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WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FROM THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER AGREEMENT, 2006

(Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda)

1. The Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs, of the United Nations notified the Secretariat, by Depositary Notification C.N.284.2026.TREATIES-XIX.46 dated 23 July 2026, that on 23 July 2026 the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his capacity as depositary of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006, received from the Government of the United States of America, a notification of withdrawal from the ITTA, 2006.

2. By notice dated 27 July 2026, the Executive Director informed all ITTO Members and Focal Points of the depositary notification and of the withdrawal of the United States of America from the ITTA, 2006, which became effective on 21 October 2026, and drew their attention to Article 41 paragraph 3 of the Agreement concerning the financial obligations of withdrawing members. The notice also provided the link to the full text of the depositary notification on the United Nations Treaty Collection website (https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/CN/2026/CN.284.2026-Eng.pdf).

3. Article 41 paragraph 2 of the ITTA, 2006 states, "Withdrawal shall become effective 90 days after the notice is received by the depositary." The withdrawal of the United States of America therefore took effect on 21 October 2026, and the United States of America ceased to be a "Consuming Member" of the International Tropical Timber Organization on that date. Following this withdrawal, the membership of the Organization stands at 75 Members, comprising 37 Producing Members and 38 Consuming Members.

4. In accordance with Article 10 paragraph 8 of the ITTA, 2006, whenever the membership of the Organization changes, the Council shall redistribute the votes within the affected category of members and decide when such redistribution shall become effective. The 82 consumer votes held by the United States of America for the 2026-2027 biennium are therefore to be redistributed among the remaining Consuming Members. The revised distribution of votes is contained in document ITTC(LXII)/1 Rev.2 Annex.

5. In accordance with Article 41 paragraph 3 of the ITTA, 2006, "financial obligations to the Organization incurred by a member under this Agreement shall not be terminated by its withdrawal." Under Article 19 paragraph 7, contributions to the Administrative Account become due on the first day of each financial year. The United States of America was a Member on 1 January 2026, and its unpaid assessed contribution for 2026 remains due in full. The unpaid assessed contributions of the United States of America to the Administrative Budget for 2025 (US$311,418) and 2026 (US$322,311), totaling US$633,729, remained outstanding as at 21 October 2026.

6. As the United States of America will not be a Member on 1 January 2027, the United States of America will not be contributing any assessed contributions in 2027, hence the amount attributed to it for 2027 in document CFA(XL)/2 Rev.1, US$322,399, will not be due. The Administrative Budget for the 2026-2027 biennium adopted under Decision 2(LXI), and the contributions assessed on the remaining Members on the basis of the distribution of votes approved by the Council at its Sixty-first Session, remain unchanged. Article 19 paragraph 6, of the ITTA, 2006 and Financial Rule 4(2) provide that the assessment made upon other members is not altered when a member joins during a financial biennium; the same principle is deemed to apply to a withdrawal. The resulting reduction of US$322,399, approximately 4.5% of the net assessed contributions of US$7,104,275 for 2027, will be reflected in the execution of the 2027 Administrative Budget and reported to the Committee on Finance and Administration.

7. The Council is invited to take note of the withdrawal of the United States of America from the ITTA, 2006; to adopt, in accordance with Article 10 paragraph 8, the revised distribution of votes referred to in paragraph 4, with effect from 21 October 2026; to acknowledge, in accordance with Article 43 paragraph 1, that the settlement of accounts with the United States of America be as set out in paragraphs 5 and 6; and to acknowledge Council's prerogative to retain any contributions paid to the financial accounts, in accordance with Article 43 paragraph 2.

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