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**COMMITTEE ON
REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

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**REPORT TO THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL FROM
THE FORTY- FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON
REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

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REPORT

Item 1 - Opening of the Session

The Forty-fifth Session of the Committees was opened on 15 November 2011 at the Joint Session of the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management (CRF), the Committee on Economic Information and Market Intelligence (CEM), and the Committee on Forest Industry (CFI); chaired by Dato' Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdul Rahim (Malaysia), Vice-Chair of CRF. This Joint Session considered Agenda items 1, 3, 4, and 8 (A) and (C). Joint Session of the Technical Committees was also convened under the chairmanship of Mr. James Gasana (Switzerland), Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Forest Industry (CFI), to consider item 6. The subsequent meetings of the CRF were chaired by Dato' Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdul Rahim (Malaysia), Vice-Chairperson of CRF for 2011. The list of participants is presented in document ITTC(XLVII)/Info.2.

Item 2 - Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work

The Agenda for the Committees as contained in documents CEM-CFI(XLV)/1, CFA(XXVI)/1/Rev.1 and CRF(XLV)/1/Rev.1 was duly adopted.

Item 3 - Admission of Observers

The Committees admitted the observers listed in document ITTC(XLVII)/Info.3/Rev.1 as approved by the Council.

Item 4 - Report of the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals

The Committees noted the presentation made by Ms. Eudeline Melet Pekam (France), Chairperson of the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals at its Forty-first and Forty-second meetings held on 7-10 March and on 1-4 August 2011 in Yokohama, Japan as contained in documents ITTC/EP-41 and ITTC/EP-42, respectively. In summary, the reports of the Expert Panel indicated:

- (i) a total number of 21 and 33 proposals appraised at its Forty-first and Forty-second meetings respectively;
- (ii) a total number of 4 proposals (19% of proposals evaluated) comprising 4 projects were accorded category 1 rating at the Forty-first meeting and a total number of 5 proposals (15% of proposals evaluated) comprising 3 projects and 1 pre-project were accorded category 1 rating at the Forty-second meeting;
- (iii) two (2) out of the 4 proposals accorded category 1 rating during the Forty-first meeting and 4 out of the 5 proposals accorded category 1 rating at the Forty-second meeting were new proposals; and
- (iv) seven (7) proposals appraised during the Forty-first meeting and 16 proposals during the Forty-second meeting were sent back to proponents for revision and nine (9) proposals appraised during the Forty-first meeting and 12 proposals during the Forty-second meeting were recommended not to be approved by the Committees.

Ms. Pekam presented to the Committees general findings and recommendations of the Expert Panel at its Forty-first and Forty-second meetings addressed in particular to the proponents of the project proposals with regard to the structure and design of projects, as follows:

- Answer key questions – What is the aim of the project? And how it should be accomplished?
- Carry out adequate consultations with stakeholders particularly communities, which should not be treated as a homogenous group with a view to conduct in-depth analysis of all parties affected by the project either positively or negatively; and
- Ensure the involvement of all stakeholders, especially communities, so that the beneficiaries' needs are well addressed.

Ms. Pekam also presented to the Committees recommendations addressed to the proponents for ensuring the sustainability and relevance and wider values, as follows:

- Guarantee the sustainability of project by securing proper institutional and financial arrangements, including personnel and travel costs and monitoring mechanisms;
- Ensure relevance and value of the project by taking into account links with countries' policies and strategies, previous and on-going projects, and dissemination mechanisms for the project's results.

Ms. Pekam further presented recommendations addressed to submitting countries:

- Strengthen ITTO focal points and also use national clearinghouse mechanism;
- Provide trainings on project formulation with the assistance of ITTO;
- Disseminate relevant ITTO guidelines and results of previous and on-going ITTO projects and other projects;
- Provide sufficient financial support to projects to ensure their sustainability;
- Avoid duplication of efforts by checking proposals in relation to the country's policies and strategies as well as previous and on-going projects; and
- Promote the values of projects and mainstream their results into national policies and strategies.

Recommendations to ITTO were also made by Ms. Pekam in her presentation as follows:

- Provide more trainings on project formulation;
- Encourage national clearinghouse mechanisms to be widely implemented;
- Up-date ITTO mangrove work plan;
- Build upon the lessons learned and experiences of the Expert Panel system.

Following the presentation of Ms. Pekam, the delegation of Switzerland thanked the Expert Panel for its work and welcomed its recommendations, in particular those regarding the need of further training in the use of the ITTO Manual for Project Formulation, using the 'training of trainers' approach in order to share the responsibilities of passing the knowledge to the stakeholders.

The delegation of Indonesia also thanked the Chairperson of the Expert Panel for her comprehensive presentation and mentioned that the key criteria for project appraisal shall be included and up-dated in the ITTO Manual for Project Formulation. The delegation of Indonesia also informed that they have a clearinghouse mechanism which is also used to provide training for project formulation. Ms. Pekam, reacted making the clarification that the main criteria is included in the ITTO Manual for Project Formulation, and therefore there is no need to up-date the Manual, she mentioned that if formulators follow closely the Manual, they should be able to come with a high quality proposal.

The delegation of Guatemala also thanked the chairperson of the Expert Panel, and noted that recommendations of the Expert Panel are concise; however, the delegation of Guatemala expressed concern as many project proposals have not been properly formulated, and supported the recommendation made by Ms. Pekam on further training on project formulation, in order to improve the capacity of member countries.

Finally, Ms. Pekam, thanked ITTO and the members of the Expert Panel for their support during her chairmanship.

Item 5 – New Projects and Pre-Projects

The Committees noted the projects and pre-projects that were approved under the time-bound electronic no objection procedures to accept Expert Panel ratings and circulated to member countries pursuant to Decision 6(XLIII), following the recommendations of the Expert Panel at its Forty-first and Forty-second Meetings as follows:

For Forty-first Expert Panel		
PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 563/09 Rev.3 (F)	Community Based Forest Management of Sungai Medihit Watershed	Malaysia

PD 584/10 Rev.2 (F)	Implementing the Cooperative Framework between ODEF and the Stakeholders for the Effective Participatory and Sustainable Management of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex	Togo
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For Forty-second Expert Panel		
PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 581/10 Rev.2 (F)	Establishing a Geographic Information System for the Sustainable Management of the Forest Areas of Togo	Togo
PD 617/11 (F)	Promoting Biodiversity Conservation in Betung Kerihun National Park (BKNP) as the Trans-boundary Ecosystem between Indonesia and State of Sarawak Malaysia (Phase III)	Indonesia
PD 622/11 Rev.1 (F)	Marketing of Native Plant Seeds, Seedlings and Timber Products to Improve Living Standards and Strengthen Regional Forest Policies in the Amazon Region of Peru: A Pilot Case on the Taulia Molinopampa Rural Community	Peru
PPD 153/11 Rev.1 (F)	Forest Fire Prevention through the Implementation of Regional Actions with the Participation of Local Communities and Other Relevant Stakeholders So As To Ensure the Protection of Forests and Ecosystem Services	Colombia

Item 6 – ITTO Annual Market Discussion -2011

The Committees noted the summary of the ITTO Annual Market Discussion – 2011, held in the Joint Session of All Committees on 16 November 2011, as contained in Appendix A of document CEM-CFI(XLV)/5. The theme of the Market Discussion was “The Crisis, the Impact and the Recovery”. Dr. James Gasana (Vice-Chairperson of CFI) chaired the meeting and Mr. Brent McClendon (TAG Coordinator) served as the moderator of the Market Discussion.

The following feature presentations were made during the Market Discussion:

Mr. André de Boer European Timber Trade Federation	The Market for Tropical Timber in Europe
Ms. Luo XinaJian Center for Intl. Forest Products Trade China State Forest Administration	Crisis, Impact and Recovery in China
Mr. Ramkrishna T. Somaiya Timbers Importers Association of India Ltd.	India, an Oasis of Growth
Mr. Alhassan Attah Timber Industry Development Division Forestry Commission of Ghana	The Crises, the Impacts and the Recovery
Mr. Brent J. McClendon, CAE Intl. Wood Products Association (U.S.A.)	State of the US Industry
Dr. Akihiko Nemoto Tottori University of Environment (Japan)	The Great East Japan Earthquake and Forest Industry

The TAG Coordinator informed the Committees that collaboration between TAG and the Secretariat would continue for the organization and holding of the ITTO Annual Market Discussion 2012. He informed the Committees that the tentative theme for the discussion would be ‘Trading in Challenging Markets’.

The Committees noted the statement of the Trade Advisory Group (TAG) presented during the Market Discussion as contained in Appendix B of document CEM-CFI(XLV)/5.

Item 7 - Report on Completed Projects and Pre-projects

The Secretariat informed the Committee that the completed projects and pre-projects are described in document CRF(XLV)/2, "Report on Completed Projects and Pre-projects in the Field of Reforestation and Forest Management".

The Committee then proceeded to review the following completed projects:

7.1 Completed Projects

- 1) **PD 55/98 Rev.3 (F) Evaluation of Mangrove Forests in the North-east of the Orinoco Delta Region in Venezuela with a View to Sustainable Forest Utilization (Venezuela)**

The Committee took note that the project completion report, together with technical reports as well as other products and means of verification, an article for TFU and the project's Final Audit Report had been submitted by the EA and were assessed by ITTO's Regional Officer for Latin America in Brasilia and considered satisfactory. As such, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

- 2) **PD 37/00 Rev.1 (F) Operational Strategy for Sustainable Forestry Development with Community Participation in India (India)**

The Committee took note that, at the last session of the Committee, the project was considered as completed upon the receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat. As the Secretariat received the satisfactory Final Audit Report in August 2011, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

- 3) **PD 199/03 Rev.3 (F) Strengthening National Capacity and Regional Collaboration for Sustainable Use of Forest Genetic Resources in Tropical Asia (Malaysia)**

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and Final Audit Report. The delegation of Malaysia made a presentation on the main outcomes of the project, highlighting the development of a regional mechanism for sharing information on conservation and use of forest genetic resources in seven selected Asian member countries of ITTO with the support of two collaborating agencies. The Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

- 4) **PD 200/03 Rev.4 (F) The Establishment of Seed Orchards for Selected Indigenous Tree Species in Sabah, Malaysia (Malaysia)**

The Committee took note that, at the last session of the Committee, the project was considered as completed upon the receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat. As the Secretariat received the satisfactory Final Audit Report in August 2011, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

- 5) **PD 310/04 Rev.2 (F) Biodiversity Management and Conservation in Forest Concessions Adjacent to Totally Protected Area (Nouabale-Ndoki National Park), Northern Republic of Congo – Phase II (Congo)**

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report and several Technical Reports as well as the Final Financial Audit report which will be reviewed by the ITTO Management Services. The Congolese delegation expressed his satisfaction on the project implementation and

the delivered outputs and thanked ITTO and all project donors for their support to the implementation of the project which has allowed good collaboration between the Executing Agency, the private sector and the Government Administration. He further indicated that they would submit a new proposal on the same subject focused on another national park in Congo. In light of this, the Committee decided to declare the project as completed after addressing the recommendations derived from the final review of the Final Financial Audit report by ITTO Management Services.

