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**COMMITTEE ON
REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

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

Item 1 - Opening of the Session

The Forty-sixth Session of the Committees was opened on 6 November 2012 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 Mr. Jose Trinidad Suazo Bulnes (Honduras), Vice Chairperson of the Council. This Joint Session considered Agenda items 1, 3, 4, and 8 (A). Joint Session of the Technical Committees was also convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Rob Busink (The Netherlands), Chairperson of CEM, to consider item 6. The subsequent meetings of the CRF were chaired by Dato' Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdul Rahim (Malaysia), assisted by Ms. Alicia Grimes (USA), Vice-Chair of the CRF. The list of participants is presented in document ITTC(XLVIII)/Info.2.

Item 2 - Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work

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

Item 3 - Admission of Observers

The Committees admitted the observers listed in document ITTC (XLVIII)/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-third and Forty-fourth meetings held on 6-10 February 2012 and on 30 July-3 August 2012 in Yokohama, Japan as contained in documents ITTC/EP-43 and ITTC/EP-44, respectively. In summary, the reports of the Expert Panel indicated:

- (i) 42 and 45 proposals appraised at its Forty-third and Forty-fourth meetings respectively;
- (ii) 7 proposals (17% of proposals evaluated) comprising 6 projects and 1 pre-project were accorded category 1 rating at the Forty-third meeting and 17 proposals (38% of proposals evaluated) comprising 13 projects and 4 pre-project were accorded category 1 rating at the Forty-fourth meeting;
- (iii) 2 out of the 7 proposals accorded category 1 rating during the Forty-third meeting and 9 out of the 17 proposals accorded category 1 rating at the Forty-fourth meeting were new proposals; and
- (iv) 20 proposals appraised during the Forty-third meeting and 11 proposals during the Forty-fourth meeting were sent back to proponents for revision and 13 proposals appraised during the Forty-third meeting and 16 proposals during the Forty-fourth meeting were recommended not to be approved by the Committees.

Ms. Pekam presented to the Committees the general findings and recommendations of the Expert Panel at its Forty-third and Forty-fourth meetings particularly addressed to the proponents of proposals with regard to the structure and design of projects, as follows:

- The key problem and problem analysis section is a fundamental part of the proposal and should be conducted thoroughly prior to identifying the outputs and activities;
- A proper presentation of the context: social, cultural, economic and environmental aspects should be provided and related to the project; and
- Approaches and methods are also fundamental in the formulation of a proposal and expected changes should be emphasized rather than what is done in practice.

Ms. Pekam presented to the Committees recommendations addressed to the proponents for the adequate involvement of all stakeholders especially communities, the absence of which may threaten the successful implementation of the whole project and its sustainability, as follows:

- Carry out in-depth analysis of all parties affected by the project, both positively (beneficiaries) or negatively;
- Communities should not be taken as a homogenous group and gender issues and group equity should be considered;
- Provide for beneficiaries' needs and priorities particularly of local communities and demonstrate expression of support of stakeholders.

Ms. Pekam also presented to the Committees recommendations addressed to the proponents for lasting changes in the proposals, as follows:

- Required budget from ITTO should not cover to a large extent personnel and travel costs;
- Proponents should wait for on-going projects to be fully carried out and to build follow-up proposals based on their outcomes;
- The ITTO guidelines should be followed and used.

Ms. Pekam further presented recommendations addressed to submitting countries:

- Strengthen the role of ITTO's focal points particularly in carrying out a first screening of proposals and in monitoring of proposals;
- Use national clearinghouse mechanism, especially noting its obvious added value in passing forward better quality proposals;
- Re-emphasize the need of training on project formulation and provide funding on such trainings;
- Contribute to disseminate relevant ITTO guidelines and results of previous or on-going ITTO and other projects.

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

- Provide more training on project formulation;
- Reinforce the role and involvement of ITTO's focal points in determining venues, monitoring of projects, etc. ;
- Ensure the national clearing house mechanism is fully implemented;
- Further promote the use of ITTO guidelines;
- Reflect on the future of the appraisal system.

Following the presentation of Ms. Pekam, the delegation of Malaysia thanked the Expert Panel for its work and welcomed the useful and thorough recommendations. It wondered whether the future work of the Expert Panel could be undertaken in only one meeting rather than two as was the current practice.

The delegation of Switzerland also thanked the Expert Panel and emphasized the need to provide more training for producing member countries and ensure sustained capacity building including by using the "training of trainers" approach for stakeholders.

The delegation of European Union also thanked the comprehensive presentation of Ms. Pekam and fully supported the recommendations particularly regarding the use of ITTO Guidelines. The delegation highlighted the role and functions of national focal points and urged for the minimization of the costs for project formulation and appraisal including by the increased use of electronic communications.

Ms. Pekam responded that it would be difficult for the Expert Panel to review all project proposals in one meeting. However, the workload could be reduced if initial screening of the project proposals could be carried out by national focal points or the ITTO Secretariat. The sustainability of the training for project formulation would be based on the availability of funding. She further mentioned the necessity of discussions among experts of the Panel in a meeting rather than simply by electronic communications. The ITTO Secretariat informed that a number of trainings for project formulation including four training courses were conducted under project PD 73/89 (M,F,I) "Assistance for Project Identification and Formulation". However, trainings in this regard could not be conducted since 2009 as the project was pending additional funding.

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-third and Forty-fourth Meetings as follows:

For Forty-third Expert Panel		
PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 601/11 Rev.3 (F)	Strengthening Mangrove Ecosystem Conservation in the Biosphere Reserve of Northwestern Peru	Peru
PD 602/11 Rev.3 (F)	Tropical Forest Governance in the Region of Darien, Panama	Panama
PD 629/11 Rev.2 (F)	Protection, Management and Restoration of Forest Lands for Water Catchment and Flow Regulation as a Climate Change Adaptation Measure	Guatemala
PD 653/12 Rev.1 (F)	Sustainable, Mixed and Pure Forest Plantation Development in the Transitional Zone of Ghana's Biakoye District Assembly, Employing Poverty Reduction Strategies	Ghana
PPD 160/12 Rev.1 (F)	Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of the Mangrove Forests in the Coastal Area of Benin	Benin

For Forty-fourth Expert Panel		
PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 605/11 Rev.3 (F)	Demonstration and Extension of Fire-break Forest Belts for Efficient Forest Fire Management in Tropical Forests in Guangdong Province, China	China
PD 609/11 Rev.3 (F)	Enhancement of the Participatory Bushfire Prevention and Management System in Togo	Togo
PD 618/11 Rev.3 (F)	Establishment of Spatial Forest Resources Information System (SPA-FRIS) in West Papua Province	Indonesia
PD 623/11 Rev.3 (F)	Production and Availability of Teak Clone Varieties: Development of Improved Plant Material for Reforestation in Togo	Togo
PD 628/11 Rev.3 (F)	Strengthening of Forest Management Practices of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples in Guatemala	Guatemala
PD 635/12 Rev.2 (F)	Development of Guidelines for Buffer Zone Management for Pulong Tau National Park and Involvement of Local Communities in Management, Sarawak, Malaysia	Malaysia
PD 668/12 Rev.1 (F)	Integrated Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity in the Tacaná Volcano and Its Range of Influence in Mexico and Guatemala	Guatemala & Mexico
PD 673/12 Rev.1 (F)	Strengthening the Capacity in Forest Law Enforcement and Governance of the Permanent Forest Estates in Kratie and Mondulkiri Provinces of Cambodia	Cambodia
PPD 151/11 Rev.3 (F)	Support to the Local Communities of the Mono Plain for the Promotion and Sustainable Management of Community Forests in Togo	Togo
PPD 165/12 Rev.1 (F)	Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of Sacred Forests on RAMSAR Sites 1017 And 1018 In Benin	Benin

