



**INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL
TIMBER COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE ON
REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

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9 – 13 November 2020
Virtual Session

**REPORT TO THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL FROM
THE FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON
REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

Item 1 - Opening of the Session

The Fifty-fourth Virtual Session of the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management (CRF) was opened on 12 November 2020 by Ms. Aysha Ghadiali (USA), the elected Vice-Chairperson for 2020 and she chaired the CRF Session due to the unavailability of Mr. Bruno Enrique Arias Rivas (Guatemala), the elected Chairperson for 2020. The list of participants is presented in Document ITTC(LVI)/Info.2.

Item 2 - Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work

The Provisional Agenda for the CRF, as contained in Document CRF(LIV)/1 Rev.1, was adopted by the Committee. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the virtual session of the Fifty-sixth ITTC was decided and allowed limited time for the discussion of Committee agenda items. To expedite the proceedings of the Committee session within the limited time allocated to the Committee, the Chairperson of the CRF recommended that the Secretariat make briefs on the Committee agenda items 5 - 11 and then the Committee members provide comments. The Committee then proceeded as recommended by the Chairperson.

Item 3 - Admission of Observers

The Committee admitted the observers listed in Document ITTC(LVI)/Info.3 and ITTC(LVI)/Info.4, as approved by the Council.

Item 4 - ITTO Annual Market Discussion - 2020

The Committee noted that this item has been deferred until the next physical sessions of the Council and Committees as the private sector representatives of the Trade Advisory Group contributing to the Market Discussion are unavailable to participate this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Item 5 - Policy Work

The Committee considered the progress in the implementation of the following policy-related matters:

(i) Promotion of Smallholders' Forest Landscape Restoration in West Africa [ITTO Programme on Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains (LSSC) Activity #3]

The Secretariat briefly reported to the Committee on the progress made in the implementation of this Policy Activity, which is funded by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) of the Government of Germany, as follows:

- Six national consultants from Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Mali and Togo had prepared country-led studies in their respective countries under the guidance of the international lead consultant, Professor Juergen Blaser, Bern University of Applied Science, Switzerland. National validation workshops were planned in the first quarter of 2020 but they could not take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on travel and public gatherings.
- The regional consultant, Professor Kouami Kokou, and the team of experts led by Professor Juergen Blaser had been interacting with ITTO Focal Points in these six countries on the ways and means to organize some kind of in-person workshops with experts in each country combined with a virtual attendance of the team of experts of the Bern University of Applied Sciences.
- There is a need to extend the implementation of this Activity until the first half of 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic impact.

(ii) Development of training curricula for Central African countries on Legal and Sustainable supply Chains (LSSC) [ITTO Programme on Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains (LSSC) Activity #5]

The Secretariat reported to the Committee on the progress made in the implementation of this Policy Activity, which is funded by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) of the Government of Germany, as follows:

- Four consultants had prepared the draft of LSSC-related training modules/curricula, but the holding of validation workshops planned in the fourth quarter of 2020 has been postponed, after several months of delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on travel and public gatherings. The topics of these four training modules/curricula are as follows:

- Module/curriculum 1: Understanding deforestation-free
 - Module/curriculum 2: Assessing legality and achieving accountability
 - Module/curriculum 3: From legality to sustainability
 - Module/curriculum 4: Markets and access to markets
- There is a need to extend the implementation of this Activity until the first half year of 2021 because of the COVID-19 impact.

(iii) Dissemination of the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics [Activity 10 (b), ITTO Biennial Work Programme 2018-2019] [Document CRF(LIII)/4]

The Committee was briefed by the Secretariat on the publication of the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) in the Tropics and a policy brief highlighting the ITTO Guidelines which have been posted on the ITTO website for wider dissemination. In the recent ITTO Newsletter – TFU, Juergen Blaser and Cesar Sabogal present the ITTO FLR Guidelines. For the dissemination of the ITTO Guidelines, the Secretariat prepared a plan for Asia-Pacific regional capacity building workshop in September 2020 in collaboration with IUFRO and AFoCO but it was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization of three regional capacity building workshops in 2021-2022 has been included in the draft BWP 2021-2022.

The Delegation of the USA commended the work of publishing the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics and the policy brief, and highlighted the importance of effectively implementing the newly developed ITTO Guidelines. She recommended ITTO's outreach efforts highlighting the application of the FLR Guidelines in the implementation of the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 and other international FLR-related initiatives.

(iv) Joint ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity [Decision 6(XLVI)]

The Committee recalled that ITTO has implemented the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity since 2011 based on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ITTO and CBD which was initiated in 2010 and extended until the end of 2020. The Committee was briefed by the Secretariat that the assessment of the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative is under way and that ITTO and CBD will renew the MoU. The Secretariat further informed the Committee that ITTO plans to renew the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative reflecting the results of the assessment and in support of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework which is scheduled to be agreed at COP15 of CBD in May 2021.