6) PD 324/04 Rev.3 (F) Sustainable Management of Tropical Forest Resources through Stakeholder Agreements in Traditional Owned Areas of Papua New Guinea (PNG)

The Committee took note that, at the last session of the Committee, the project was considered as completed upon the receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat. The delegate of PNG thanked the donors (Japan and Australia) for their support in making funds available for the implementation of the project. As the Secretariat received the satisfactory Final Audit Report in March 2011, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

7) PD 349/05 Rev.2 (F) Criteria for the Management of Mangrove and Flood Forests in the Central Coastal Plains of Veracruz, Mexico: A Community Management Tool (Mexico)

The Committee noted that the project completed all its field activities and produced a series of outputs and results. The EA submitted to the Secretariat the completion report, technical documents, an article for TFU and the Final Audit Report, which were analysed and considered satisfactory. As such, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

8) PD 359/05 Rev.1 (F) Building Capacity to Develop and Implement Afforestation and Reforestation Projects under Clean Development Mechanism (AR-CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol in Tropical Forestry Sector (Global-Japan)

The Committee took note that the project has published a guidebook for AR-CDM project developers and facilitated the formulation of six draft small-scale AR-CDM Project Design Documents. The Committee also took note of the complicated rules and procedures for AR-CDM projects development and the project's thirty-two months extension. In light of this, the Committee decided to close the project without any further extension and declared the project as completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

9) PD 421/06 Rev.2 (F) Strengthening of the Production Chain for Timber from Forest Concessions and Other Forests under Management (Peru)

The Committee noted that the project completed all its field activities and submitted the completion report, relevant technical documents, means of verification, and the Final Audit Report, which were analysed and considered satisfactory to the Secretariat. The EA through its coordinator presented to the Committee the project's main aspects, results and outputs. As such, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

10) PD 434/06 Rev.1 (F) Strengthening of the Aimex Seed Laboratory and Nursery (Brazil)

The Committee noted that the EA presented to the Secretariat the completion report, means of verification, pictures, an article for TFU and the Final Audit Report. In light of this, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed .

7.2 **Completed Pre-projects**

1) **PPD 135/07 Rev.1 (F) Community-based Forest Management of Sungai Medihit Watershed (Malaysia)**

The Committee took note that, at the last session of the Committee, the pre-project was considered as completed upon the receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat. As the Secretariat received the satisfactory Final Audit Report in January 2011, the Committee decided to declare the pre- project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

2) **PPD 142/08 Rev.1 (F) Assessing the Policy and International Framework to Facilitate the Development of an Integrated Grazing Policy for Sustainable Management of Tropical Forest Resources in India (India)**

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, Technical Report and Final Audit Report. The Secretariat informed the Committee that the pre-project has assessed grazing issues in seven states of India and prepared a project proposal for the development of an integrated grazing and fodder management policy in India. The Committee decided to declare the pre-project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

Item 8 - Ex-post Evaluation

(A) Ex-post Evaluation Reports

The Committees were informed that the ex-post evaluation of the two projects grouped under the theme **Geographic Information System/Demonstrations Areas** selected by the Committee at its Forty-third Session, had been completed.

Thematic Group Evaluation: Geographic Information System/Demonstrations Areas

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| PD 57/99 Rev.2 (F) | Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase I |
| PD 176/02 Rev.1 (F) | Use of Remote Sensing Technology and Information Systems to Support Forestry Legislation Monitoring in the Republic of Congo |

The Committees took note of the presentation of the synthesis of this ex-post evaluations as contained in Document CRF(XLV)/5 by the Team Leader of the evaluation team, Mr. Jorge Malleux, during the Joint Session of the Committees. In his presentation, Mr. Malleux highlighted the following conclusions:

- Both projects were very relevant for this particular theme in both countries, and also very relevant for the ITTO 2000's objective.
- Some difficulties were faced in relation to expected outputs that were too ambitious in consideration to the limited resources.
- Training and dissemination activities played an important role in both projects.

The delegation of Brazil addressed the Committees to congratulate the consultant for the work carried out, indicating that the country is very pleased with the results and impacts achieved with this project. Furthermore, Brazil indicated that the proposed second phase – Project PD 452/07 Rev.4 (F) – Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II – had its budget revised and reduced for a smaller ITTO contribution (now at US\$ 644,579) with a consequent increase in the counterpart national contribution (for a total equivalent of US\$ 890,928) in order to increase the likelihood of ITTO funding of the follow up phase. The Brazilian delegation reiterated this action as a demonstration of interest to develop the second phase of the project, which now incorporates the recommendations of the ex-post evaluation.

The Committees were further informed that the evaluation of the individual project PD 392/06 Rev.2 (F) had also been completed.

Individual Project Evaluation

PD 392/06 Rev.2 (F) Phase I: Regional Project to Promote Reduced Impact Logging in the Congo Basin

The Committees took note of the presentation of the synthesis of the evaluation by Mr. Yann Petrucci, as contained in Document CRF(XLV)/6. In his presentation, the consultant highlighted that the impact of the project has been reduced due to problems in its implementation, mainly related to over-ambitious targets and delay in launching the activities in the pilot area. On positive aspects, some timber producers retained the RIL techniques provided in the training courses, and the subject has been introduced in a discipline at the National Forest School of Gabon (ENEF). He also made recommendations for a phase II project which include the objectives of the project focused on a training component and a need to carry out a feasibility study prior to this second phase.

The delegate of Cameroon questioned why the project has been focused on only a single country although the project title is referring to the Congo Basin. Mr. Petrucci mentioned that the project had been focused on for the promotion of RIL in Gabon as a pilot case which would be applied in a standard way. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire noted that an ex-ante evaluation of the project would be useful to minimize over-ambitious targets and a long delay in the completion of project outputs.

The Committees commended the consultants for their report and presentation.

(B) Meta-Evaluation of ITTO Ex-Post Evaluations [Document ITTC-JC(XLV)/2]

As instructed by the 46th ITTC, a Meta-Evaluation of ITTO ex-post evaluations has been carried out, according to the TOR approved at the previous Session of the Council. The Meta-Evaluation report was presented by the consultant Dr. Markku Simula during the Joint Committee Session held on 15 November 2011. To facilitate the finalization of the report, he encouraged written comments to be submitted by 15 December 2011.

The USA expressed their congratulations to the consultant for the very comprehensive study, highlighting the importance of the task and the usefulness of the results and statistics provided in the report. The USA also reiterated the need for improvements in various aspects as recommended in the report, including the importance of the careful selection of projects for evaluation and observing that none of the Secretariat activities has been evaluated. Elaborating on the importance of women in many sectors, the USA then requested the consultant to delete the part of the second paragraph, page 3, Council Document ITTC-JC(XLV)/2 that reads "perhaps mainly because gender is not relevant in many technically oriented ITTO projects" as this could send a wrong message. Again congratulating the consultant, the USA indicated that it may send written comments before the deadline for submission of such comments.

Reiterating the importance and quality of the work, Switzerland particularly welcomed the recommendation of the report to update Decision 3(XXVIII) in order to improve guidance on monitoring and evaluation in the Organization. Switzerland then requested clarification on three issues: 1) The reason for the weaknesses in project impacts and sustainability, questioning whether the guidance in the ITTO Manual for Project Monitoring, Review, Reporting and Evaluation was not sufficient 2) At what stage Executing Agencies should provide management responses to Ex-Post Evaluation reports, and 3) How often Meta Evaluations should be carried out.

Congratulating the consultant for the excellent work, Indonesia requested clarification on whether the Meta-Evaluation would demonstrate the contribution of projects to the overall objectives of the organization, where projects have contributed most and where are gaps.

The consultant expressed his appreciation for the positive feedback and thanked the delegations for their comments.

Addressing the concern of the USA regarding the sentence in the second paragraph, page 3, Council Document ITTC-JC(XLV)/2 referring to gender, he clarified that this was not in any way meant discriminatory and that he agreed that this needed to be removed or rephrased, and that he was looking forward to the written comments, so that they can be taken into account.

Replying to the Swiss questions, the consultant elaborated that in terms of project impact and sustainability the current guidance was in some aspects inconsistent or insufficient and that the Secretariat should elaborate additional guidance. Regarding the timing of management responses from Executing Agencies he stated that such responses are standard practice in other organizations and that it should become a formal requirement for ITTO projects. The responses should be provided immediately following monitoring missions. Concerning the timing of Meta-Evaluations he responded that extensive exercises as the current could be carried out every ten years.

In response to the Indonesian question the consultant explained that the contribution of the projects to the ITTO objectives is elaborated in the Meta-Evaluation Full Report, section 5.9 and also in the thematic summaries to be completed.

The Chairperson gave the floor to Dr. Manoel Sobral Filho, who congratulated the consultant for his excellent work. Highlighting the extensive experience of the consultant in terms of evaluation and monitoring, Dr. Sobral asked the consultant where the ITTO project evaluation stands in relation to other organizations, pointing out the substantial effort of the ITTO in recent years to improve its monitoring and evaluation function. The consultant replied that ITTO project evaluation stands and performs well in comparison to other organizations.

(C) Selection of Projects for Ex-post Evaluation

[Document CRF(XLV)/4]

According to Decision 3(XXVIII), "Ex-post Evaluation of Projects", the Committees are requested to consider as candidates for ex-post evaluation all completed individual projects or group of projects. The Committee considered the list prepared by the Secretariat as indicated in document CRF(XLV)/4 in application to its decision and select projects or groups of projects for ex-post evaluation for the period 2012/2013.