Item 6 – ITTO Annual Market Discussion -2012

The Committees noted the summary of the ITTO Annual Market Discussion – 2012, held in the Joint Session of All Committees on 7 November 2012, as contained in Appendix A of document CEM-CFI(XLVI)/6. The theme of the Market Discussion was “Trading in Challenging Markets”. Mr. Rob Busink, Chairperson of CEM, 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. Brent J. McClendon, CAE Intl. Wood Products Association (U.S.A.)	"ITTC – Market Dialogue and Trade Advisory Group Presentation"
Mr. Michael S. Snow, Executive Director American Hardwood Export Council (U.S.A.)	"LCA, EPDs and Promoting the Environmental Credentials of American Hardwoods"
Mr. Takashi Fujiwara, Managing Director Japan Federation of Wood Industry Associations	"Green Procurement Policies and Timber Industries in Japan"
Mr. André de Boer, Secretary General European Timber Trade Federation	"Overview of Importer's Markets" (EU)

The TAG Coordinator informed the Committees that collaboration between TAG and the Secretariat would continue for the planning and organization of the ITTO Annual Market Discussion 2013. He informed the Committees that the tentative theme for the discussion would be "Trade Approaches to Meeting Market Demands for Legality".

The Committees further noted the statement of the Trade Advisory Group (TAG) presented during the Market Discussion as contained in Appendix B of Document CEM-CFI(XLVI)/6.

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

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, some technical reports and an acceptable Project Final Financial Audit Report. These and other means of verification are available from the Executing Agency and/or the ITTO Regional Officer for Latin America upon written request. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project as completed.

2) PD 165/02 Rev.3 (F) Conservation of Biological Diversity through Sustainable Forest Management Practices (Malaysia)

The delegation of Malaysia made a presentation on the main outcomes of the project, highlighting the development of improved methods for assessing biodiversity such as Perak Tool (rapid biodiversity assessment manual) and improved stand-level models for predicting the impacts of forest management systems on biodiversity. The Committee noted that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and Final Audit Report. Recognizing that the project has published various technical reports for the improvement of biodiversity assessment in production forests, the Committee recommended that those technical reports should be made available online for wider dissemination. The Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

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

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, the World Mangrove Atlas in ITTO's 3 official languages: English, Spanish and French, and the Final Financial Audited Report. A presentation on the project's achievements was also given by the Secretariat at this session. Limited copies of the Atlas are available from the Secretariat or can be purchased directly from the publisher. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project as completed.

Moreover, the delegate from Malaysia commended the comprehensive work carried out in compiling the World Mangrove Atlas, stressed the great social, environmental and economic importance of these mangrove ecosystems to mankind, and further highlighted the very extensive project work carried out by ITTO in mangrove and other coastal forest systems and resources, and the experiences gained and the lessons learnt from these. As such, the delegate of Malaysia further suggested the Secretariat consider including an activity in the next ITTO Biennial Work Programme (BWP) so as to convene a major ITTO symposium on tropical mangroves, with a view towards discussing their current situation and their enormous contribution to mankind. The delegate of Switzerland seconded the recommendation made by Malaysia, and also recalled the past implementation of the ITTO 2000-2006 Mangrove Action Plan, and the urgent need to revamp it and come up with a new ITTO Mangrove Action Plan for the next 6 years, and requested the inclusion of such a proposal under the proposed activity on mangroves in the next ITTO BWP.

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

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Completion Report and several Technical Reports, as well as a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report. Therefore, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules and procedures of ITTO.

5) 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 that, at the last session, the project was considered as completed upon the receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat. Noting that the Secretariat received the Final Audit Report in July 2012, the Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

6) PD 396/06 Rev.2 (F) Strategy for Developing Plantations Forest: A Conflict Resolution Approach in Indonesia (Indonesia)

The delegation of Indonesia informed the Committee of the implementation of the project which has resulted in the production of three policy documents for collaborative plantation forest development and establishing demonstration sites of collaborative plantation forest management in Jambi and South Kalimantan Provinces. These studies have contributed to better understanding of analyzing conflicts in plantation forest development, conflict resolution approaches, and development of collaborative plantation forests. On the possibility of replicating similar work in other provinces, the delegation of Indonesia provided information on conflict resolution regulations which are taking place in the country.

The Committee noted that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and Final Financial Audit Report. The Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

7) 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 Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the project Completion Report, several technical reports and the Final Financial Audit Report. The project's documented products and outputs have been posted on the ITTO website for widespread dissemination, and can be further downloaded from there or requested directly from the Executing Agency upon written request. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project as completed.

8) PD 426/06 Rev.1 (F) The Prevention of Further Loss and the Promotion of Rehabilitation and Plantation of *Gonystylus* spp. (ramin) in Sumatera and Kalimantan (Indonesia)

The delegation of Indonesia informed the Committee of the implementation of the project which has contributed to the improvement of silvicultural techniques for ramin conservation and plantation development and enhancement of institutional capacity to implement CITES rules and procedures. The project has produced several important technical reports on ramin as important references not only for decision makers but also for research groups, and conservationists. The conservation of ramin and its rehabilitation could be consistently maintained by various stakeholders based on the findings of the project towards sustainable

management and conservation of ramin in Indonesia. On the issue of regeneration of ramin, in response to the question raised by the delegation of Malaysia, the delegation of Indonesia described that as a consequence of the scarcity of ramin seeds and planting materials, plantation techniques had not been fully explored during the project period but technical reports of the project provide specific information the issues of regeneration of ramin.

The Committee noted that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and Final Financial Audit Report. The Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

9) PD 451/07 Rev.1 (F) Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation Area: The Pulong Tau National Park, Sarawak State, Malaysia - Phase II (Malaysia)

The delegation of Malaysia informed the Committee of the implementation of the project which has resulted in the achievement of several outputs. These include: The conservation and management capacity for PTNP strengthened; The extensions of PTNP initiated; Baseline ecological and biodiversity surveys carried out and results published; Survey on uses of natural resources carried out and community-based activities developed; Conservation awareness programmes for local key stakeholders carried out; Bi-national cooperation in TBCA management is strengthened; and Awareness in transboundary conservation and sustainable utilization of natural resources is raised. During discussions, he described the sustainability of the project which will be strengthened through the continued support of a new unit for community services of Sarawak Forest Department; and issues and challenges in transboundary cooperation compared with the Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary (LEWS) project. The delegation of Indonesia informed the Committee that more transboundary cooperation between LEWS and the Betung Kerihun National Park will be made through a transboundary project which revised and approved at this session. The delegation of Japan commended the Executing Agency and the project team for successful achievements of the project which should be widely disseminated to interested parties.

