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FIFTY-SIXTH SESSION
9 - 13 November 2020
Virtual Session

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ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 **Opening of the Session**

The Fifty-sixth Session of the Council will be opened by the Chairperson of the Council.

Item 2 **Ascertainment of the Quorum**

The Executive Director will report to the Council on the state of the quorum requirement for the start of the Session. Note that as recommended by the IAG, quorum for the virtual session will be determined by confirming the online presence of registered attendees who have submitted valid credentials, consistent with the thresholds established for physical meetings in the ITTA, 2006.

Item 3 **Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work** [Document ITTC(LVI)/1 Rev.1]

The Council may decide to consider and adopt its Agenda. On the schedule of meetings, the Council may consider the draft schedule distributed under Decision 5(XXII), the advice of the Informal Advisory Group (IAG) and the due consultations in the Chairperson's Coordinating Bureau, which will issue the timetable daily and at more frequent intervals as necessary.

Item 4 **Report on Membership of the Council**

The Executive Director will report on the status of membership of the Council.

Item 5 **Distribution of Votes for the 2020-2021 Biennium** [Document ITTC(LVI)/1 Rev.1 Annex]

The distribution of votes for the 2020 – 2021 biennium, in accordance with Article 10(7) of the ITTA, 2006, is shown in the Annex of the Provisional Agenda [Document ITTC(LVI)/1 Rev.1]. The distribution of votes shall remain in effect for the rest of the biennium, except whenever the membership of the Organization changes or when any member has its voting rights suspended or restored, in which case the Council shall redistribute the votes within the affected category or categories. The distribution of votes for the 2020-2021 biennium was approved by the 55th ITTC in Lomé, Togo.

In accordance with Article 19(4) of the ITTA, 2006, the approved distribution of votes will be used for the assessment of the contribution of each Member to the Administrative Budget for the 2020 – 2021 biennium.

Item 6 **Admission of Observers** [Document ITTC(LVI)/Info.3 and ITTC(LVI)/Info.4]

The Council may decide to admit those States and Organizations which request admission to the Session as Observers. Two lists of such applicants will be submitted at the Session for consideration and decision. The first such list shall contain the names of all States and Organizations which have previously been admitted to the Council Sessions and the second those States and Organizations who are applying for admission on the first occasion at this Session.

In accordance with Decision 3(LI), operative paragraphs 2 and 3, the Executive Director has reviewed applications for compliance with respective requirements and the results of the initial review will be published on the ITTO website two weeks prior to the Council Session.

The Council will consider the admission of Observers in accordance with Article 16 of the ITTA, 2006 taking into consideration the initial review.

Item 7 **Report of the Informal Advisory Group (IAG) – Decisions 3(XXII), 5(XXVI), 2(XLIX) and 2(LI)** [Document ITTC(LVI)/2]

Pursuant to Decisions 3(XXII), 5(XXVI), 2(XLIX) and 2(LI), and in order to organize its work for the Session, the Council may consider the report of the Thirty-fourth Meeting of the Informal Advisory Group (IAG) as contained in Document ITTC(LVI)/2. The report will be presented to the Council by the Chairperson.

Item 8 **Report of the Credentials Committee**
[Document ITTC(LVI)/3]

The Council may consider and adopt the Report of the Credentials Committee and approve the credentials of delegations.

Item 9 **Implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on ITTO procedures**

The Council will be briefed on the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on ITTO procedures.

- (a) Procedures and modalities governing the virtual ITTC 56 session in line with the ITTA, 2006 and ITTO Rules of Procedure
The Council may consider the procedures and modalities governing the virtual ITTC 56 session in line with the ITTA, 2006 and ITTO Rules of Procedures as proposed by the IAG.
- (b) Decision 9(XXXI) on matters related holding sessions of Council
The Chairperson will brief the Council on the decision of the ad hoc Advisory Group on the feasibility and/or viability of holding a virtual/hybrid ITTC session at the end of March 2021.

Item 10 **Statement by the Executive Director**

The Executive Director will address the Council and report on activities of the Organization and other developments of relevance to the Organization.

Item 11 **Extension of the ITTA, 2006**

Pursuant to Article 44 of the ITTA, 2006, the Council may wish to consider extending the ITTA, 2006 for a period of five years.