The Committee established a working group consisting of delegates representing Brazil, India, Japan, Liberia, Malaysia, New Zealand, USA and the Secretariat to consider the selection of projects for ex-post evaluation. The working group chaired by Mr. Arvind Madhav Singh (India) noted the selection criteria in connection with Decision 3(XXVIII). In reviewing the thirty-nine projects listed in the list under seventeen themes, the attention of the working group was given to the following:

- Selection of thematic groups which have been less conducted for ex-post evaluation in recent years.
- Balance of regional coverage for selected projects for ex-post evaluation
- The potential for wider application of lessons learned
- Cost-effectiveness of conducting the ex-post evaluation by aggregating projects under the same thematic group or the same region.

The working group's report was considered by the Committee, which approved the following projects ex-post evaluation by thematic group as follows:

1) Thematic Group Evaluation: Biodiversity Conservation / Conservation Areas

PD 310/04 Rev.2 (F) Biodiversity Management and Conservation in Forest Concessions Adjacent to
Totally Protected Area (Nouabale-Ndoki National Park), Northern Republic of
Congo – Phase II (Congo)

2) Thematic Group Evaluation: Community Participation in SFM

PD 324/04 Rev.3 (F) Sustainable Management of Tropical Forest Resources through Stakeholder Agreements in Traditional Owned Areas of Papua New Guinea (PNG)

3) Thematic Group Evaluation: Forest Rehabilitation / Landscape Restoration / Secondary Forest Management

PD 271/04 Rev.3 (F) Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest Land Involving Local Communities in West Java, Indonesia (Indonesia)

PD 394/06 Rev.1 (F) Restoring the Ecosystem Functions of the Lake Toba Catchment Area through Community Development and Local Capacity Building for Forest and Land Rehabilitation (Indonesia)

4) Thematic Group Evaluation: Improvement and Conservation of Genetic Resources

PD 105/01 Rev.3 (F) Towards Sustainable Timber Production in Ghana: Stage I. Improving Shoot Borer Resistance and Developing Silvicultural Systems to Maximize Mahogany Plantation Success (Ghana)

5) Thematic Group Evaluation: Mangroves

PD 156/02 Rev.3 (F) Conservation and Reforestation of Threatened Mangrove Forest Areas along the Pacific Coast of Panama – Phases I & II (Panama)

PD 349/05 Rev.2 (F) Criteria for the Management of Mangrove and Flood Forests in the Central Coastal Plains of Veracruz, Mexico: A Community Management Tool (Mexico)

6) Thematic Group Evaluation: Criteria and Indicators for SFM

PD 37/00 Rev.1 (F) Operational Strategy for Sustainable Forestry Development with Community Participation in India (India)

PD 272/04 Rev.2 (F) Development of National Principles, Criteria and Indicators for the Sustainable Management of Congo Forest Based on ITTO Criteria and Indicators for SFM (Congo)

7) Thematic Group Evaluation: Environmental Services (CDM, REDD, Carbon Credits, Kyoto, etc.)

PD 54/99 Rev.2 (F) Alternative Financing Model for Sustainable Forest Management in San Nicolas, Colombia (Colombia)

PD 240/03 Rev.1 (F) Alternative Financing Model for Sustainable Forest Management in San Nicolás – Second Phase: Non-Kyoto Rehabilitation Areas (Colombia)

PD 359/05 Rev.1 (F) Building Capacity to Develop and Implement Afforestation and Reforestation Projects under Clean Development Mechanism (AR-CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol in Tropical Forestry Sector (Global-Japan)

The Delegation of Brazil stressed the importance to take into account in all the upcoming ex-post evaluations, the recommendations of the Meta-Evaluation of Previously Evaluated ITTO Projects [Document ITTC-JC(XLV)/2], as presented by Dr. Markku Simula at the Joint Session of the Committees. Special reference was made for due attention to be given on the selection of consultants from locally available expertise. The Secretariat informed the Committee that, consultants for the ex-post evaluations will be selected taking into account such recommendation, as much as possible.

Item 9 - Policy Work

The Committee considered the following policy-related matters which are included in the 2010-2011 ITTO Biennial Work Programmes:

(i) Review and update the *ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests* to take into account recent developments in tropical forestry

The Committee took note of Document CRF(XLV)/7 "Revised Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests" (draft) prepared by consultants Dr. Juergen Blaser and Dr. Cesar Sabogal. The document was presented by Mr. James Gasana of Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation including the results of the expert meetings held in Thun, Switzerland in June 2010, and in Antimary, Brazil, in August 2011.

Delegations commended the comprehensive work carried out and considered necessary to have more time to provide further inputs from ITTO member countries to the full draft version of the revised ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests. The Committee recommended that the full document be made available online from 1st December 2011 until 31st March 2012 during which member countries should send to the Secretariat their comments and contributions. Thereafter, the Secretariat shall finalize the document and make its final version available for approval during the 48th Session of the ITTC.

(ii) Contribute appropriately to national and international efforts in the area of prevention and management of fire in relation to tropical timber-producing forests

The Secretariat reported on the implementation of this activity, in particular on the developments in Togo and as related to Wildfire 2011, as follows:

The Secretariat informed about the completion of all activities related to Council Decision 6/(XXXIII) PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF FOREST FIRE, including support to seven producer Member Countries (namely Colombia, Guyana, Nepal, Peru, Philippines, Thailand and Togo) to assist them in evaluating their country's forest fire prevention and management situations, and to identify strategies and actions to address forest fire management issues.

Mr. Richard Edjodomélé Gbadoé, Director General of OEDF, Togo, reported on the recent completion of the policy, strategy and capacity building activities on national forest fire management in the country.

The Secretariat also informed that, under Council Decision 6/(XXXIII), support has been provided for co-sponsorship of the 3rd International Wildland Fire Conference and Summit in Australia in October 2003, and for participation of 14 ITTO Producer Member Country representatives to the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference in South Africa in 9-13 May 2011. All ITTO sponsored participants provided presentations on the achievements in forest fire management and prevention through ITTO projects in their respective countries, being it in plenary sessions or at a Side-Event organized by ITTO specifically to disseminate the achievements of ITTO projects related to fire management and prevention.

Moreover, in view of ITTO's commitment since 2008 as a Core Member of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Global Wildland Advisory Group, and the related Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN) and the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), the Secretariat, at the request of ITTO's producer member countries, has taken a proactive role in the aforementioned forest fire-related networks and on the international forest fire scenario. As such, the Secretariat is submitting a new activity related to forest fires within the proposed ITTO Biennial Work Programme for the Years 2012-2013 [Document ITTC(XLVII)/8], for due consideration of potential donors.

(iii) Monitoring the progress in the application of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management

- a) Report on activities developed under Decision 4(XXXIV)

The Secretariat informed the Committee that 32 countries of ITTO's 33 producer members had provided reports utilizing the C&I reporting format for the SFM Tropics 2011 report. Several countries (Brazil, Fiji, Guyana, Honduras, Malaysia, Myanmar, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago) had prepared these reports without the modest assistance offered to countries by ITTO for this purpose, indicating growing capacity to report using the C&I framework.

The Secretariat informed the Committee of the successful convening of a national C&I training workshop in Suriname in August 2011. The workshop had also included representatives of Trinidad and Tobago, allowing for a useful exchange of views and experiences between these neighbouring countries. The representatives of Suriname confirmed the value of the training workshop to their country.

The Secretariat further noted the inclusion of an activity in the 2012-2013 BWP to provide for an additional 3 training workshops. These would be primarily targeted at new members following entry into force of the ITTA 2006. The links between the work being carried out under this agenda item, the review of the ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests, and the study on field level application of C&I reported on during the Joint Committee Session, were noted. The representative of the USA asked for clarification on how the findings of the review of field level application of the C&I would be reflected in ITTO's future work on C&I. The Secretariat noted that the 2012-2013 BWP also included an activity to convene an expert meeting to review the ITTO C&I in light of the report on field level implementation, the review of the SFM Guidelines, experience gained in training workshops to date and emerging forestry issues. This review will give special consideration to the continued relevance of including FMU-level indicators in the ITTO C&I given the apparent low level of use of the C&I at this level as found in the field level implementation study.

b) Report on field level application of criteria and indicators

During the Joint Committee session, members also considered a report on field level application of criteria and indicators presented by consultants Ms. Stephanie Caswell and Mr. Ivan Tomaselli. The consultants presented the draft results of the ITTO global study on the "Use and impact of criteria and indicators (C&I) for sustainable forest management (SFM) at the field/FMU and other operational levels". They provided an overview of responses to two surveys circulated, respectively, to forest authorities and private forest companies and other stakeholders, on how C&I are being used and operationalized, constraints encountered, and perceptions of the impact of C&I on forest management. They recommended that ITTO continue its leadership role on C&I but consider a strategic approach to future work, which might include a focus on country-specific C&I issues, especially at the FMU level, and the subsequent review and update of ITTO's 2004 C&I, taking into account relevant emerging issues, such as forest carbon assessments in the context of REDD+ and initiatives on C&I for sustainable woodfuel production, forest governance, biodiversity and land degradation. The consultants requested members who had not responded to the survey to do so by 15 December 2011 so the report could be finalized with input from all members by March 2012.

The representative of Germany requested clarification on the role of C&I in monitoring, assessing and reporting on forests and related SFM policies. The representative of USA noted that the Montreal process C&I had been very useful to forest managers and for preparing national reports on the trends in forest conditions and management in USA. The representative of India cautioned against trying to use C&I for a wide range of issues given that implementation was often difficult for the full range of indicators. The representative of Liberia cautioned against a "one-size fits all" approach and noted that his country was using C&I in their forest management framework. The representative of Indonesia noted that national C&I had been developed through a multi-stakeholder process based on the ITTO C&I. He expressed concern about the dominance of FSC certification in international markets and a desire for national C & I based certification systems to be accepted as well.

(iv) Strengthening cooperation and collaboration between ITTO and ACTO countries on C&I and related topics, including organizing a regional workshop to consolidate ITTO C&I and the Tarapoto Process

Mr. Antonio Matamoros from the Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) informed the Committee on the advancement of this activity, including the production of a working paper on the harmonization of the Criteria and Indicators of the Amazon Tarapoto Process, and the ITTO Process; as well as

the organization of a workshop to discuss and finalize the document, which is planned to be carried out in Surinam in early 2012. The completion of this activity shall be reported to the 46th Session of the CRF.