The Committee noted that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and Final Financial Audit Report. The Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

10) PD 493/07 Rev.1 (F) Strengthening Capacity of Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in Cambodia (Cambodia)

The delegation of Cambodia informed the Committee of the implementation of the project by highlighting its main outputs which include: purchase of various equipment and facilities to facilitate the suppression of illegal forest activities; improved capacity of 245 Forestry Administration staff at different levels to conduct forest patrolling and documenting forest crimes; improved collaboration with Provincial prosecutors and judges in four provinces; improved public awareness on the importance of FLEG initiatives through dissemination of attractive extension materials and publication; and a series of extension workshops attended by 1,227 participants from various stakeholder groups.

The Committee noted that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and Final Financial Audit Report. The Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

11) PD 539/09 Rev.1 (F) Promoting Conservation of Selected Tree Species Currently Threatened by Habitat Disturbance and Population Depletion (Indonesia)

The delegation of Indonesia informed the Committee of the implementation of the project which has resulted in updating data and information on the vulnerability status of selected threatened forest tree species in South Sumatra and East Kalimantan Provinces as well as the establishment of genetic conservation gardens to enhance selected threatened forest tree species including ironwood, ebony and cempaka.

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and Final Financial Audit Report. The Committee decided to declare the project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

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

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the project Completion Report, the V Latin American Forestry Congress Proceedings, published on both paper and digitally, and the Final Financial Report. The proceedings have been posted on the ITTO website for widespread dissemination, and can be further downloaded from there or requested directly from the Executing Agency or the ITTO Secretariat upon written request. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project as completed.

Last but not least, the Committee took note that some completed projects had been submitting their documented project results and outputs in electronic format and that these were also being uploaded onto the ITTO for widespread dissemination and potential replication in other regions of the world. The Secretariat further requested that the recently completed projects that had not submitted their documents in electronic format to the ITTO do so, if possible, and that all projects to be completed in the future submit their results and outputs in such a format, with a view towards strengthening ITTO's knowledge management system being put into place. The EU delegate further supported this initiative, and stressed that this was a very cost-effective approach to disseminate knowledge on tropical forests worldwide.

7.2 Completed Pre-projects

1) PPD 136/07 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Conservation, Land Management and Sustainable Mountain Biodiversity Management in the Centre North Region of Togo (Togo)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Pre-project Completion Report, Final technical Report, and an acceptable Final Financial Audit Report. The Secretariat informed the Committee that the pre-project has also prepared a project proposal submitted to the ITTO Project Cycle. The Committee decided to declare the pre-project as fully completed in accordance with the ITTO rules and procedures.

2) PPD 143/09 (F) Assessment of Mangrove Forest Affected by Cyclone Nargis to Facilitate the Development of an Integrated Mangrove Ecosystem Management on in Ayeyarwady Delta, Myanmar.

The Secretariat informed the Committee of the implementation of the pre-project involving the assessment of mangrove ecosystems restoration policies, programmes, and activities in the county in order to formulate a full project proposal to rehabilitate Nargis affected mangrove forests in Ayeyarwady Delta. The Committee noted that a project proposal entitled "Developing Monitoring System of Mangrove Ecosystem Management with Livelihood Improvement in Ayeyarwady Delta, Myanmar" was formulated and submitted to the ITTO Thematic Programme on REDDES.

The Committee noted that the completion and Final Financial Audit reports of the pre-project had been submitted to the Secretariat. The Committee decided to declare the pre-project as fully completed in accordance with the rules of ITTO.

3) PPD 147/10 Rev.1 (F) Zoning and Sustainable Development of the Minkebe Protected Area Towards the Protection of Transboundary Conservation Corridors between Gabon, Cameroon and the Congo

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Pre-project Completion Report, Final technical Report, and an acceptable Final Financial Audit Report. The Secretariat informed the Committee that the pre-project has also submitted a series of Consultant Reports which contributed to prepare a project proposal submitted to the ITTO Project Cycle. The Committee decided to declare the pre-project as fully completed in accordance with the ITTO rules and procedures.

Item 8 - Ex-post Evaluation

(A) Ex-post Evaluation Reports

The Committee may recall that the following projects by thematic groups were selected for ex-post evaluation by the Committee at its Forty-fifth Session:

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)

The Committee took note of the presentation of the synthesis of the evaluations contained in CRF(XLVI)/4, for the projects PD 310/04 Rev.2 (F) and PD 105/01 Rev.3 (F), by the Team Leader of the evaluation team, Mr. Denis Keedi Atok. The synthesis was prepared with the information and data analyzed in two full reports prepared by the Team Leader and Ms. Monica Borner. The Delegations of Ghana and Republic of Congo commended the evaluation team for the focused assessment provided in the report.

The Delegation of Switzerland wanted to know why these two projects were ex-post evaluated together, although they are in two different thematic groups. It was explained that it was due to the need for cost savings. It was also questioned if the partnership gathering the government, private sector and civil society was implemented within the framework of the Congolese project. The consultant explained that the partnership was operating smoothly and was being considered as a model for other forest concessions in the Republic of Congo.

The Committees were informed that technical reports, scientific articles and posters were produced by the project PD 105/01 Rev.3 (F), for the dissemination of project findings and results. The Committees commended the consultant for the ex-post evaluation reports of both projects and presentation of the synthesis. The Delegation of the Republic of Congo and Ghana also commended the evaluation team for the interesting recommendations and lessons.

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)

The Committees took note of the presentation of the synthesis of ex-post evaluations of PD 324/04 Rev.3 (F) in PNG, and PD 271/04 Rev.3 (F) and PD 394/06 Rev.1 (F) in Indonesia as contained in Document CRF(XLVI)/5 by the leader of the evaluation team, Mr Don Gilmour, during a joint session of the Committees. In his presentation, he indicated that each of the three projects had a very different focus - sustainable forest management and forest conservation (PNG), improving private forestry (Indonesia-Ciamis) and rehabilitating degraded private forest land (Indonesia-Lake Toba) but all three projects reported that many of the issues associated with achieving project objectives were constrained, not by technical issues, but by social and institutional issues. All three projects were reasonably successful in terms of achieving their Specific Objectives and contributing to their Development Objectives. However, there were several issues which constrained their ability to be more successful, in particular: (i) how some of the social aspects were conceptualized and translated into project activities, and (ii) the extent to which “models” were developed to extend the impact of findings beyond the immediate project area.

Some of the generic lessons learned from an analysis of all three projects included:

- Considerable time is needed to build the capacity of key stakeholders to use participatory approaches.
- There is a big difference between encouraging farmers to “participate” in a government programme, such as rehabilitating degraded forests, and facilitating their “participation” in their own development agenda--successful outcomes depend on bringing these two agendas together.

- Projects that place social processes at the heart of their design should allocate appropriate resources, including expertise and budget, to address those processes, and not marginalise them.
- Short duration, one-off projects cannot expect to achieve significant levels of participation leading to effective empowerment of key stakeholders unless they are part of a much longer running initiative.
- Empowerment is a social process that needs careful nurturing and support
- Action learning approaches are useful where there is a high degree of social and institutional uncertainty in the operational context.
- Projects that have an expectation to develop a “model” to apply outside the project area should devote resources to developing and testing such a “model”.

