



ITTO

## INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

Distr.  
GENERAL

ITTC(XXXIV)/23  
17 May 2003

Original: ENGLISH

THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION  
12-17 May 2003  
Panama City, Panama

### DECISION 4(XXXIV)

#### CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling Decision 3(XXIV) and 3(XXVI) on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests, which encouraged Member countries to apply the revised ITTO Criteria and Indicators for reporting in relation to the Year 2000 Objective, urged countries to prepare projects to test the revised Criteria and Indicators and requested the Executive Director to review the Manual for the Application of the ITTO Criteria and Indicators and to cooperate with and support regional and international criteria and indicators initiatives worldwide;

Also recalling Decision 9(XXX), which, *inter alia*, requested the Executive Director to arrange, on request by Member countries, national level workshops in ten major producer Member countries to train officials, forest managers, forest concessionaires and others directly involved in sustainable forest management, in the effective use of the ITTO Reporting Formats at both the national and forest management unit levels;

Noting the successful completion of seven national workshops to date and the strong interest by many producer member countries to hold national workshops;

Recalling Decision 5(XXX), which called for ITTO to co-sponsor an international Conference on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management;

Welcoming the report of the International Conference on the Contribution of Criteria and Indicators to Sustainable Forest Management – The Way Forward (CICI 2003), hosted by Guatemala on 3-7 February 2003 and jointly organized by ITTO, FAO, INAB, The United States State Department and Forest Service and the Government of Finland;

Noting the recommendation by the CICI 2003 for ITTO and FAO to convene a joint expert meeting;

Decides to:

1. Request the Executive Director to arrange, on request by Member countries, national level workshops in a further eight producer Member countries to train officials, forest managers, forest concessionaires and others directly involved in sustainable forest management, in the effective use of the ITTO Reporting Formats at both the national and forest management unit levels;
2. Strongly encourage all producer Member countries to submit their first National level report, including the Summary of Highlights, by 31 August 2003, using the ITTO Criteria and Indicators Reporting Format, so as to allow the Status of Tropical Management report called for in Decision 9(XXX) to be compiled in 2004;

3. Authorize the Executive Director to render assistance to producer Member countries to complete their first national level reports, either through the workshops provided for in paragraph 1 and/or by financing appropriate expertise;
4. Authorize the Executive Director to convene jointly with FAO an international expert meeting on criteria and indicators to consider:
  - a) developing a communication network among processes, countries and other relevant partners;
  - b) improving a common understanding of concepts, terms and definitions;
  - c) identifying common approaches to and methods for collecting, storing and sharing data;
  - d) strengthening processes and inter-process cooperation; and
  - e) the merits of forming an ad hoc international technical advisory group to address technical issues related to criteria and indicators.

Request the Secretariat to prepare a document collating outcomes of the workshops and comments from member countries, as well as relevant recommendations of the international expert consultation referred to in paragraph 4, as input to the proposed expert panel;

The results of the meeting should provide input to the UN Forum on Forests for consideration at its 4<sup>th</sup> session in 2004;

5. Request the Executive Director to convene an expert panel to review the outputs of the national training workshops, the international expert meeting and other relevant fora and to make recommendations to the 36<sup>th</sup> Session of Council for the revision of ITTO's Criteria and Indicators and Reporting Formats; and
6. Authorize the Executive Director to seek voluntary contributions from Member countries to meet the financial requirements of this decision, not exceeding US\$643,800.00. If sufficient contributions are not received by 31 July 2003, the Executive Director is requested to use funds from the Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund.

**ANNEX**

**BUDGET FOR DECISION ON**

**“CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT”**

Item	Unit Cost (US\$)	Total (US\$)
1. National Training Workshops (8)	40,000	320,000
2. Assistance to 10 Member Countries to Complete Reporting Formats	8,000	80,000
3. Co-sponsor International Expert Meeting (20-25 experts)	120,000	120,000
4. Convene Expert Panel (6-8 experts)	60,000	60,000
5. ITTO Programme Support (11%)	63,800	63,800
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>643,800</b>

\* \* \*