(v) International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Small and Medium Forest Enterprises with focus in the Asia-Pacific

Ms. Augusta Molnar, co-chair of the CSAG (consumer countries), briefed the Committee on the organizations and the results of this International Conference, which corresponds to the Activity 47 of the ITTO Biennial Work Programme 2010-2011. The Committee was informed that partial funds were secured through the Thematic Programme on Community Forest Management and Enterprises (CFME), and further fund raising actions guaranteed the organization of the Conference in Lombok, Indonesia, on 11-15 July 2011, co-organized by the Government of Indonesia, ITTO, and the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), with the support of other CSAG members, the European Forest Institute, and other partners. The Conference counted with over 300 participants, mainly from 17 Asia-Pacific countries but also from the other tropical regions. The event has been organized in the framework of the International Year of Forests 2011 and the celebrations of the 25th Anniversary of ITTO. Its main report, including the conclusions, recommendations and the Conference final message has been disseminated as a special issue of the ITTO quarterly Tropical Forest Update (TFU Volume 20 Number 4), made available during this Committee Session.

Following the presentation made by CSAG, the Delegate from Indonesia complemented the presentation by reiterating the country commitment to address the tenure issues in Indonesia, considering tenure among the key enabling conditions for forestry development, including the implementation of REDD+. The Delegate from Indonesia stressed that, when offering to host this conference last year during the 46th ITTC, they were aware that it would mean addressing a huge issue that is very important and very urgent. The Delegate informed that the Lombok Conference allowed participants to learn about the issues and to brainstorm on ideas to handle them. The Delegate also informed that immediately after the Conference, the Government of Indonesia sat together with CSOs and exchange views and concepts about the way forward in tenure reform. The Delegate informed that consultation meetings continue to be held, as a demonstration of the interest in Indonesia to advance on a national roadmap for tenure reform bringing it to the broad audience of stakeholders in order to accelerate promotion of people's access to the sustainable use of forests, speed up the forest area delineation, and establish a sound mechanism for tenure conflict resolution. The Delegate made special reference to the successful experience in going through a multi-stakeholder process with the establishment of the Indonesia Timber Legality Assurance System, which has been accepted and recognized by the EU, and manifested their hope for acceptance by other Consumer Countries as well. The Delegation mentioned that Indonesia has done their best to address timber legality, and is now making all efforts to tackle tenure issues, with the hope to achieve the same success in addressing the challenges for Sustainable Forest Management. Finally, the Delegate of Indonesia extended their appreciation to the ITTO for the opportunity to host and co-organize the Tenure Conference, and to the RRI and other CSAG members for their kind cooperation.

(vi) Review of draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2012 to 2013, as contained in Document ITTC(XLVII)/8, especially the section pertaining to the activities of the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management.

The Committee was briefed by the Secretariat regarding six draft CRF Biennial Work Programme for 2012 to 2013, as contained in Document ITTC(XLVII)/8, the draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2012 to 2013. The delegate of Côte d'Ivoire underlined the importance of holding regional level preparatory meetings which will contribute to the achievement of an international conference on environmental services to be organized under Activity 39 (Promote the understanding of the contribution of environmental services to the sustainable management of tropical forests). The delegate of USA commented that the TOR needed to be revised to reflect the recent development in restoration taking into account the Bonn Challenge, a global call for the restoration of 150 million ha by 2020, as well as the updated estimate for the area of forest land with restoration potential which was recently found to be up to 2 billion hectares.

In order to facilitate the review of the draft CRF Biennial Work Programme for 2012 to 2013, the Committee established a working group consisting of delegates representing Australia, Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, PNG, Sweden, USA and the Secretariat. The working group chaired by Dr. Norini Haron (Malaysia) considered six draft CRF BWP for 2012-2013, namely Activities 39-44, and

debated the terms of references of these proposed activities in detail. The working group reported back its outcomes to the Committee, which is provided to the Chairperson's Open-Ended Drafting Group as the CRF input to the ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2012 and 2013. The approved CRF BWP for 2012 to 2013 is presented in Annex of this report.

Item 10 - Review of Implementation of Approved Projects and Pre-projects

10.1 Project Work in Progress

The Committee took note of a status report [document CRF(XLV)/3] by the Secretariat on the 81 projects, in the field of Reforestation and Forest Management, that have been approved by the Council, and which are either: A) in the process of implementation (54), B) awaiting the signing of an Agreement (3), C) projects awaiting financing (15), or D) falling under the sunset provision since the last Session (1).

The Committee noted the reports on the progress of these projects in the above document. In view of the desire of the Committee to further streamline its work in accordance with Council Decision 4(XXV) Annex A, Section VI.1, the Committee requested the Secretariat and Members to limit the reporting and discussion during the Session to those projects that are:

- having implementation problems;
- requiring additional funds;
- requesting extension in time of more than 6 months beyond the original duration of the project; or
- requesting essential major modifications of the work plan and budget.

The Secretariat informed that projects that have been declared completed in previous Committee Sessions but are still pending final financial audits were re-inserted in this session as projects under implementation. The Secretariat also informed that, as per ITTO regulations, Executing Agencies pending submission of financial audits do not qualify for further disbursements in any other ITTO projects they may be implementing. The Committee urged all Executing Agencies in this situation to submit financial audits as soon as possible in order to comply with the regulations.

The Committee then proceeded to discuss the issues associated with a number of projects. Details of these discussions are as follows:

(A) Projects under implementation

*** Completion report received, pending financial audit**

**** Reported as completed at previous CRF sessions, but still pending final financial audit**

1) **PD 2/93 Rev.1 (F) Integrated Pilot Management of the Ngoua II Forest-North - Phase I: Preparation of the Management Plan (Congo)

The Committee was informed that this project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in the document CRF(XXXVIII)/3, but it is still pending the final financial audit, since February 2006. The Committee was also informed by the Delegation of the Republic of Congo that all key financial documents were destroyed during the civil war in that country from 1997 to 2000. Therefore, it is impossible to carry out the final financial auditing for this completed project. The Committee took note of the information and asked the Secretariat and the Executing Agency to find an appropriate way to address this issue and report to the Committee at its next session in 2012.

2) PD 20/99 Rev.2 (F) Establishment and Management of Production-Protection Community Forests in Lower and Middle Atrato, Department of Choco, Colombia (Colombia)

The Committee took note that project implementation is delayed, which was increased this year for the heavy rainy season that affected the project region. A Project Steering Committee Meeting (PSCM) was held in

the main city of project implementation, with significant participation of beneficiaries that gave their testimony on the benefits brought by the project. They presented to the PSCM a request that the nurseries for the preparation of seedlings for the project should be constructed in the communities to avoid their travel and transportation costs, which affect their quality. The company Maderas del Darien was also present in part of the PSCM and informed that it can not be active part of the project as it was in the past, but continue to be interested in the acquisition of the timber when ready to cut.

3) PD 32/99 Rev.2 (F) Productive Forest Management for the Rural Reserve Area of Guaviare (Colombia)

The Committee noted that the Executing Agency completed all project activities and delivered to ITTO the completion report, the means of verification and an article for TFU. The EA director addressed the CRF shortly and informed that the project had important outputs and results which are fundamental for presenting alternatives to the illicit crops that were cultivated in the recent past in the Guaviare region. He also informed the CRF that three follow up projects were prepared and will be submitted to the ITTO for financing. He presented his thanks to Japan and USA for the support of the present project. Furthermore he informed that the Final Audit Report is to be delivered before the end of November. The project will be declared completed after the submission of this Final Audit Report and its approval by ITTO.

4) PD 62/99 Rev.3 (F) Reforestation Pilot Project for the Recovery of Degraded Areas in the Medium Doce River Region, State of Minas Gerais, Brazil (Brazil)

The Committee was informed that the change in the State government caused an almost complete stop in the project in the first semester of the year. To address the unfavorable situation for the project, a meeting called upon by the ITTO Regional Officer was held in July between the EA, the ITTO ROLAC and the ABC/MRE. As a result, a PSCM was realized in October and the project activities are coming to normal pace. The CRF took note of this information as well that the neutral budget extension that was granted to the EA until March 2012, when the project is expected to complete all its activities.

5) PD 28/00 Rev.2 (F) Integrated Management of Community Forests in the Valley of Mefou and Afamba (Central Province of Cameroon) (Cameroon)

The Committee was informed that the project activities were completed and the project completion report and Final Audit Report were due since September 2009 and October 2009 respectively. The Secretariat urged the Executing Agency to submit these two reports at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and urged the Executing Agency to submit the project completion report and Final Audit Report by the end of March 2012.

6) **PD 53/00 Rev.3 (F) Implementation of a Permanent Network of Stands Dynamics Monitoring Plots for the Gazetted Forests of Côte d'Ivoire (Côte d'Ivoire)

The Committee was informed that this project was considered as completed at a previous CRF session as in document CRF(XLIII)/2, but it is still pending the Final Financial Audit Report since October 2009. The Secretariat urged the Executing Agency to submit this report at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and urged the Executing Agency to submit the project Final Audit Report by the end of March 2012.

7) PD 54/00 Rev.4 (F) Genetic Resistance of Iroko to Phytolyma lata – Phase II (Côte d’Ivoire)

The committee was informed that the post-election crisis had a bad impact on the project implementation. Some facilities of the project, including a project vehicle, were destroyed during the crisis. The delegate of Côte d’Ivoire informed the Committee that the Executing Agency made some pre-finance to execute some activities and maintain the personnel. An extension was required to fully complete the objectives of the project. In light of this, the Committee recommended that the conditions for the extension shall be examined during the next PSC project to be held in December 2011.

8) **PD 63/01 Rev.2 (F) Assessment and Management of Mangrove Forests in Egypt for Sustainable Utilization and Development (Egypt)

The Committee was informed that this project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in the document CRF(XLIII)/2, but it is still pending the project final financial audit, since August 2009. The Secretariat urged the Executing Agency to submit this report at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and urged the Executing Agency to submit the project Final Audit Report by the end of March 2012.