Following the presentation, the delegation of Indonesia expressed its gratitude to the government of Japan for financing the two Indonesian projects and provided information on community forest management systems in Java where private forests have played a key role in timber supply. He further encouraged more actions to promote community forest management in Ciamis, Java. The delegation of PNG also expressed its gratitude to the government of Japan for financing. She said that the success of the project in PNG has been resulted from the active engagement of The Nature Conservancy to enhance the participation of local communities in the project site. She also pointed out that the PNG Forestry Authority has been committed to replicate the outcomes of the project in other parts of the country and looked forward to a second phase project. On the lessons of the ex-post evaluations, the delegation of Japan considered them useful to project formulators and recommended posting the ex-post evaluation reports on the ITTO website.

The Committees commended the consultant for his report and presentation.

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)

There is a need to refer to the project PD 310/04 Rev.2 (F), as both projects were evaluated together by the consultants Mr. Denis Keedi Atok and Ms. Monica Borner.

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)

The Committees took note of the presentation of the synthesis of the ex-post evaluation as contained in document CRF(XLVI)/6 by the Team Leader of the evaluation team, Dr. Don Dayapala Wijewardana during the Joint Session of the Committees. The synthesis was prepared with the information and data analyzed in two full reports prepared by the Team Leader and Mr. Roger FOTEU.

He highlighted the lessons learned and recommendations for similar projects in the future and the improvements of project management. He reminded the importance of Criteria and Indicators (C&I) which are at the heart of all ITTO work since this is the key internationally recognized tool for achieving and monitoring SFM. He informed the Committee that all outputs were achieved by both projects.

However; he also informed the Committee that the main project outcomes were not internalized in the forest policy of India and Republic of Congo, due to bureaucratic process in both countries. The Committees commended the consultant for the ex-post evaluation reports and presentation of the synthesis. The Delegation of the Republic of Congo also commended the evaluation team for the interesting recommendations and lessons.

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 Committees took note of the presentation of the ex-post evaluation of PD 359/05 Rev.1 (F) as contained in Document CRF(XLVI)/7 by the consultant, Dr Kwame Asumadu, during a joint session of the Committees. He highlighted the lessons learned from the ex-post evaluation. These include:

- There is need for on-going capacity building activities, to ensure sustainability, given the complexity and ever changing nature of the rules and requirements for AR-CDM projects.
- For future workshops, better screening of participants is necessary to ensure that individuals with some background in AR-CDM activities are selected to attend.
- Future workshops should use real projects already under implementation as case studies, to better assist participants in understanding and grasping the critical issues and challenges involved in developing and implementing AR-CDM projects.
- More field visits and practical demonstrations would have assisted the participants better in understanding the concepts.
- More scientists who are dealing with AR-CDM related issues should attend such workshops.
- Future training workshops should include participants from the private sector.

On the sustainability of capacity building, particularly in an area such as AR-CDM where the rules and approval requirements are many, complex and continually changing, he noted the importance of enhancing on-going commitment. For similar future projects, he noted that it is important for participating countries to be aware that ITTO's contribution can only be a starting point, and that it would require on-going investment in training to ensure the continued availability and maintenance of the capacity so as the realize benefits fully.

The Committees commended the consultant for his report and presentation.

The results of ex-post evaluation of the projects under the Thematic Group of Mangroves and those of two remaining projects under the Thematic Group of Environmental Services (CDM, REDD, Carbon Credits, etc) will be reported at the 47th CRF Session in 2013.

B) Selection of Projects for Ex-post Evaluation

The Committee further requested the Secretariat to finalize the necessary arrangements for the conduct of the aforementioned ex-post evaluations still pending before the Committee Session in November 2013, and also prepare an updated "Shortlist of Completed Projects Relevant for Ex-post Evaluation in the Field of Reforestation and Forest Management" for the November 2013 Session, which should include all completed projects since 2010 not previously selected for ex-post evaluation.

Item 9 - Policy Work

The Committee considered the following policy-related matters which are included in the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 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 [Documents CRF(XLVI)/8a & CRF(XLVI)/8b]

The Committee was briefed by the Secretariat that the revision of the ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests had been prepared by two consultants, Dr. Juergen Blaser (Switzerland) and Dr. Cesar Sabogal (Peru) with inputs from two experts meetings in Thun, Switzerland in June 2010 and in Antimary, Brazil in August 2011. The revised draft was presented by Dr. James K. Gasana to the CRF at its 45th session in November 2011. The Committee at the 45th session considered that more time was needed to allow ITTO Members to provide comments. Subsequently, the ITTO Secretariat requested Member Countries to provide comments on the draft. After receiving the comments, the ITTO Secretariat established a validation process for the draft Guidelines by engaging a consultant to prepare a new working draft integrating the comments received from Members, and organizing three regional validation workshops in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The consultant (Dr James Gasana) presented the outcomes of three regional validation workshops held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in July 2012, in Libreville, Gabon in July 2012 and in Punta Sal, Peru in August 2012 as well as the draft revised ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests. Clarifying the key concepts of principles, and a link between Principles and C&I, he pointed out that the purpose of the proposed Guidelines is voluntary; they are not intended to be mandatory and may not be applicable to every forest management situation; and they are intended to facilitate the continued systematic development of SFM and help assure a high level of application of good practices.

In addition, he reported on the main comments of ITTO Members on the draft presented at the Committee at the 45th session in November 2011, highlighting that the Principles should be described by their rationale, guidelines and recommended actions without any preamble statement for each guideline; and the Guidelines should avoid unnecessary prescriptions and repetitions. He also pointed out two contrasting positions on the inclusion of climate change and REDD+ within the guidelines: one member favored its inclusion in the main part of the Guidelines while another member felt that issues related to carbon management, climate change and REDD+ has been over-emphasized in the Guidelines.

He further provided an overview on the draft revised ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests containing 16 Principles. These include: 1. Forest Policy, Governance, Laws and Institutional Arrangements; 2. Security of tenure, access and use rights; 3. Land-use planning and permanent forest estate; 4. Forest resilience; 5. Identification, prevention and management of threats to forest and ecosystem health; 6. Forest carbon management; 7. Climate change adaptation related to tropical forests; 8. Multi-purpose forest management; 9. Biodiversity conservation at FMU level; 10. Social values of forests and inclusive decision-making; 11. Community involvement in SFM; 12. Productive and safe working conditions in forestry at the FMU level; 13. Economic viability; 14. Forest management planning at national/regional level; 15. Forest management planning at FMU level; and 16. Adaptive management.

In discussions, the delegation of Malaysia noted the need to further revise the proposed Principles and Guidelines to make them more user-friendly in view of the very limited implementation of the existing guidelines as indicated in the ITTO report on status of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) released last year. He noted that the implementation of SFM requires strong institutions and resources, both human and financial, which are very limited in many producer countries. He further noted that the proposed Guidelines are so stringent and complicated, that are beyond the requirements of certification for sustainability and legality verification. The proposed Guidelines have 16 Principles instead of the existing 10 including 2 Principles dealing with climate change and carbon stocks. These two new Principles are so complicated as to need a research project to comply with. He further stressed the need for simplifying the proposed 16 Principles and Guidelines by realizing an enormous task in implementing SFM in the tropics. He also requested information on the existence of SFM guidelines in Consumer Member Countries. The consultant replied that in the UK, there is Forestry Standard for SFM supported by a series of specific guidelines including forests and climate change.