The Delegation of Peru acknowledged the presentation by the Secretariat and the extension of the MoU between ITTO and CBD for biodiversity conservation cooperation. He inquired about the documentation of the implementation of the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity. In response, the Secretariat informed the Committee that the assessment of the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative is under way and its report will be made available early next year so that it can be shared in the CBD COP 15 in May 2021.

Item 6 - Report of the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals

The Committee noted that the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals at its Fifty-fifth Meeting was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic in August-September 2020. The Committee also noted the report of Expert Panel at its Fifty-fifth Meeting as contained in Document ITTC(LVI)/12 which covers the technical assessment of sixteen projects and two pre-projects proposals.

Item 7 - New Projects and Pre-projects

The Committee noted the projects and pre-projects that were approved under the time-bound electronic no objection procedures to accept the Expert Panel's ratings and circulated to member countries pursuant to Decision 6(XLIII), as contained in Annex to Document ITTC(LVI)/12, following the recommendations of the Expert Panel at its Fifty-fifth Meeting held virtually due to COVID-19 in August-September 2020, as follows:

Fifty-fifth Expert Panel

Category 1:

PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 896/19 Rev.2 (F)	Protection and Restoration of Forested Water Catchment, Regulation and Recharge Areas in the Upper Salinas River Watershed, Guatemala, to Ensure Water Supply for Guatemalan Communities	Guatemala
PD 901/19 Rev.2 (F)	Promoting Conservation and Community-Based Management of Mangrove Ecosystems Through Integrating Adaptation and Mitigation Action in Karang Gading and Langkat Timur Laut (KG-LTLWR) Reserve, North Sumatera, Indonesia	Indonesia
PD 902/19 Rev.2 (F)	Management of Upper Baram Forest Area for Conservation and Sustainable Development with Involvement of Local Communities, Upper Baram, Sarawak, Malaysia	Malaysia
PD 903/19 Rev.2 (F)	Management of Sungai Menyang Conservation Area for Orangutan Protection and Uplifting Community Livelihood, Sarawak, Malaysia	Malaysia
PD 904/19 Rev.2 (F)	Restoring Productivity in Post-Logging Hill Forests by Enrichment Planting in Sarawak, Malaysia	Malaysia
PPD 197/20 Rev.1 (F)	Development of a Project for the Revaluation, Restoration and Sustainable Development of the Quina (<i>Cinchona spp.</i>) Tree and Associate Native Species of the Western Montane Forests of Peru	Peru

Item 8 - Report on Completed Projects and Pre-projects

The Committee considered the completed projects contained in Document CRF(LIV)/2 and noted that two projects are to be declared complete by the Council.

8.1 Completed Projects

1) PD 723/13 Rev.2 (F) Capacity Building for Strengthening Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation of the Taninthayi Range in Myanmar – Phase I Stage 1 (Myanmar)

The Secretariat reported to the Committee that the project has contributed to strengthening the capacity of the Myanmar Forest Research Institute in research and monitoring of biodiversity conservation. The project has published several technical reports including Biodiversity survey - tree species and wildlife in the Taninthayi Region. The Secretariat further informed the Committee that the Executing Agency had submitted the project completion report, several technical reports and the Final Financial Audit in accordance with the project agreement. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 723/13 Rev.2 (F) – Phase I Stage 1 as completed.

2) PD 754/14 Rev.3 (F) Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of Sacred Forests on Ramsar Sites 1017 and 1018 in Benin (Benin)

The Committee took note that the implementation of this project had contributed to sustainably managing 42 Sacred Forests in Benin by building the capacity of relevant stakeholders and improving their living conditions as local communities. This project supported the stakeholders for the preparation of simplified management plans for these 42 Sacred Forests.

The Secretariat informed the Committee that the Completion Report, Technical Reports and the Final Financial Audit Report had been delivered by the Executing Agency in accordance with the Project Agreement. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 754/14 Rev.3 (F) as completed.

8.2 Completed Pre-project

The Committee noted that there was no pre-project to be declared complete at this session.

Item 9 - Ex-post Evaluation

The Committee recalled that there are two thematic groups for ex-post evaluation for 2021-2022, which are contained Document CRF (LIV)/1 Rev.1: (1) Thematic group on forest rehabilitation, landscape restoration, and secondary forest management and (2) Thematic group dealing with biodiversity conservation and conservation areas. The Secretariat reported to the Committee that in 2020, the ex-post evaluation of the thematic group dealing with biodiversity conservation has been organized with the engagement of two international consultants with the support of the CBD Secretariat. This ex-post evaluation is underway with the assessment of the results of sixteen ITTO biodiversity projects which have been implemented under the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity. The results of this ex-post evaluation will be presented at the next session of the Joint Committees in 2021.