9) PD 66/01 Rev.1 (F) Establishment of the Mengamé-Minkébé Transboundary Gorilla Sanctuary (MMGS) at the Cameroon-Gabon Border (Cameroon)

The Committee was informed that the project activities were completed and the project completion report and Final Financial Audit Report were due since September 2008 and October 2008 respectively. The Secretariat urged the Executing Agency to submit these two reports at its earliest convenience. The Cameroonian delegation informed the Committee that the funds are already mobilized for the financial audit realization and the report will be sent to the Secretariat before the end of March 2012. The Committee took note of this information and urged the Executing Agency to submit the project Final Audit Report at its earliest convenience.

10) PD 142/02 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Production of National Forests under the “Regime of Forest Concessions” (Brazil)

The Committee was informed on the results of the 6th Project Steering Committee Meeting that was held in Brasília in November 2010. The project has been slowly progressing but satisfactorily concluded various activities in support to the formulation of the management plans of three national forests (FLONA) in Brazil (Altamira, Caxiuanã and Itaituba), which constitute the main result of the project. The Committee decided to approve a request of the Executing Agency for a budget neutral extension of the project until March 2012 for the full completion of the project’s expected outputs.

11) *PD 197/03 Rev.2 (F) Support for the Implementation of a Sustainable Forest Development Master Plan in Eco-Floristic Area IV, Togo (Togo)

The Committee was informed that the project completion report was submitted in January 2010, but the project Final Financial Audit Report is pending since February 2010. The Secretariat asked the Executing Agency to submit this report at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and asked the Executing Agency to submit the project final financial Audit Report by the end of March 2012.

12) PD 248/03 Rev.4 (F) Antimary Forest Management Regional Training Centre (Brazil)

The Committee was informed on the results of the 4th Project Steering Committee Meeting that was held in Antimary Forest Reserve in November 2010. The project is advancing satisfactorily and to consolidate its achievements. The Committee decided to approve a request of the Executing Agency for a budget neutral extension of the project until December 2011 for the completion of all activities. The project will be declared complete at the next Session of the Committee.

13) PD 276/04 Rev.2 (F) Revised World Atlas of Mangrove for Conservation and Restoration of Mangrove Ecosystems (Global-Japan)

The Secretariat informed the Committee of the completion of the French and Spanish versions of the Atlas that were published in mid- and late 2011 respectively. A Policy Brief/special issue of TFU will be produced if funds for producing the TFU are made available under ITTO's 2012-13 Biennial Work Program. The project will complete its activities with distribution of the Spanish version of the Atlas later this year and the final report and audited final financial statement will be submitted thereafter. The project will be declared complete at the next Session of the Committee.

14) PD 284/04 Rev.2 (F) Fire Management and Post-fire Restoration with Local Community Collaboration in Ghana (Ghana)

The Committee was informed that the project completion report was submitted, but the project Final Financial Audit Report is still pending. The Secretariat asked the Executing Agency to submit this report at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and asked the Executing Agency to submit the project Final Audit Report by the end of March 2012

15) PD 288/04 Rev.2 (F) Development of Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary as a Totally Protected Area, Phase IV (Final Phase) (Malaysia)

The Committee took note of a presentation made by the delegate of Malaysia on the main outcomes of the project including a documentary book – the Lanjak Entimau Story: Changing Landscape in Biodiversity Conservation. The Committee commended the Executing Agency and the project leader (Dr Paul Chai) for the achievements of the project and the presentation. The delegate of Indonesia informed the Committee that promoting biodiversity conservation in Betung Kerinum National Park had been promoted through two ITTO projects and the third phase project [PD 617/11 (F)] is awaiting financing to enhance the transboundary ecosystem between Indonesia and Sarawak, Malaysia. The Committee was informed by the Secretariat that the Executing Agency has submitted the completion report and several technical reports. In light of this, the Committee considered the project as completed subject to the receipt of a satisfactory Final Audit Report by the Secretariat.

16) PD 294/04 Rev.4 (F) The Study and Demonstration of the Management of Secondary Forests in Tropical Regions for the Purpose of Enhancing Economic and Ecological Benefits – Phase II (China)

The Secretariat briefly introduced the main outcomes of the project which include the establishment of a demonstration site for the plantation of selected promising local species and the training of more than 100 farmers in reforestation. The Committee noted that the Secretariat has received the completion report, several technical reports, including a book entitled "Management of Secondary Tropical Forests", as well as the satisfactory Financial Audit Report just before this Session. In light of this, the Committee decided to declare the project as completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

17) PD 346/05 Rev.2 (F) Conservation and Recovery of Degraded Land in Family Agriculture Units in the Eastern Brazilian Amazon (Brazil)

The Committee took note that project is under implementation and has as major characteristics its links with the academic sector generating research papers as basis for post-graduation thesis. CRF was also informed also that the Executing Agency continues with difficulties to provide the project documentation as progress reports and others on time, but this situation is being addressed by the ABC/MRE with the EA.

18) PD 350/05 Rev.3 (F) Production Systems and Integrated Management of Shoot-borers for the Successful Establishment of Meliaceae Plantations in the Yucatan Peninsula and Veracruz, Mexico (Mexico)

The Committee took note that project implementation appears to be slower than initially projected. In this light, the Executing Agency submitted a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in

time until July 2012 with budget amendments but without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project activities. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified, submitted to the CRF consideration and such extension was endorsed. In this light, the Committee endorsed an extension of the project until the end of July 2012, without additional funds, as per written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency.

19) PD 351/05 Rev.1 (F) Criteria and Indicators for the Evaluation of Tropical Forest Management Sustainability in Mexico (Southeastern Coastal Plains: Gulf of Mexico and Yucatan Peninsula) (Mexico)

The Committee may wish to take note that project implementation appears to be slower than initially projected. In this light, the Executing Agency has recently submitted a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time until September 2012 with budget amendments but without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project activities. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified, submitted to the CRF consideration and such extension was approved. In this light, the Committee endorsed an extension of the project until the end of September 2012, without additional funds, as per written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency.

20) PD 367/05 Rev.2 (F) Promotion of the Sustainable Management of Tropical Planted Forest in Congo's Tropical Forest Plantations (Republic of Congo)

The Committee was informed that the project activities were completed and the project completion report and Final Financial Audit Report were due since October 2010 and November 2010 respectively. The Secretariat asked the Executing Agency to submit these two reports at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and asked the Executing Agency to submit the project completion report and Final Audit Report by the end of March 2012.

21) PD 377/05 Rev.3 (F) Development of Cloning for Samba (Obéché), West African Mahogany and Tiokoué Tree Species (Côte d'Ivoire)

The committee was informed by the delegate of Cote d'Ivoire that the post-election crisis had a bad impact on the project implementation. The Executing Agency made some pre finance to maintain the project facilities and personnel. Most of the materials given to SODEFOR were destroyed and a project extension is required. The Committee took note of the information provided and requested that conditions for the extension should be examined during the next PSC project to be held in December 2011.

22) PD 405/06 Rev.3 (F) Extending the Area Under Sustainable Forest Management in the Forest Lands of The Embrea-Wounaan Comarca, Darien (Panama)

The Executing Agency has completed the project activities and is currently finalizing the completion report and Final Audit. The project will be declared as completed at the next Session of the Committee.

23) PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F) Forest Seeds Management and Conservation (Côte d'Ivoire)

The committee was informed by the delegate of Cote d'Ivoire that the post-election crisis had a bad impact in the project implementation and that a project extension is required. The committee recognized the efforts made by the EA, took note of the information provided and requested that conditions for the extension should be examined during the next PSC project to be held in December 2011.

24) PD 428/06 Rev.2 (F) Promoting the Rehabilitation, Management and Sustainable Use of Tropical Bamboo Forests in the North-Western Region of Peru (Peru)

The Committee was informed by the director of the Executing Agency about the normal implementation of the project activities. It was highlighted its importance for the paradigm braking about the way the rural population look at the bamboo. It was also emphasized the need of more ITTO bamboo projects in the Latin American region.

25) PD 438/06 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Forest Management for the Forest Production Area of the Northern and Northeastern Regions of the Department of Antioquia, Colombia (Colombia)

The Committee took note that the project is being regularly implemented ,but a budget neutral extension of 9 months, until June 2012, was requested to allow the EA to complete the activities as well as to consolidate the work. The EA officially informed ITTO the increase in the counterpart funds by US\$ 132,342, doubling its participation. CRF was also informed that the region continues to be area of armed conflicts which contributes with difficulties for the project implementation. The EA presented to the Committee the main aspects, advances and outputs of the project. A book was presented having two of the project coordinators as authors, written in the context of the ITTO project. In this light, the Committee endorsed the budget neutral extension of the project until June 2012.

26) PD 459/07 Rev.1 (F) Improving the Enabling Conditions for Sustainable Management of Sandalwood Forest Resources in East Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia (Indonesia)

The project is proceeding satisfactorily and the results of a study tour to Australia carried out in November 2011 has been reported to the Committee as it generated the establishment of a network for market and technical information exchange between producers of sandalwood in both countries.

27) PD 470/07 Rev.1 (F) Development and Implementation of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Planted Forests and Community Forests (Thailand)

The Committee was informed by the Secretariat that the Executing Agency has not yet submitted an inception report with a yearly plan of operation for the commencement of the project. The delegate of Thailand informed the Committee that the Executing Agency (Royal Forest Department) has recognized the importance of the project and that the inception report will be submitted in December 2011.

28) PD 507/08 Rev.1 (F) Development of the National Reforestation Policy and Afforestation Strategy Consistent with Liberia 3C-Approach (Liberia)

The Committee was informed that the project suffered a set back with the passing away of the ITTO National Focal Point in Liberia in mid 2010, but regained momentum and got back to track on the planned activities. A third PSC meeting is scheduled for January 2012 in Monrovia to take stock and provide further guidance for project implementation.

The Liberian delegation has requested for a project extension. The Committee took note and informed the delegate that the request should be examined during the next PSC project meeting.

29) PD 542/09 Rev.1 (F) Support to Convene the V Latin American Forestry Congress (Peru)

The Committee was informed about the importance of the CONFLAT, as one of the most significant forestry events in the Latin American region. ITTO supported also two of its previous editions. The project coordinator, professor Ignacio Lombardi addressed the Committee to inform on the Congress realization in Lima, Peru, in October 2011, and the expressive results obtained. The next (6th) CONFLAT edition is scheduled to be held in Mexico.