The delegation of EU recognized the efforts made to the draft revised Guidelines and noted the usefulness of field testing in developing guidelines. On the implementation of the Guidelines which would require substantial financial resources by the timber industry sector, the delegation of Indonesia, supported by the delegation of Malaysia, suggested conducting a cost analysis of the implementation of the Guidelines. Delegates from Guatemala, and PNG stressed the importance of having SFM guidelines as a good reference to forest policy development in their countries. The delegation of PNG, supported by the delegation of Fiji, proposed adopting the Guidelines even though there are some concerns over their implementation. A cost-benefit analysis of implementing the Guidelines would not be advisable as cost structures and factors are so diverse to each country in the tropics. The delegation of USA appreciated the views expressed by delegates and the substantial efforts made in connection with the revision of the Guidelines. Recalling the voluntary nature of the Guidelines and their use as a reference document, she looked forward to the implementation of the Guidelines based on each country's circumstances. The delegation of Malaysia further pointed out the need for more time to consult with main stakeholders in the country, including Sabah and Sarawak states, as well as the difficulty of implementing the recommended action 7.1.3 (Assess the current and likely future impacts of climate change on forest characteristics, productivity and ecosystem services).

Delegates discussed the feasibility of further revising the Guidelines before adopting by the Council at the current session. However, delegates considered that due to the heavy workload in revising such an important policy document, it would be necessary to have additional time to prepare a new draft to submit to the next session of the ITTC.

Acknowledging the importance of implementing the proposed Principles and Guidelines taking into account each country's capacity and resources, the delegation of Japan suggested an alternative approach in the further revision process by differentiating the Principles and Guidelines into two components: core and optional components. Core components would consist of essentially recommended guidelines that have the most direct bearing on the sustainable management of natural tropical forests in the tropics. Optional components would include further recommended guidelines that encourage additional actions to advance the implementation of the sustainable management of natural tropical forests in the tropics.

In light of the foregoing suggestion by the delegation of Japan, the Committee discussed several options, including the organization of an expert group meeting, to further revise the draft revised ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests. Recognizing that the draft revised Principles and Guidelines have been prepared through three regional validation workshops in 2012, the Committee considered that the engagement of two consultants would be more effective. In preparing a final draft of ITTO Principles and Guidelines, the Committee recommended the following:

- The draft revised Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests [Document CRF(XLVI)/8a] should be made available online from 1 December 2012 to 30 June 2013;
- Members are invited to provide comments indicating also which guidelines to be presented as optional in the final draft by 30 June 2013;
- Two consultants (one from a producer member country and the other from a consumer member country) be engaged to prepare the final draft of ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests, taking into account members' comments as well as the need to present the Guidelines within two components, namely core and optional components and to simplify the guidelines to ensure their practical implementation; and
- The consultants shall complete the final draft of ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests by 1 August 2013.

The Secretariat informed the Committee that the two consultants would be engaged in a cost-effective way. In supporting the preparation of the final draft of ITTO Principles and Guidelines a sub-activity under Activity 34 "Promote the publication, dissemination and application of the revised ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests" shall be included in the draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme (BWP) for 2013-2014.

Thereafter, the Secretariat shall present the final draft of ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests for the consideration of the ITTC at its 49th session.

In addition, the delegation of Malaysia recommended that the Secretariat compile relevant information on the implementation of SFM guidelines in selected consumer countries such as the UK Forestry Standard for SFM in connection with the preparation of the final draft of ITTO Principles and Guidelines. On capacity

building for climate change mitigation and adaptation, the delegation of USA pointed out that there are many on-going initiatives including USAID Program on carbon and UN-REDD Readiness programme. In this regard, the delegation of Malaysia recommended that a list of possible sources of funding should be prepared by the Secretariat.

(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 Committee took note that, under Council Decision 6/(XXXIII), support had been provided for the co-sponsorship of the 3rd International Wildland Fire Conference and Summit in Australia in October 2003, and for the participation of 14 ITTO Producer Member Country representatives to the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference in South Africa in 9-13 May 2011. At this last conference, all ITTO sponsored participants also provided presentations on the achievements in forest fire management and prevention through ITTO projects in their respective countries, either 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.
- It also observed that, with the implementation of these two aforementioned activities, all funds related to Council Decision 6/(XXXIII) "PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF FOREST FIRE" had been exhausted and therefore any new fire-related activities would have to be provided via a new source of funding.
- The Secretariat also informed that in June 2012, one year after the 5th and three years before the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference, members and associates of the Global Wildland Fire Network, represented by the UNISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group (WFAG), members of the International Fire Aviation Working Group (IFAWG), the International Liaison Committee (ILC) and representatives of the host country South Korea of the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference (2015) met at the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) in Freiburg, Germany to discuss the roadmap 2012-2015.
- The Committee also took into account that Global Wildland Advisory Group and the related Global Wildland Fire Network had reiterated their wish that ITTO continue to provide support and further collaborate both technically and financially in its endeavors.
- 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 more proactive role in the aforementioned forest fire-related networks and on the international forest fire scenario and, as such, is currently submitting a new activity related to forest fires, including updating its forest fire guidelines with a view towards incorporating elements related to REDD, climate change mitigation and poverty alleviation, within the current ITTO Biennial Work Programme for the consideration of potential donors.
- Moreover, several delegations, such as USA, Malaysia, Honduras and Ecuador stressed that priority should be given to the continuation of these forest fire-related activities, and some members expressed a need to update the current ITTO forest fire guidelines.

(iii) Strengthening cooperation and collaboration between ITTO and ACTO countries on C&I and related topics, including the outcomes of a regional workshop to harmonize ITTO C&I and the Tarapoto Process

- The Committee took note that, under activity PPA-34-131B, support has been provided to ACTO to elaborate a Harmonized ITTO-ACTO C&I for SFM. In this light, Government Representatives from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname participated in the Regional Meeting to discuss the proposal on Harmonization of Criteria and Indicators of Tarapoto and ITTO held in the city of Paramaribo, Suriname from 8 to 10 May, 2012. Participating also in the meeting was an ITTO official.
- The harmonization process seeks to integrate both sets of C&I in an attempt to generate information that can guide public managers on the effectiveness and efficiency of measures aimed at forest management. At the regional level, the generation of reports is recognized as a useful practice for the dialogue around sustainable development, to highlight the challenges and opportunities for management under a regional vision and to identify areas of cooperation which should be strengthened.
- The National Delegates that participated in this workshop, making use of internal consultations where these are deemed necessary, reviewed the proposal for the Harmonization of ACTO/ITTO

C&I submitted by the consultant and further sent their comments to the PS ACTO in June 2012. The product of this review also included a table identifying the availability of information for the proposed indicators.

- The PS ACTO then combined the comments received and completed the document entitled "Proposal for a Regional Strategy for the Harmonization of the Tarapoto and ITTO C&I for Sustainable Forest Management" and resent it to the National Delegates that participated in this workshop for final adjustments.
- The final comments of the National Delegates were received by PS ACTO in July 2012, and in August 2012 PS ACTO finalized the first version of the document of ACTO/ITTO harmonized C&I for its distribution to the National Delegates and dissemination.
- A First Virtual Planning Meeting to consolidate the first draft report of the implementation of ACTO/ITTO harmonized C&I was held in September 2012.
- Mr. Antonio Matamoros from the Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) informed the Committee on the following last steps to successfully achieve the outputs of this activity, including the publication of the ACTO/ITTO harmonized C&I in April 2013, and the elaboration of national reports by October 2013 based on the ACTO/ITTO harmonized C&I. He also mentioned the possibility of submitting to the ITTO a project proposal for the implementation of the strategy of application of the harmonized C&I at the Amazonian level.
- The completion of this activity shall be reported to the 47th Session of the CRF.

