



FIFTY-THIRD SESSION  
27 November – 2 December 2017  
Lima, Peru

**DECISION 5(LIII)**

**AMENDMENT OF RULES OF PROCEDURE AND  
FINANCIAL RULES AND RULES RELATING TO PROJECTS OF THE ITTO**

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recognizing the commitment of Council in taking corrective actions and preventative measures to renew the confidence of members, donors and the public in the financial management of the Organization;

Also recognizing the decisions taken by Council at its Fifty-second Session to address the financial impairment were informed by existing best practice in international accounting, financial management and auditing standards as well as by a comparative analysis of regulations across a wide range of international organizations;

Recalling the summary report for CFA(XXXI) in which the CFA Chairperson suggested the overall transparency of ITTO documentation could be the subject of discussion at the next meeting of the CFA;

Noting that there should be exemptions to the policy of providing public access to meeting documents in exceptional circumstances, such as restrictions on documents or redaction of text to protect the privacy of individuals and third parties, legal privilege, contractual, proprietary or commercial information, and certain internal governance matters;

Further noting the responsibilities of the Committee on Finance and Administration, documented in Decision 7(LII), to recommend to Council any modifications judged necessary to the Organization's Rules of Procedure, Staff Regulations and Rules or the Financial Rules and Rules Related to Projects;

Decides to:

1. Amend the Rules of Procedure [Document ITTC(XLVIII)/22 Annex1] as follows:
  - a. "...at least three weeks" in Rule 11(5) shall read "at least 30 days".
  - b. "...available to interested parties." in Rule 34 shall read "available publicly on the ITTO website. Restricted documents shall be made available to all members on a members only portal website."
2. Amend the Financial Rules and Rules Relating to Projects of the ITTO [Annex to Document ITTC(LII)/19] as follows:
  - a. Add a new Rule on "Documents" under Chapter IX "Miscellaneous" which shall read "All documents relating to budgets, assessments, financial resource levels, financial statements and audits, shall be published on the ITTO website upon approval by the Council or completion of the Council Session where it is examined."
  - b. "...distribute to members" in Rule 4(5) shall read "publish on the ITTO website".
3. Request the Secretariat to have available on ITTO's public website, CFA financial documents from 2014-2016.