(B) Projects awaiting implementation agreement

1) PD 454/07 Rev.3 (F) Community Forest Management: A Sustainable Alternative for the Maues State Forest, Amazonas State (Brazil)

The Committee was informed that Brazil has requested a change of the Executing Agency of this project, taking into account that, due to time spent between the approval and the actual funding of the project, the initially appointed Executing Agency was not anymore active in the project area. The new proposed Executing Agency is the Institute of Amazonian Research and Development (IPDA). The Secretariat received an extended

justification from Brazil, including the curriculum of the organization and staff involved, as well as IPDA's previous experience in the area. The Committee considered the Brazilian request appropriated and approved the new Executing Agency, recommending the project to initiate its activities as soon as possible.

2) PD 577/10 Rev.1 (F) Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex to Promote Cooperation for Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation Between Thailand, Cambodia and Laos (Phase III)

The Committee was informed by the Secretariat that there has been a long delay in the signing of the project agreement by Thailand although Cambodia is fully ready to commence the project. The delegate of Thailand informed the Committee that the project agreement is now in the final review process by the Ministry and will be forwarded to the Cabinet for endorsement. He indicated that the project agreement will be signed by mid December 2011 so that that the project can commence its activity from early 2012.

(C) Projects awaiting financing

The Committee noted that nineteen (18) projects approved at earlier Sessions are still awaiting funding, out of which four (5) will be sunset if funding is not secured before the next Session.

1) PD 452/07 Rev.3 (F) Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II (Brazil)

The Committee was informed that Brazil has proposed a revised budget for this project reducing the ITTO contribution to US\$ 644,579 and increasing the national counterpart contribution to an equivalent of US\$ 890,928 in order to increase the likelihood of ITTO funding of the project. The Committee took note of the request and approved the proposal as PD 452/07 Rev 4 (F) – Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II – with the new budget distribution.

2) PD 456/07 Rev.4 (F) Building the Capacities of Forestry Training Institutions Members of the Network of Central African Forestry and Environmental Training Institutions (RIFFEAC) for Providing SFM Training for Forest Concessions (ITTO)

The Committee was informed that this project has received funds from Belgium and Japan for 84% of its budget but 16% are still missing; so the Secretariat is calling on donors to cover the outstanding balance to allow the full implementation of the project.

3) PD 467/07 Rev.4 (F) Generating an Ongoing Information System on the Status of Mahogany (*Swietenia Macrophylla*) and Cedar (*Cedrela Odorata*) Populations in Support of Cites Scientific Authority in Peru (Peru)

4) PD 475/07 Rev.2 (F) Restoring the Ecosystem Functions of the Jambi Grand Forest Park Through Promotion of Multiple-Use Function of Forest Resources in Collaboration with Local Stakeholders (Indonesia)

5) PD 476/07 Rev.3 (F) Clonal Test of Superior Progeny of *Shorea Leprosula* for Enrichment Planting Program (Indonesia)

6) PD 477/07 Rev.4 (F) Improving Forest Functions in Bengkulu Province through Community Participation in Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest by Using Local Prospective Commodities (Indonesia)

7) PD 495/08 Rev.4 (F) Guatemalan Forest Productivity Information System

- 8) PD 530/08 Rev.3 (F) Phase II of ITTO Project [PD 30/97 Rev.6 (F)] Management of Forests Established through Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests by Local Communities in Ghana (Ghana)
- 9) PD 541/09 Rev.2 (F) Forest Promotion and Development by Native Communities in Peru
- 10) PD 544/09 Rev.2 (F) Increased Economic Returns from Forest Management in Permanent Production Forests of Peru
- 11) PD 554/09 Rev.1 (F) Pilot Sustainable Management Systems for Secondary Forests in the Collective Territory of the Bajo Calima Community Council, Buenaventura, Colombia
- 12) PD 560/09 Rev.3 (F) Conservation and Sustainable Management of Mangrove Forests of the Kouilou Coastal Area, with the Participation of Local Communities Established in this Area of Southern Congo (Republic of Congo)
- 13) PD 563/09 Rev.3 (F) Community Based Forest Management of Sungai Medihit Watershed (Malaysia)
- 14) PD 568/09 Rev.1 (F) Developing Community-Based Sustainable Mangrove Management System for the Amanzuri and Ama Emissa River Estuaries in Ghana
- 15) PD 581/10 Rev.2 (F) Establishing a Geographic Information System for the Sustainable Management of the Forest Areas of Togo
- 16) PD 584/10 Rev.2 (F) Implementing the Cooperative Framework between ODEF and the Stakeholders for the Effective Participatory and Sustainable Management of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex (Togo)
- 17) PD 617/11 (F) Promoting Biodiversity Conservation in Betung Kerihun National Park (BKNP) as the Trans-boundary Ecosystem between Indonesia and State of Sarawak Malaysia (Phase III)
- 18) PD 622/11 Rev.1 (F) Marketing of Native Plant Seeds, Seedlings and Timber Products to Improve Living Standards and Strengthen Regional Forest Policies in the Amazon Region of Peru: A Pilot Case on the Taulia Molinopampa Rural Community

(D) Projects coming under the sunset provisions since the last Session

The Committee noted that one (1) project has become sunset since its last Session.

- 1) PD 527/08 Rev.1 (F) Enhancing Capacity Building on Assessing Tropical Forest Carbon Stock and its Changes in China (China)

10.2 Pre-project Work in Progress

The Committee took note of a status report of approved pre-projects in document CRF(XLIV)/3. The Committee discussed the issues associated with a number of pre-projects. Details of these discussions are as follows:

(A) Pre-projects under implementation

*** Completion report received, pending financial audit**

**** Reported as completed at previous CRF sessions, but still pending final financial audit**

- 1) PPD 94/04 Rev.1 (F) Evaluation of the Status of Forest Resources in Côte d'Ivoire (Côte d'Ivoire)

The Committee was informed that the pre-project activities were completed, and its completion report and Final Financial Audit Report were due since May 2008 and June 2008 respectively. The Secretariat urged the

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Executing Agency to submit these two reports at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and urged the Executing Agency to submit the pre-project completion report and Final Audit Report by the end of March 2012.

- 2) **PPD 108/04 Rev.1 (F) Sustainable Community Management, Utilisation and Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems in Ghana (Ghana)

The Committee was informed that this pre-project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in the document CRF(XLIII)/2, but it is still pending the pre-project final financial audit, since April 2009. The Secretariat urged the Executing Agency to submit this report at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and urged the Executing Agency to submit the pre-project Final Audit Report by the end of March 2012.

- 3) **PPD 123/06 Rev.1 (F) Controlling the Dieback and Decay Phenomenon in Plantation Species (Côte d'Ivoire)

The Committee was informed that this pre-project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in the document CRF(XLIII)/2, but it is still pending the project final financial audit, since September 2009. The Secretariat urged the Executing Agency to submit this report at its earliest convenience. The Committee took note of the information and urged the Executing Agency to submit the pre-project Final Audit Report by end of March 2012.

(B) Pre-projects awaiting implementation agreement

The Committee noted that there was no pre-projects awaiting implementation agreement.

(C) Pre-projects awaiting financing

- 1) PPD 153/11 Rev.1 (F) Forest Fire Prevention through the Implementation of Regional Actions with the Participation of Local Communities and Other Relevant Stakeholders So As To Ensure the Protection of Forests and Ecosystem Services

(D) Pre-projects coming under the sunset provisions since the last Session

The Committee noted that no pre-project has become sunset since its last Session.

In closing the Agenda Item 10, the Secretariat appealed to all Executing Agencies that have completed their projects but are still pending the submission of the Final Audit Report, to complete this process at their earliest convenience, and no later than the end of March 2012, in order to allow for the projects to be declared completed at the next Committee Session, complying with the ITTO regulations. Furthermore, the Secretariat alerted that Executing Agencies with pending Final Audit submissions will not qualify for new project funding until their situation is regularized.

Item 11 - Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2012

Dato' Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdul Rahim (Malaysia) was elected as Chairperson for 2012. Ms. Alicia Grimes (USA) was elected as Vice-Chairperson for 2012.

Item 12 - Dates and Venues of the Forty-sixth and Forty-seventh Sessions of the Committee

The Forty-sixth Session of the Committee would be held in conjunction with the Forty-eighth Session of the International Tropical Timber Council.

The Forty-seventh Session of the Committee would be held in conjunction with the Forty-ninth Session of the International Tropical Timber Council.

Item 13 - Other Business

None

Item 14 - Recommendations to the International Tropical Timber Council

- (A) The Committee recommended that funding be made immediately available for the following projects and pre-project approved under the Project Cycle Spring 2011 and Project Cycle Autumn 2011:

Projects

- PD 563/09 Rev.3 (F) Community Based Forest Management of Sungai Medihit Watershed (Malaysia) [US\$537,704.00]
- PD 581/10 Rev.2 (F) Establishing a Geographic Information System for the Sustainable Management of the Forest Areas of Togo (Togo) [US\$345,840.00]
- PD 584/10 Rev.2 (F) Implementing the Cooperative Framework between ODEF and the Stakeholders for the Effective Participatory and Sustainable Management of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex (Togo) [US\$162,788.00]
- PD 617/11 Rev.1 (F) Promoting Biodiversity Conservation in Betung Kerihun National Park (BKNP) as the Trans-boundary Ecosystem between Indonesia and State of Sarawak Malaysia (Phase III) (Indonesia) [US\$663,147.00]
- PD 622/11 Rev.1 (F) Marketing of Native Plant Seeds, Seedlings and Timber Products to Improve Living Standards and Strengthen Regional Forest Policies in the Amazon Region of Peru: A Pilot Case on the Taulia Molinopampa Rural Community (Peru) [US\$149,958.00]

Pre-Project

- PPD 153/11 Rev.1 (F) Forest Fire Prevention through the Implementation of Regional Actions with the Participation of Local Communities and Other Relevant Stakeholders So As To Ensure the Protection of Forests and Ecosystem Services (Colombia) [US\$99,576.00]

- (B) The Committee recommended that funding will be made immediately available for the following project which was revised and approved at this Session:

Project

- PD 452/07 Rev.4 (F) Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II (Brazil) [US\$ 644,579]

- (C) Recommendation related to ex-post evaluation

The Committee recommended that ex-post evaluation of CRF projects take into account the recommendations of the Meta-Evaluation of Previously Evaluated ITTO Projects [Document ITTC-JC(XLV)/2], as presented by Dr. Markku Simula at the Joint Session of the Committees, with special reference on the selection of consultants from locally available expertise, as much as possible.