(iv) Review of draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2013 to 2014, as contained in Document ITTC(XLVIII)/8, especially the section pertaining to the activities of the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management within the framework of the draft ITTO Action Plan 2013-2018

The Committee was briefed by the Secretariat regarding one draft activity under the Joint Committee and six draft activities which comprise the CRF Biennial Work Programme for 2013 to 2014, as contained in Document ITTC(XLVIII)/8, the draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2013 to 2014, as follows:

- Disseminate and share information on the outputs, outcomes, impacts and lessons learned from ITTO's project work and its contribution to sustainable forest management (Joint Committee)
- Facilitate the application of the ITTO/IUCN Guidelines for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Production Forests.
- Promote the understanding of the contribution of environmental services to the sustainable management of tropical forests.
- 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.
- 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.
- Contribute appropriately to national and international efforts in the area of prevention and management of fire in relation to tropical timber-producing forests.
- Promote the publication, dissemination and application of the revised ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests.

Many delegations highlighted the importance of these activities and the Committee further recommended the aforementioned CRF activities under the BWP 2013-2014 to the Council for their immediate implementation.

**(v) Study on Criteria and Indicator Processes
[Document JC(XLVI)/2]**

- The consultant presented the key findings and recommendations of the report as contained in document JC(XLVI)/2. Recommendations called on ITTO to retain its leadership on C&I, to organize national and sub-regional workshops on C&I, to review/update the C&I, and to convene a joint meeting of C&I processes and other stakeholders. She noted that several activities in the current Biennial Work Program addressed the report's recommendations and appealed for donor support to allow these activities to be implemented.
- The representative of Malaysia noted the linkage between C&I and certification, pointing out that with the implementation of the new EU timber regulations in 2013 as well as the US Lacey Act, certification was rapidly becoming a requirement to maintain access to these markets rather than a voluntary mechanism.

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

10.1 Projects

The Committee took note of a status report [document CRF(XLVI)/3] by the Secretariat on the 75 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 (49), B) awaiting the signing of an Agreement (1), C) projects awaiting financing (20), or D) falling under the sunset provision since the last Session (5).

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 reminded that this project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in the document CRF(XXXVIII)/3, but the Final Financial Audit Report has been pending since February 2006. The Committee was also reminded that this project was ex-post evaluated and documented as such in CRF(XLIII) in November 2009. During the 45th CRF Session, 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. This situation was assessed and confirmed during the special monitoring mission carried out in Brazzaville by the former Financial Officer, Mr. Mahboob Hasan, in February 2012. Therefore, it has been impossible to carry out the final financial auditing of this completed project. The Committee was informed that the Government of Congo requested for a special favor, from the Committee, in order to consider this project, as fully completed, because of these extenuating circumstances. As recommended by the 45th CRF Session which asked the Secretariat and the Executing Agency to find an appropriate way to address this issue and subsequently to the abovementioned elements, the Committee decided to consider as fully completed the project PD 2/93 Rev.1 (F).

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 the project's activities had not been reinitiated in this past year and that the 2010 annual financial audit report was still pending. Moreover, the project was slated to have been completed in December 2010. In this light, the Committee recommends the ITTO Regional Officer assist the Executing Agency in regularizing the project's administrative situation before the Secretariat and also closely monitor the project with a view to seeing it get back on track. Moreover, it also urges the Executing Agency

to immediately apply for an extension, without additional funds, and further submit a formal request with a justification to the Secretariat for the aforementioned extension in time, together with any required budget amendments and an updated detailed Work Plan and Yearly Plan of Operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities.

3) 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 took note that the project's activities had not been reinitiated in this past year and that the 2010 and 2011 annual financial audit reports were still pending. Moreover, the project was slated to have been completed in March 2012. In this light, the Committee suggests the ITTO Regional Officer assist the Executing Agency in regularizing the project's administrative situation before the ITTO Secretariat and also closely monitor the project with a view to seeing it get back on track. Moreover, it also urges the Executing Agency to immediately apply for an extension, without additional funds, and further submit a formal request with a justification to the Secretariat for the aforementioned extension in time, together with any required budget amendments and an updated detailed Work Plan and Yearly Plan of Operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities.

The Brazilian delegation assured the Committee that its government was closely monitoring the situation of this project, with a view towards successfully completing its activities.

4) 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 ITTO Secretariat has received the project completion report and final financial audit report, in October 2012, too late for the 46th CRF Session. Therefore, this project is expected to be documented and reported as completed during the 47th CRF Session, in November 2013. The Committee took note of the information and asked the Secretariat to report on this project in accordance with the ITTO rules and procedures.

5) **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 reminded that this project was considered as completed at a previous CRF session as reported in the documented 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 Financial Audit Report by the end of March 2013.

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

The Committee was reminded 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 Financial Audit Report by the end of March 2013.

7) 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 ITTO Secretariat has received the project completion report and final financial audit report, in October 2012, too late for the 46th CRF Session. Therefore, this project is expected to be documented and reported as completed during the 47th CRF Session, in November 2013. The Committee took note of the information and asked the Secretariat to report on this project in accordance with the ITTO rules and procedures.

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

The Committee was informed that while all project funds had been depleted and the final audit submitted to the Secretariat, the project continued not being able to satisfactorily conclude the formulation of the management plans of three national forests (FLONA) in Brazil (Altamira, Caxiuana and Itaituba), and obtain the official approval of these, which constitutes the core output of the project. This is mainly due to the extreme dynamism with which the current Brazilian forestry policy is being developed, and in particular the pending forest code, which is being debate in its Congress. As such, it noted that the completion of the pending activity was beyond the control of the Executing Agency and more in the hands of the Brazilian Congress, and therefore urges the Executing Agency to submit at its earliest convenience the project completion report indicating the achievements and lessons learnt to date, in order to consider this project as completed at its next session.

The Brazilian delegation assured the Committee that its government was closely monitoring the situation of this project, and confirmed that at least one FLONA would come under the regime of forest concessions prior to project completion.

9) *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 reminded that the project completion report was submitted in January 2010, but the project Final Financial Audit Report has been pending since February 2010. 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 Financial Audit Report by the end of March 2013.

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

The Committee took note that all project activities had been completed by December 2011. Moreover, it further noted that the delay in submitting the project completion report, technical reports and other documents, and the final financial audit report, which were due in December 2011 and March 2012, resided in the fact that the project coordinator left the project in March 2012 without finalizing the aforementioned documents. However, the CRF also observed that the EA was now finalizing the aforementioned documents and would submit them to the Secretariat shortly. In this light, the Committee urged the Executing Agency to submit the Completion Report, the several technical reports and other outputs and means of verification produced by the project, and the Final Audited Report, all following the respective ITTO formats, as soon as possible with a view towards reporting this project as completed at the next Committee Session.