Item 12 **ITTO Biennial Work Programme 2018-2019 extended into 2020 – Decisions 9(XXXIV), 2(LIII) and 3(LV)**
[Documents ITTC(LVI)/4, ITTC(LVI)/5, ITTC(LVI)/6 and ITTC(LVI)/7 Rev.1]

- (a) The Council will receive the progress report on the implementation of the ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2018 – 2019 extended into 2020 as contained in Documents ITTC(LVI)/4, ITTC(LVI)/5 and ITTC(LVI)/6.
- (b) The Secretariat will present to the Council the Draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme 2021 – 2022 as contained in Document ITTC(LVI)/7 Rev.1.

Item 13 **Progress Report on the Implementation of the ITTO Thematic Programmes**
[Document ITTC(LVI)/8]

The Council will receive the progress report on the status of implementation of the ITTO Thematic Programmes as contained in Document ITTC(LVI)/8.

Item 14 **Impairment of ITTO Funds – Decisions 5(LII), 6(LII), 7(LIII) and 2(LIV)**

The Council will receive an update on the impairment of ITTO funds (Decisions 5(LII), 6(LII), 7(LIII) and 2(LIV)).

Item 15 **Implementation of ITTO's New Financing Architecture, Phase I - Decision 8(LV)**
[Document ITTC(LVI)/9]

- (a) Progress report on new funding received under the programmatic approach and new funding opportunities, including for projects pending financing under the Regular Project Cycle
The Executive Director will provide an update on new funding received under the programmatic approach and new funding opportunities, including for projects pending financing under the Regular Project Cycle.
- (b) Progress report on engagement with GEF and other potential partners
The Executive Director will provide an update on the Secretariat's engagement with GEF and other partners including an update on the utilization of the virtual informed feedback loop established under Decision 8(LV), operative paragraph 10.
- (c) Update on the meetings of the Advisory Board on the Programmatic Approach

The Chairperson will provide an update on the meetings of the Advisory Board on the Programmatic Approach established under Decision 8(LV), operative paragraph 16.

- (d) Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Financing
The Council will receive the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Financing as contained in Document ITTC(LVI)/9. The report will be presented by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

Item 16 **Biennial Review and Assessment of the International Timber Situation in 2019 – 2020**
[Document ITTC(LVI)/10]

The Council may wish to base its discussion on this item on the following:

- (a) Elements for the 2019 and 2020 Biennial Review and Assessment of the International Timber Situation
The Secretariat will present the Review comprising statistics and available data on production, imports and exports of timber products, emphasizing tropical timber products, and an analysis of economic and market developments. The Elements for the 2019 and 2020 Biennial Review will be partly based on information extracted from national responses to the ITTO/UNECE/FAO/EUROSTAT Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire and partly from other sources.
- (b) A General Introductory Statement by the Secretariat
Using various sources of information including the Elements for the 2019 and 2020 Biennial Review, the Statement will give an overview of the world timber situation, focusing on tropical timber, including recent developments and the short-term outlook based on available forecasts.

The Council may also decide after due discussions the type of statistics and information (and its format of presentation) that members shall furnish on timber, its trade and the activities aimed at achieving sustainable management of timber producing forests as stipulated in Article 27(3) of the ITTA, 2006.

Item 17 **Special Account and Bali Partnership Fund**
[Document ITTC(LVI)/11]

- (a) Pledges to the Special Account and the Bali Partnership Fund.
The Chairperson may invite Members and Observers to announce any new contributions they may wish to pledge to the Special Account and the Bali Partnership Fund.
- (b) Report of the Panel on Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund.
The Council will decide whether it is necessary for the Panel on Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund established under Decision 4(XXX) to meet during the virtual session, taking account of the resources available. If the panel does meet during the virtual session to consider actions/activities, pre-projects and projects that are eligible for funding under Sub-Account B, the Council may consider and adopt the recommendations contained in its report [Document ITTC(LVI)/11].