- (D) Recommendation related to the Revised Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests

In relation to Document CRF(XLV)/7 – “Revised Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests” (draft), the Committee considered necessary to have more time to provide further inputs from

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ITTO member countries to the full version of the document and recommended the full version to be made available online from 1st December 2011 until 31st March 2012, during which member countries should send to the Secretariat their comments and contributions. Thereafter, the Secretariat shall finalize the document and make its final version available for approval during the 48th Session of the ITTC.

Item 15 - Report of the Session

The Committee accepted this Report for submission to the Council.

Annex 1

Terms of Reference for CRF Biennial Work Programme for 2012-2013

Activity No. 39

PROMOTE THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES TO THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF TROPICAL FORESTS

[ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(g), (j) (m) (q), (r), (s)]
[ITTO Action 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 5 (E), (G)]

I. Background

SFM has always recognized the importance of enhancing the continuous supply of forest goods and services to improve their contribution to socio-economic development. However, one of the main problems of SFM is less profitable as a land use than other ways of using the land. Sustaining SFM in the long-term requires the sufficient availability of financial resources as well as the provision of incentives and appropriate economic instruments that promote and support SFM. In this regard, it is important to promote investment and payment for all the goods and services provided by tropical forests while capitalizing on all their economic values. In particular, payment for forest/environmental services such as biodiversity, tourism and recreation, water conservation, soil protection and climate change mitigation is an innovative way for forest financing.

ITTO Thematic Programme on Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services in Tropical Forests (REDDES) includes promoting the capacity of ITTO developing member countries and their stakeholders in maintaining and enhancing environmental services of tropical forests in order to contribute to the social and economic sustainability and well-being of forest-dependent communities through payments for forest-based environmental services (PES). With support of this Programme, PES mechanisms have been developed and/or under implementation with involvement of a number of local communities. The values of tropical forests and their environmental services have received increased global recognition through in particular a global initiative on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) which has facilitated the initiation of hundred of REDD+ projects across the tropics.

How are PES mechanisms developing, what are key factors for the success of PES mechanisms, and how can we learn from such experience to further advice of PES mechanisms in the tropics? Given the significant importance of developing and implementing PES mechanisms in the tropics and sharing best practices and lessons learned from many organizations' activities and projects to scale up ITTO and global efforts to promote PES mechanisms, there is an urgent need to organize an international forum. In this way, International Conference on Environmental Services of Tropical Forests will be organized to share lessons learned from the development of PES mechanisms as well as recommending actions at local, national and international levels for the development and effective implementation of PES mechanism in support of SFM in the tropics.

II. Description

In close cooperation with relevant international, regional and national organizations, International Conference on Environmental Services of Tropical Forests will be organized in 2013 in a selected country in Latin America. The Conference will bring policy makers, researchers and academicians, practitioners, civil society, the private sector, and regional and international organizations engaged in the development and implementation of PES mechanisms. To this end, specifically the Conference intends

- a) To overview of current PES mechanisms (i.e. government-led/user-led schemes; watershed management, forest/biodiversity conservation, carbon services such as REDD+ and other environmental services) and those being developed in support of SFM;
- b) To report on the potential and challenge of assess of the potential of market-based and other remuneration systems for compensating environmental services;
- c) To identify the policy, socio-economic and environmental issues for the effective development of PES with a view to make recommendations for further advancement of PES mechanisms at local, national and international levels; and

- d) To promote and facilitate cooperation among partners including South-South partnerships and among bilateral and multilateral PES initiatives.

III. Expected Outputs

The Conference will contribute to facilitating the dissemination and sharing of outcomes and lessons learned from ITTO project work in PES in member countries, and from other existing relevant experiences on environmental services . It will also allow for the presentation of other experiences from concerned organizations, namely UNFCCC, CBD, FAO, and IUCN.

The expected outputs of the Conference include:

- a) Publication of Conference materials (e.g. papers, PowerPoint presentations) on the ITTO website and associated compact disk;
- b) Materials and messages to be presented at relevant fora regarding payments of environmental services provided tropical forests;
- c) Recommendations for the improved development of PES mechanisms and their effective implementation in the tropics;
- d) Networking between ITTO-supported project staff, and other experts and practitioners engaged in PES mechanisms; and
- e) Distribute findings of the Conference at the subsequent ITTC Session.

IV. Target Countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & Timing 12 months in 2013

VI. Budget US\$300,000

Activity No. 40

REVIEW AND UPDATE THE ITTO GUIDELINES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF PLANTED TROPICAL FORESTS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN TROPICAL FORESTRY

[ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(j), (m)]
[Yokohama Action Plan 3.2, Goal 2(1)]
[ITTO Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 6 (F)]

I. Background

The ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4) was published in 1993 in order to make accessible the best practice techniques and management experiences to the operational forest managers and planners working in tropical countries. Thus, it is important to update the guidelines by taking into account the new developments in tropical forestry and roles of tree in the tropics, including timber supply, energy generation, provision of environmental services, as well as its forest restoration potential and the potential of agroforestry and trees outside forests in providing timber and other forest related goods and services.

Regarding the scope and content, it should be considered the option of integrating relevant aspects from the following ITTO policy publications:

- ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Production Forests (PS-17);
- ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and rehabilitation of degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests (PS-13); and
- Other relevant ITTO policy publications revised or being revised.

The purpose of this activity is to engage and support consultants to review and update the ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4), and identify and involve selected countries in the field tests of the draft revised guidelines.

II. Description

Therefore, it is proposed to implement this activity in two following stages:

- a) Review and update the ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4) through the following actions:
 - Assess and analyze the latest developments in the sustainable management of natural tropical forests since the publication of the ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4).
 - Analyze and take into consideration the experience using existing SFM-oriented guidelines and manuals in relation to the programmes of private sector practitioners and relevant international organisations such as the members of the CPF, relevant NGO's and certification schemes.
 - Prepare a discussion paper reflecting developments and experiences and including preliminary proposals for a revision of the Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4).
 - Organize and conduct an expert panel meeting with at least 25 participants in order to capture experiences and needs with respect to the sustainable management of natural tropical forests. Participants should be drawn from experts and practitioners involved in projects that have applied the ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4), as well as from organisations and institutions with hands-on experience in sustainable management of Planted Forests of natural tropical forests.
 - Prepare and present a report at the Forty-eighth Session of the Council containing: (a) A draft proposal of the revised Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4); and (b) A proposal for planning field tests of the draft of the revised Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Planted Forests of Natural Tropical Forests.

- b) Conduct field tests of the draft revised ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4) in selected ITTO Producing Countries in accordance with the specific recommendations to be made by the Forty-eighth session of the Council and through the following main actions:
- Select host countries in the three tropical regions where to conduct the field tests of the draft of the revised ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4), to be submitted to the Forty-eighth session of the Council for consideration, based on a specific plan of operation for field tests.
 - Conduct field tests in selected ITTO Producing Countries at both the forest management unit and provincial or national level in collaboration with relevant forestry institutions and companies, and communities within the selected countries in order to benefit from their competencies and experience in this area. These partners will be encouraged to participate and assist in the testing and application of the concepts underlying the Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4).
 - Prepare a discussion paper reflecting developments and experiences of the field tests and including preliminary proposals for a revision of the Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4) based on the main findings of the field tests.
 - Organize and conduct a second expert panel meeting with participants drawn from experts and practitioners involved in projects that have applied the ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4) as well as from organisations and institutions with hands-on experience in sustainable management of natural tropical forests.
 - Prepare and present a report at the Forty-ninth Session of the Council containing: (a) A draft of revised ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4) integrating the findings of field tests carried out in selected producing countries; and (b) A proposal for communicating and disseminating the final version of the revised Guidelines.

III. Expected Outputs

The main expected output is the revised and updated ITTO Guidelines for the Establishment and Sustainable Management of Planted Forests (PS-4) integrating the findings of field tests carried out in selected producing countries and taking into account the recent developments in tropical forestry.

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| IV. Target Countries | ITTO member countries |
| V. Duration and Timing | 24 months |
| VI. Budget | US\$250,000 |

Activity No. 41

HARMONIZE THE REPORTING SYSTEM OF THE ITTO CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF TROPICAL FORESTS WITH THE VALIDATED AND REVISED ITTO GUIDELINES FOR THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL TROPICAL FORESTS.

[ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(c), (f), (l), (p), (p)]
[Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 6 (A), (B), Cross-cutting Action (b)]

I. Background

The International Tropical Timber Organization – ITTO - has been mandated by its Council to review and update the ITTO Guidelines for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests (ITTO Policy Development Series 1, July 1992), taking into account recent and innovative developments that may influence the sustainable use and conservation of tropical forest resources. A consultative process has been developed since 2010 with the organization of expert meetings in Switzerland (Thun, June 2010) and Brazil (Acre, August 2011), and the production of the revised ITTO Guidelines for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests, which has been submitted to the relevant Committee for approval.

The revised document updates the Principles and Guidelines for SFM but has not yet been harmonized and validated against the ITTO Criteria and Indicators for SFM, which are regularly used by the ITTO member countries to report on their progress towards sustainable forest management.

II. Description

Revise the reporting system of the ITTO Criteria and Indicators for SFM against the revised and updated ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests in at least three ITTO producer member countries, harmonizing and validating the reporting system accordingly.

III. Expected Outputs

- a) Harmonized reporting system for the ITTO Criteria and Indicators of SFM in line with the revised ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests; and
- b) Validated new reporting format of the ITTO Criteria and Indicators for SFM in at least three producer member countries.