11) 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 the Executing Agency continued to be late in submitting its progress reports and other documentation, and when submitted these were incomplete and did not follow ITTO formats. In this light, the Committee urged the Executing Agency to strictly abide to ITTO's procedures and scheduling in the future.

The Brazilian delegation assured the Committee that its government was closely monitoring the situation of this project, with a view towards the EA complying in full with ITTO procedures from now onwards.

12) 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 while most of the project's activities have been progressing satisfactorily, some have suffered delays, particularly due to the difficulties encountered in cloning of *Cedrela odorata* genotypes and in finding partner reforestation enterprises who will volunteer the establishment of control plots, as the pests tend to wander into their treated plantations. In this light, the Executing Agency submitted a formal request and a justification for a third extension in time until July 2013 without additional

funds, together with the required budget amendments and an updated Yearly Plan of operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified and further approved the requested extension in time.

13) 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 took note that, whilst most of the project's activities were progressing satisfactorily, some had suffered delays due mainly to the participatory process required by the project to develop localized C&I. As such, the Executing Agency has applied for an additional extension in time until September 2013 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project, and further submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, including budgetary modifications. Moreover, the Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents and considered these to be justified. In this light, the Committee endorsed the extension of the project until the end of September 2013, without additional funds, as per the written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency.

14) PD 360/05 Rev.2 (F) Multispectral Three-Dimensional Aerial Digital Imagery for Monitoring Forest Management and Conservation in the Republic of Congo (Republic of Congo)

The Committee was informed that a special monitoring mission was conducted in February 2012 by the former Financial Officer, Mr. Mahboob Hasan, in order to assess the difficulties the project was facing which could be summarized as follows:

- The satellite image-related mapping of Congolese forests could not be achieved as the satellite Landsat TM7 stopped being operational at the beginning of this project. Therefore, it was no longer possible to carry out the regular comparison of satellite image-related maps which allow detecting anomalies (illegal logging, deforestation, etc.) in view of complementary actions regarding sustainable forest management in the Republic of Congo;
- Subsequently to the fact that the satellite images from Landsat TM7 were no longer available, the project was able to achieve only the first output through the implementation of its activities, while other five outputs were stagnating and could not make any progress;
- Two Congolese experts (Gaspard Lembe and Guy Fortune Massendza), who had been trained in USA by the Executing Agency (Winrock International) left the Collaborating Agency (CNIAF), while their trainer (Alfredo Unda) also left the Executing Agency, after one year of project implementation. Therefore, it was impossible for the project implementation to move forward;
- It was also noticed that the two computers purchased in 2007, for the analysis and storage of satellite images, became obsolete while the printer was no longer operational; and
- The Executing Agency disbursed US\$15,000.00 in favor of WCS-Congo upon the signature of a memorandum of understanding between both institutions, for the implementation of activities related to Output 3. WCS-Congo did not implement those activities because of the abovementioned problem of Landsat TM7 images which were no longer produced and provided to users.

The Committee was also informed that this highly promising ITTO Project with technological components, for the development of systems to support the forestry legislation monitoring for the strengthening of SFM in the Republic of Congo, failed to deliver expected outcomes due to mainly the abovementioned reasons.

In this light and in accordance with the provisions of Article X (Termination) of the agreement governing the implementation of this project, the Committee decided to recommend this project to the Council for its termination in conformity with rules and procedures applying to ITTO projects. The Committee asked the ITTO Secretariat to request for the reimbursement of US\$15,000 from WCS-Congo.

15) 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 the project completion report was submitted in December 2010, but the Final Financial Audit Report has not been submitted by the Executing Agency yet. The Secretariat asked the Executing Agency to submit the Final Financial Audit Report, at its earliest convenience, on order to get this project reported and documented during the next CRF Session. 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 2013.

16) 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 took note that while most of the project's activities have been progressing satisfactorily, some have suffered delays, particularly due to the erratic climatic conditions in the project's area of influence. As such, the Executing Agency applied for an additional extension in time until February 2013 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project and has submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, together with the required budget amendments and an updated Yearly Plan of operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities. Moreover, the Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents and considered these to be justified. In this light, the Committee endorsed the extension of the project until the end of February 2013, without additional funds, as per the written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency.

17) 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, while the project has already completed almost all of its activities, the Executing Agency continued to be late in submitting its progress reports, technical documents, and other documented means of verification, and when submitted these were incomplete and did not follow ITTO formats. In this light, the Committee urged the Executing Agency to strictly abide to ITTO's procedures and scheduling, and submit all the pending documents, such as the project completion report, technical documents, other documented means of verification, and the final audited report in time to report this project as completed at its next session.

As such, the Executing Agency further submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding document and considered it to be justified. In this light, the Committee endorsed the extension of the project until the end of December 2012, without additional funds, as per the written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency.

18) PD 482/07 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Forest Production and Conservation with Community Participation in the Chepigana Forest Reserve of Darien, Panama (Panama)

The Committee took note that project implementation was currently slower than initially projected as some activities had suffered delays, particularly those related to the development of the short and long-term forest management plans and the approval of these by the competent authorities. As such, the Executing Agency applied for an additional extension in time until December 2012 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project, and further submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, including budget modifications. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified and extended a no-objection in this regard. Moreover, the Committee noted that the project has completed almost all its field activities and will further submit the completion report and other relevant technical documents to the Secretariat shortly, in order to report this project as completed at its next session.

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

The Committee took note that the Secretariat is currently awaiting the submission by the Executing Agency of the project's inception report jointly with its first Yearly Plan of Operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, in order to release the first installment of funds.

(B) Projects awaiting implementation agreement

1) PD 617/11 Rev.2 (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)

The Committee took note of the presentation of a project extension proposal by the delegation of Indonesia as contained in Document CRF(XLVI)/9. In her presentation, she highlighted that the scope and duration of the project has been expanded to enhance transboundary biodiversity cooperation between Kalimantan, Indonesia and State of Sarawak, Malaysia in order to receive support from the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity. Recognizing the importance of enhancing transboundary cooperation in the Heart of Borneo, the Committee decided to approve the revised proposal [PD 617/11 Rev.3 (F)] and recommended its immediate implementation.

(C) Projects awaiting financing

The Committee noted that twenty (20) projects approved at earlier and current Sessions are still awaiting funding, out of which seven (7) will be sunset* if funding is not secured before the next Session.

