix, to provide all relevant information it has available on that species to ITTO members;
- 5. Request the ITTO Executive Director to liaise, as appropriate, on relevant topics with international organizations, such as CITES;
- 6. Invite Members to submit to ITTO relevant projects and activities to improve the information base regarding the conservation status of internationally traded tropical timber species.