- IV. Target Countries** At least one ITTO producer member country in each of the tropical regions, upon manifestation of interest to participate in the study.
- V. Duration & Timing** 12 months in 2012
- VI. Budget** US\$ 130,000

Activity No. 42

**PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GUIDELINES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF
SECONDARY TROPICAL FORESTS, THE RESTORATION OF DEGRADED TROPICAL FORESTS AND
THE REHABILITATION OF DEGRADED FOREST LAND**

[ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(j), (m)]
[ITTC Decisions 1(XXXV), 4(XXXV)]
[Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 6 (B), (C)]

I. Background

Degraded forests form a substantial part of the accessible areas in the tropics. Recent findings indicate that there are up to 2 billion 850,000,000 ha of tropical forests are actually in some stage of degradation¹. In the last few years ITTO has been actively participating in the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration (GPFLR), to promote forest restoration and rehabilitation of degraded forests in the tropics. A series of national workshops have been organized in ITTO producer member countries to disseminate and promote the application of the ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests. In September 2011 a Ministerial Roundtable was convened by the Government of Germany and IUCN on forest landscape restoration. This event resulted in the Bonn Challenge, a global call for the restoration of 150 million ha by 2020 using a forest and landscape restoration approach. Projects have been developed and a substantial knowledge is being generated, which can now be compiled and disseminated to scale up tropical forest restoration and rehabilitation.

Furthermore, a new momentum has been created under the climate change debate with the inclusion of forest degradation (the second D) in the REDD mechanism – Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation being designed under the UNFCCC.

II. Description

This activity proposes to work with partners in the tropics and with international organizations interested in the theme (including the GPFLR, IUCN, Wageningen International and others), for the establishment and consolidation of a Community of Practice for knowledge management and technical support for the implementation of rehabilitation and restoration activities in degraded forests in the tropics and serve as an ITTO contribution to the achievement of the Bonn Challenge for restoration.

The aim is to establish a network of learning sites in selected countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America based on existing field experience which served as testing ground of the ITTO Guidelines, and where it is possible to demonstrate the feasibility of tropical forest restoration and rehabilitation as a sound land use system for the tropics in its economic, social and environmental implications. The network will be a mean to disseminate knowledge in order to promote the implementation forest landscape restoration activities.

Criteria for the selection of learning sites will include the following aspects:

- a) Existence of ongoing activities (e.g. plantations, soil conservation, secondary forestry management, agroforestry, etc.), that serves as a basis for tropical forest restoration/rehabilitation;
- b) Local communities engaged in the work related to forest restoration/rehabilitation;
- c) Expressed willingness by the project executor / implementing agency to apply the relevant ITTO Guidelines (Policy Document 13), to document the experience and share their learning within the GPFLR network, with a view to upscaling the implementation of the concept;
- d) Some degree of interest at national level within major stakeholders (e.g. Forestry Department, Academic/Research institutions, senior management of private companies, local communities / NGO's, etc.); and
- e) Previous exposure to the forest landscape restoration concept, e.g. through the GPFLR/ ITTO / IUCN workshops.

¹ **Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration, World Resources Institute, South Dakota State University, International Union for Conservation of nature, September 2011.**

III. Expected Outputs

- a) Network of learning sites established;
- b) Documentation related to the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded forests in the learning sites systematized, assessed and made available to the public;
- c) Web page of the Learning Sites Network established and gradually updated by GPFLR with links to relevant partners websites; and
- d) A community of practice established for knowledge management and information dissemination on forest landscape restoration, directly involved institutions and experts of ITTO producer member countries.

IV. Target Countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & Timing 24 months

VI. Budget US\$100,000

Activity No. 43

FACILITATE THE APPLICATION OF THE *ITTO/IUCN GUIDELINES FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY IN TROPICAL TIMBER PRODUCTION FORESTS*

[ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(m), (r)]
[ITTC Decision 6(XLVI)]
[Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcomes 6 (B), (E) (G)]

I. Background

The ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests had been adopted by the Forty-fourth Session of the Council, in November 2008, under the Council Decision 6(XLIV). It has been published in all three ITTO working languages for dissemination and promotion in the international community. The same Council Decision requested the Executive Director of ITTO, in collaboration with IUCN and other relevant partners, to facilitate the application of the guidelines at a range of scales in partnership with forest operators, local communities and other stakeholders.

II. Description

This activity will contribute to promote the use of the ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests through the following actions:

- a) Support interested member countries in developing project proposals for the implementation of the ITTO/IUCN biodiversity guidelines, especially under the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative. Consultants will be engaged for the formulation of at least three proposals (one per tropical timber producing region) to be submitted to ITTO. The consultants should visit selected countries for the stakeholders' analysis and problem identification, as well as for the analysis required for the project formulation in each country, involving the timber producing private sector;
- b) Dissemination of the biodiversity guidelines amongst the international community through special events to be held at the World Conservation Congress of IUCN to be held in Korea in September 2012; CBD COP 11 to be held in India in October 2012; and others;
- c) Promoting the dissemination, fund raising and partnerships (e.g. with GEF, environmental NGO's and others) for the implementation of the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative, with emphasis on the field use of the ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Production Forests.

III. Expected Outputs

- a) At least three project proposals (one per each of the three tropical regions) formulated and submitted to ITTO for implementation under the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative, focusing on the field application of the ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests. Project proposals shall include close involvement of forest concessionaires and local communities in its implementation.
- b) Wider knowledge and use of the ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests by other institutions, including CPF partners and academia.
- c) Partnerships and fund raising activities strengthen the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative.

IV. Target Countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & Timing 24 months

VI. Budget US\$100,000

Activity No. 44(a)

**CONTRIBUTE APPROPRIATELY TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN
THE AREA OF PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF FIRE IN RELATION TO
TROPICAL TIMBER-PRODUCING FORESTS**

(A) REVIEW AND UPDATE THE ITTO GUIDELINES ON FIRE MANAGEMENT IN TROPICAL FORESTS

[ITTA, 2006, Article 1 (m)]
[ITTC Decision 6(XXXIII)]
[ITTO Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 5 (C)]

I. Background

The ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6) was published in 1997 in order to promote the development of forest fire prevention and control strategies to the operational forest managers, planners and local communities in tropical countries. Considering the scientific insights of the state of forests and forest protection in the tropics in the last 15 years and the progress made in fire management research and development globally it is important to update the guidelines by taking into account mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and assist in poverty alleviation.

The purpose of this activity is to engage and support consultants to review and update the ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6) and identify and involve selected countries in the field tests of the draft revised guidelines.

II. Description

Therefore, it is proposed to implement this activity in two following stages:

- a) Review and update the ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6) through the following actions:
 - Assess and analyze the latest developments as regards the management, control and prevention of tropical forest fires since the publication of the ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests in 1997 (PS-6).
 - Analyze and take into consideration the current latest developments related to climate change mitigation and adaptation and assist in poverty alleviation.
 - Prepare a discussion paper reflecting developments and experiences and including preliminary proposals for a revision of the Guidelines.
 - Organize and conduct an expert panel meeting in order to capture experiences and needs with respect to fire management, control and prevention in tropical forests. Participants are to drawn from experts and practitioners involved in projects that have applied the ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6), as well as from organisations and institutions with hands-on experience in tropical forest fire management.
 - Prepare and present a report at the Forty-ninth Session of the Council containing: (a) A draft proposal of the revised ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6).
 - (b) A proposal for planning field tests of the draft of the revised on Fire Management in Tropical Forests; and (c) A proposal for communicating and disseminating the final version of the revised Guidelines.
- b) Conduct field tests of the draft revised ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6) in selected ITTO Producing Countries in accordance with the specific recommendations to be made by the Forty-eighth Session of the Council, and through the following main actions:
 - Prepare a discussion paper reflecting developments and experiences of the field tests and including preliminary proposals for a revision of the ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6) based on the main findings of the field tests.
 - Organize and conduct a second expert panel meeting with participants drawn from experts and practitioners involved in projects that have applied the ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6) as well as from organisations and institutions with hands-on experience in tropical forest fire management.

- Prepare and present a report at the Forty-ninth Session of the Council containing: (a) A draft of revised ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6) integrating the findings of field tests carried out in selected producing countries; and (b) A proposal for communicating and disseminating the final version of the revised Guidelines.

III. Expected Outputs

The main expected output is the revised and updated ITTO Guidelines on Fire Management in Tropical Forests (PS-6) integrating the findings of field tests carried out in selected producing countries and taking into account the recent developments related to climate change mitigation adaptation and poverty alleviation.

IV. Target Countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration and Timing 24 months

VI. Budget US\$150,000

Activity No. 44(b)

**CONTRIBUTE APPROPRIATELY TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN
THE AREA OF PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF FIRE IN RELATION TO
TROPICAL TIMBER-PRODUCING FORESTS**

**(B) FURTHER ITTO'S COMMITMENT AS A CORE MEMBER OF THE UNISDR GLOBAL WILDLAND
ADVISORY GROUP, GWFN AND GFMC, AND PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE AFRICA, ASIA, AND
LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL FOREST FIRE NETWORKS AND OTHER INTER-INSTITUTIONAL
COOPERATION EFFORTS IN THEIR PREPARATORY MEETINGS FOR THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL
WILDLAND FIRE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN SOUTH KOREA IN MAY 2015**

[ITTA 2006 Article 1 (m)]

[ITTC Decision 6(XXXIII)]

[ITTO Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 5 (C)]

I. Background

In view of ITTO's commitment as a Core Member of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Global Wildland Advisory Group, and the related Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN) and the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), cooperating organizations and agencies have requested ITTO take a more proactive role in the organization of the meetings of the aforementioned regional forest fire-related networks focusing on the tropics and in the preparation for the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference in South Korea in May 2015.

II. Description

Provide support for the Africa, Asia, and Latin America Regional Wildland Fire Networks and other inter-institutional cooperation efforts made by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Global Wildland Advisory Group, and the related Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN) and the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), in their preparatory meetings for the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference to be held in 2015 in South Korea, such as the holding of regional workshops in each ITTO tropical timber producing region (Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America) and the participation of ITTO and its member countries at other forest fire-related meetings organized through inter-institutional cooperation.

III. Expected Outputs

ITTO will join the existing collaborative effort of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Global Wildland Advisory Group, and the related Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN) and the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) to promote and facilitate the successful implementation of forest fire policies, strategies and other initiatives in tropical regions via preliminary preparatory work towards the organization of for the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference to be held in South Korea in 2015, as a means to enhance forest conservation and people's livelihoods. Towards this goal the focus is on the delivery and dissemination of policy support and technical relevant information, recommendations and practical tools to government agencies, forest managers, local communities and supporting organizations.

IV. Target Countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & Timing 24 months

VI. Budget US\$150,000

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