



FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION
5 – 9 November 2018
Yokohama, Japan

**REPORT OF THE PANEL
ON SUB-ACCOUNT B OF THE BALI PARTNERSHIP FUND
AT ITS TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING**

[Item 13 (b) of the Provisional Agenda]

1. The Panel on Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund was established by Decision 4(XXX) for the management of Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund. The mandate of the Panel was expanded by the decision of the Thirty-fifth Session of the Council in November 2003, to oversee the allocation of resources from the “Unearmarked Funds” as well.
2. The Panel was chaired by the Chairperson of the Committee on Finance and Administration, Mr. Luke D. Thompson of U.S.A..
3. In addition to the Chairperson, the Panel was composed of:
 - (a) Representatives from the consumer member states that are main contributors to the BPF:
 - (i) Mr. Rikiya Konishi (Japan);
 - (ii) Ms. Anne Schick (Switzerland); and
 - (iii) Ms. Jennifer Conje (U.S.A.).
 - (b) Representatives from producer member states, from each geographic region:
 - (i) Mr. Bruno E. Arias Rivas (Guatemala) – Latin America and the Caribbean;
 - (ii) Mr. Gordon Kofi Sarfo-Adu (Ghana) – Africa; and
 - (iii) Dr. Ismail Parlan (Malaysia) – Asia-Pacific.
 - (c) The Executive Director:
Dr. Gerhard Dieterle
4. The Panel held its meeting on Wednesday, 7 November 2018 during the Fifty-fourth Session of the Council. Ms. Anne Schick (Switzerland), Ms. Jennifer Conje (U.S.A.), and Mr. Bruno E. Arias Rivas (Guatemala), were absent with apologies.
5. The Panel was informed that, as of 4 November 2018, the total funds available in the Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund and the Unearmarked Fund were US\$134,164.16.
6. The Chairperson brought to the attention of the Panel that, among the Projects, Pre-projects and Activities pending finance at the current Session of the Council, the following Programme and Project may be of interest to the Panel’s consideration:
 - ITTO Fellowship Programme

The total funds required for awarding all Fellowship applications that were appraised by the Fellowship Selection Panel as eligible for funding at this Session, including Programme Support charges, was \$141,585.57. The unallocated balance in the Fellowship Fund prior to the beginning of this Session was \$124,064.07, therefore, there was a shortfall of \$17,521.50. Voluntary contribution of \$1,011.09 was pledged during this Session to decrease the gap. However, the remaining \$16,510.41 was still pending finance.

- PD 815/16 Rev.2 (I) Increasing Efficiency of Acacia Plantation and Timber Processing Industry in Vietnam (Vietnam) [Total ITTO Budget \$116,480.00]

This project was partially funded at the Fifty-third Session of the Council in November 2017, and was operational without receiving full pledge. The Secretariat informed the Panel that, the total budget of this project was relatively small, and a budget cut of the outstanding balance of \$26,480 would seriously impact its achievements. Voluntary contribution of \$6,000.00 was pledged during this Session to decrease the gap. However, the remaining \$20,480.00 was still pending finance.

7. The Panel unanimously agreed to recommend to the Council to allocate \$16,510.41 from the Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund to ensure that all Fellowships approved at this Session will be financed.

8. The representative of Asia-Pacific, followed by Africa and Japan, noted that since Vietnam is a new Member to ITTO and PD 815/16 Rev.2 (I) is the first and only project they received funding for so far, it would be important to provide full financing to this project so that Vietnam will gain confidence in being a Member of the Organization.

9. Having noted this, the Panel, by consensus, agreed to recommend to the Council to allocate \$20,480.00 from the Unearmarked Fund to ensure that PD 815/16 Rev.2 (I) is fully implemented.

10. The Chairperson made his closing remarks that, despite the modest amount proposed to be allocated from the Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund and the Unearmarked Fund, this allocation will send a positive message to its Members and to those who benefit from the work of the Organization.

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