



## INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

Distr.  
GENERAL

ITTC(XL)/10  
2 June 2006

Original: ENGLISH

FORTIETH SESSION  
29 May – 2 June 2006  
Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico

### DECISION 2 (XL)

#### FIRST REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF CENTRAL AFRICAN FOREST ECOSYSTEMS

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recognizing the value of Africa's forests and the economic, environmental and social significance of the timber trade in many countries on the African continent;

Recalling the commitment taken by the Heads of State of Central Africa to sustainably manage tropical forests under the Yaoundé Declaration of March 1999 and the signing of the Treaty establishing the Commission en charge des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale (COMIFAC) and the adoption of the Convergence Plan in February 2005 in Brazzaville, Congo;

Recalling ITTO's Decision 11(XXX) on the Promotion of Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin, which, inter alia, engages ITTO in the Congo Basin Forest Partnership;

Recalling ITTO's work already implemented to support the Congo Basin Forest partnership and the Yaoundé Declaration process;

Recalling the commitment of 31 African countries, through the Africa Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (AFLEG) Ministerial Declaration of October 2003 in Yaoundé, Cameroon, to promote forest governance and law enforcement;

Recalling ITTC Decision 2(XXXII) in order to enhance the participation of civil society in the relevant activities of the ITTO;

Underscoring the importance of the potential contribution of Parliament Members in the promotion of sustainable forest management;

Noting the intention of the Network of Parliamentarians for the Sustainable Management of Central African Forest Ecosystems to organize the First Regional Parliamentary Conference in order to promote the sustainable management of Central African moist forests;

Further noting the support given to the Conference by the international community and the importance of building partnerships in an initiative of this kind;

Decides to:

1. Commend the organization of the First Regional Parliamentary Conference to promote the sustainable management of Central African moist forests;
2. Authorize the Executive Director to seek from Member countries voluntary contributions not exceeding US\$200,000.00 to partially meet the expenses related to the Conference.

Requests the Executive Director to ensure that ITTO is represented at the Conference and report on its results at the Forty-second Session of the Council, including the objectives, outcomes and utilization of funds provided by ITTO.

\* \* \*