Item 18 **Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Council for 2021**

The Council may decide after due consultations, to elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2021. Under Article 8 of the ITTA, 2006, the Council is required to elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for each calendar year, one from among the representatives of producer countries, and the other from among the representatives of the consumer countries. Under Article 8, paragraph 3, these offices are required to alternate each year between the two categories of Members, provided, however, that this shall not prohibit the re-election to either or both under exceptional circumstances by the Council.

Item 19 **Matters related to Article 14 of the ITTA, 2006 regarding the selection, election and recruitment of the Executive Director of ITTO**

Council may consider the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the selection of candidates for the position of Executive Director of ITTO [Document ITTC(LV)/11].

Item 20 **Relevant Committee-related agenda items**
[Document ITTC(LVI)/12]

- (a) Report of the Fifty-fifth Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals

The Secretariat will present the report of the Fifty-fifth Expert Panel as contained in Document ITTC(LVI)/12.

- (b) Reports of the Associated Sessions of the Committees
The Council will be updated on relevant Committee-related issues and have before it the Reports of the Associated Sessions of the Committees presented by the respective Chairpersons. The Council may consider and adopt the recommendations contained in each of the Reports.

Item 21 **Dates and Venues of the Fifty-seventh and Fifty-eighth Sessions of the Council and the Associated Sessions of the Committees**

In order to maintain the established practice of setting Session dates and venues eighteen months or more in advance to facilitate logistical arrangements, the Council may wish to reconfirm/set the dates and venues of its Fifty-seventh and Fifty-eighth Sessions.

Item 22 **Decisions and Report of the Session**

The Council shall consider the proposed Decision(s) and adopt it/them in accordance with the procedures and modalities governing the virtual ITTC 56 session in line with the ITTA, 2006 and the ITTO Rules of Procedure as adopted under Agenda Item 9(a).

In accordance with Rule 33 of the Rules of Procedure, a report on the proceedings shall be prepared by the Executive Director and shall be circulated to all Members as soon as possible.

Item 23 **Closing of the Session**

Following any final statements by Delegates, the Chairperson will close the Fifty-sixth Session of the Council.

Annex

DISTRIBUTION OF VOTES FOR 2020-2021 BIENNIEUM

PRODUCER MEMBERS

	<u>2019</u> <u>No. of Votes</u>	<u>2020/2021 Biennium</u> <u>No. of Votes</u>
Africa		
Benin	21	22
Cameroon	22	22
Central African Republic	21	22
Congo	22	22
Côte d'Ivoire	22	22
Democratic Republic of the Congo	22	22
Gabon	22	22
Ghana	21	22
Liberia	21	21
Madagascar	21	22
Mali	21	21
Mozambique	22	22
Togo	21	21
Asia & Pacific		
Cambodia	19	24
Fiji	14	14
India	28	28
Indonesia	88	90
Malaysia	90	83
Myanmar	49	30
Papua New Guinea	44	42
Philippines	15	15
Thailand	37	49
Vietnam	16	16
Latin America/Caribbean		
Brazil	120	121
Colombia	23	23
Costa Rica	13	13
Ecuador	18	19
Guatemala	12	12
Guyana	15	16
Honduras	12	11
México	24	24
Panamá	12	13
Peru	28	29
Suriname	14	15
Trinidad and Tobago	10	10
Venezuela	20	20
TOTAL:	1,000	1,000

CONSUMER MEMBERS

	2019 <u>No. of Votes</u>	2020/2021 Biennium <u>No. of Votes</u>
Albania	10	10
Australia	16	16
China	278	291
European Union	375	371
Austria	10	10
Belgium	15	15
Bulgaria	10	10
Croatia	10	10
Cyprus	10	10
Czech Republic	11	11
Denmark	11	11
Estonia	10	10
Finland	10	10
France	29	25
Germany	19	19
Greece	11	11
Hungary	10	10
Ireland	13	13
Italy	22	20
Latvia	10	10
Lithuania	10	10
Luxembourg	10	10
Malta	10	10
Netherlands	29	30
Poland	11	11
Portugal	13	13
Romania	10	10
Slovakia	10	10
Slovenia	10	10
Spain	14	14
Sweden	11	11
United Kingdom	26	27
Japan	156	144
New Zealand	11	11
Norway	10	10
Republic of Korea	60	63
Switzerland	11	11
United States of America	73	73
TOTAL:	1,000	1,000