- 1) PD 452/07 Rev.4 (F)* Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II (Brazil)
- 2) PD 460/07 Rev.2 (F) Achieving Sustainable Management of Mangrove Forests in China through Local Capacity Building and Community Development – Phase II (China)
- 3) 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)
- 4) PD 541/09 Rev.2 (F)* Forest Promotion and Development by Native Communities in Peru
- 5) PD 544/09 Rev.2 (F)* Increased Economic Returns from Forest Management in Permanent Production Forests of Peru
- 6) 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
- 7) PD 563/09 Rev.3 (F) Community Based Forest Management of Sungai Medihit Watershed (Malaysia)
- 8) PD 581/10 Rev.1 (F)* Establishing a Geographic Information System for the Sustainable Management of the Forest Areas of Togo
- 9) PD 601/11 Rev.3 (F) Strengthening Mangrove Ecosystem Conservation in the Biosphere Reserve of Northwestern Peru
- 10) PD 602/11 Rev.3 (F) Tropical Forest Governance in the Region of Darien, Panama
- 11) PD 605/11 Rev.3 (F) Demonstration and Extension of Fire-break Forest Belts for Efficient Forest Fire Management in Tropical Forests in Guangdong Province, China (China)
- 12) PD 609/11 Rev.3 (F) Enhancement of the Participatory Bushfire Prevention and Management System in Togo
- 13) PD 618/11 Rev.3 (F) Establishment of Spatial Forest Resources Information System (SPA-FRIS) in West Papua Province, Indonesia
- 14) PD 623/11 Rev.3 (F) Production and Availability of Teak Clone Varieties: Development of Improved Plant Material for Reforestation in Togo

- 15) PD 628/11 Rev.3 (F) Strengthening of Forest Management Practices of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples in Guatemala
- 16) PD 629/11 Rev.2 (F) Protection, Management and Restoration of Forest Lands for Water Catchment and Flow Regulation as a Climate Change Adaptation Measure (Guatemala)
- 17) PD 635/12 Rev.2 (F)* Development of Guidelines for Buffer Zone Management for Pulong Tau National Park and Involvement of Local Communities in Management, Sarawak, Malaysia
- 18) PD 653/12 Rev.1 (F) Sustainable, Mixed and Pure Forest Plantation Development in the Transitional Zone of Ghana's Biakoye District Assembly, Employing Poverty Reduction Strategies (Ghana)
- 19) PD 668/12 Rev.1 (F) Integrated Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity in the Tacaná Volcano and Its Range of Influence in Mexico and Guatemala
- 20) PD 673/12 Rev.1 (F) Strengthening the Capacity in Forest Law Enforcement and Governance of the Permanent Forest Estates in Kratie and Monduliri Provinces of Cambodia

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

The Committee noted that five (5) projects has become sunset since its last Session.

- 1) 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
- 2) 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)
- 3) PD 476/07 Rev.3 (F) Clonal Test of Superior Progeny of *Shorea Leprosula* for Enrichment Planting Program (Indonesia)
- 4) 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)
- 5) PD 568/09 Rev.1 (F) Developing Community-Based Sustainable Mangrove Management System for the Amanzuri and Ama Emissa River Estuaries in Ghana

10.2 Pre-project Work in Progress

The Committee took note of a status report of approved pre-projects in document CRF(XLVI)/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 reminded 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 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 Financial Audit Report by the end of March 2013.

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

The Committee was reminded that this pre-project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in the document CRF(XLIII)/2, but the pre-project Final Financial Audit Report was due 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 Financial Audit Report by the end of March 2013.

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

The Committee was reminded that this pre-project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in the document CRF(XLIII)/2, but its Final Financial Audit Report was due 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 Financial Audit Report by end of March 2013.

4) 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)

The first disbursement of funds was released in October 2012 after receiving an inception report including a detailed yearly plan of operation, no-objection requests for pre-project critical staff, and an official notification the pre-project was ready to start. The initial activities are currently being implemented in the field.

(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 151/11 Rev.3 (F) Support to the Local Communities of the Mono Plain for the Promotion and Sustainable Management of Community Forests in Togo
- 2) PPD 160/12 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of the Mangrove Forests in the Coastal Area of Benin
- 3) PPD 165/12 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of Sacred Forests on RAMSAR Sites 1017 And 1018 In Benin

(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.

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 2013, 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 2013

Ms. Alicia Grimes (USA) was elected as Chairperson for 2013. Mr. Jorge Malleux (Peru) was elected as Vice-Chairperson for 2013.

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

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

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

Item 13 - Other Business

The Committee initiated an exchange of views as regards the Draft Council Decision on the Functions of the Committees and some discussion ensued, however was inconclusive. In this light, delegates settled to continue the aforementioned discussion in the Chairperson's Open-Ended Drafting Group Meeting and/or Council with a view towards achieving a consensus in this respect.

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 2012 and Project Cycle Autumn 2012:

Projects

PD 601/11 Rev.3 (F)	Strengthening Mangrove Ecosystem Conservation in the Biosphere Reserve of Northwestern Peru [US\$496,289.60]
PD 602/11 Rev.3 (F)	Tropical Forest Governance in the Region of Darien, Panama [US\$350,842.00]
PD 605/11 Rev.3 (F)	Demonstration and Extension of Fire-break Forest Belts for Efficient Forest Fire Management in Tropical Forests in Guangdong Province, China [US\$278,020.00]
PD 609/11 Rev.3 (F)	Enhancement of the Participatory Bushfire Prevention and Management System in Togo [US\$658,825.00]
PD 618/11 Rev.3 (F)	Establishment of Spatial Forst Resources Information System (SPA-FRIS) in West Papua Province (Indonesia) [US\$364,878.00]
PD 623/11 Rev.3 (F)	Production and Availability of Teak Clone Varieties: Development of Improved Plant Material for Reforestation in Togo [US\$599,324.13]
PD 628/11 Rev.3 (F)	Strengthening of Forest Management Practices of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples in Guatemala [US\$472,505.00]
PD 629/11 Rev.2 (F)	Protection, Management and Restoration of Forest Lands for Water Catchment and Flow Regulation as a Climate Change Adaptation Measure (Guatemala) [US\$485,136.00]
PD 635/12 Rev.2 (F)	Development of Guidelines for Buffer Zone Management for Pulong Tau National Park and Involvement of Local Communities in Management, Sarawak, Malaysia [US\$ 517,450.00]
PD 653/12 Rev.1 (F)	Sustainable, Mixed and Pure Forest Plantation Development in the Transitional Zone of Ghana's Biakoye District Assembly, Employing Poverty Reduction Strategies (Ghana) [US\$245,272.00]
PD 668/12 Rev.1 (F)	Integrated Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity in the Tacaná Volcano and Its Range of Influence in Mexico and Guatemala [US\$641,638.80]
PD 673/12 Rev.1 (F)	Strengthening the Capacity in Forest Law Enforcement and Governance of the Permanent Forest Estates in Kratie and Mondulkiri Provinces of Cambodia [US\$ 464,033.00]

Pre-projects

PPD 151/11 Rev.3 (F) Support to the Local Communities of the Mono Plain for the Promotion and Sustainable Management of Community Forests in Togo [US\$50,340.00]

PPD 160/12 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of the Mangrove Forests in the Coastal Area of Benin [US\$72,900.00]

PPD 165/12 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of Sacred Forests on RAMSAR Sites 1017 and 1018 In Benin [US\$79,380.00]

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

PD 617/11 Rev.3 (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\$1,283,191.20]

(C) The Committee recommended the termination of the project PD 360/05 Rev.2 (F), as recommended by the Secretariat, in accordance with the rules and procedures applying to ITTO projects.

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

In preparing the final draft of ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests, the Committee recommended that the draft revised ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests [Document CRF(XLVI)/8a] should be made available online from 1 December 2012 to 30 June 2013. The Committee also recommended that members should provide comments, indicating also which guidelines would be presented as optional in the final draft, by 30 June 2013. Thereafter, the Secretariat shall make the final draft of ITTO Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests available for the consideration of the ITTC at its 49th session.

Item 15 - Report of the Session

The Committee accepted this Report for submission to the Council.

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