The Secretariat further informed the Committee that in 2021, the ex-post evaluation of the thematic group on forest rehabilitation, landscape restoration, and secondary forest management will be carried out with the engagement of a partner organization and that the Committee at its next Session in 2021 will review a short list of completed projects, to be prepared by the Secretariat, for the selection of ex-post evaluation for 2022-2023.

Item 10 – Review of Projects, Pre-projects and Special Activities in Progress

The Committee took note of the report on the status of projects, pre-project and special activities in progress as contained in Document CRF(LIV)/3 Rev.1, on “Review of Projects, Pre-projects and Special Activities in Progress” which contains Section 10.1 (Projects), Section 10.2 (Pre-projects) and Section 10.3 (Special Activities). It was informed that the Committee’s discussions would be limited to projects having implementation problems in order to expedite proceedings.

Then, the Committee considered updated information on three projects awaiting financing, two projects to be subject to possible termination process and the implementation of special activities as follows:

10.1 Projects

(A) Projects under implementation

The Committee noted that eleven projects are under implementation, as contained in Document CRF(LIV)/3 Rev.1.

- 1) PD 452/07 Rev.5 (F) Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II (Brazil)
- 2) PD 507/08 Rev.1 (F) Development of the National Reforestation Policy and Afforestation Strategy Consistent with Liberia 3C-Approach (Liberia)
- 3) PD 552/09 Rev.1 (F) Encouraging Customary Landowners in the Lowlands of Papua New Guinea’s Central Province to Reforest their Grasslands with High Value Trees (PNG)
- 4) PD 646/12 Rev.3 (F) Initiating the Conservation of Cempaka Tree Species (*Elmerrillia* spp) Through Plantation Development with Local Community Participation in North Sulawesi, Indonesia (Indonesia)
- 5) PD 696/13 Rev.2 (F) Community Based Restoration and Sustainable Management of Vulnerable Forest of the Rewa Delta, Viti Levu, Fiji (Fiji)
- 6) PD 721/13 Rev.3 (F) Building a Participatory and Inclusive Sustainable Forest Management Process for the Reduction of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in the Ixil Forest Areas of the Municipality of Nebaj, Quiché, Guatemala (Guatemala)

- 7) PD 740/14 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Forest Management Through REDD+ Mechanisms in Kampong Thom Province (Cambodia)
- 8) PD 741/14 Rev.3 (F) Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Tropical Dry Forests on the North Coast of Peru (Peru)
- 9) PD 764/14 Rev.3 (F) Enabling Customary Landowners to Participate Effectively in Community Forest Management Schemes Within 6 Pilot Areas of PNG (PNG)
- 10) PD 765/14 Rev.4 (F) Development of A Forest Landscape Restoration Program for Guatemala Based on ITTO Guidelines – Phase I (Guatemala)
- 11) PD 777/15 Rev.3 (F) Accelerating the Restoration of Cibodas Biosphere Reserve (CBR) Functions through Proper Management of Landscapes Involving Local Stakeholders (Indonesia)

(B) Projects awaiting implementation agreement

The Committee noted that no project is currently awaiting implementation agreement, as contained in Document CRF(LIV)/3 Rev.1.

(C) Projects awaiting financing

The Committee noted that the following eighteen projects approved at earlier and current sessions were still awaiting funding, out of which eight projects with an asterisk (*) will be sunset between the 54th and 55th CRF Sessions if funding is not made available.

- 1) PD 712/13 Rev.2 (F) Enhancing the Implementation of Landscape Management of Giam Siak Kecil-Bukit Batu Biosphere Reserve (GSK-BR) in Riau Province of Sumatra Island, Sumatra (Indonesia)
- 2) PD 723/13 Rev.2 (F) Capacity Building for Strengthening Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation of the Taninthayi Range in Myanmar – Phase I Stage 2 (Myanmar)
- 3) PD 765/14 Rev.4 (F) Development of A Forest Landscape Restoration Program for Guatemala Based on ITTO Guidelines – Phase II (Guatemala)
- 4) PD 808/16 Rev.3 (F)* Conservation of African Barwood (*Pterocarpus Erinaceus Poir*) in the Gazetted Forests of La Palee and Boundiali in Northern Côte d'Ivoire with the Participation of Local Communities (Côte d'Ivoire)
- 5) PD 818/16 Rev.3 (F)* “BOSS - CUSHABATAY” Project – Forest Management and Restoration in the Cushabatay Basin on the Eastern Slope of the Cordillera Azul National Park (PNCAZ), Peru (Peru)
- 6) PD 836/17 Rev.1 (F) Enhancing Capacity of Local Communities and Forest Administration to Effectively Implement Community Forestry Programme (CFP) in Kratie and Mondulhiri Provinces of Cambodia (Cambodia)
- 7) PD 849/17 Rev.2 (F) Increasing Commercial Reforestation Competitiveness in Costa Rica (Costa Rica)
- 8) PD 852/17 Rev.3 (F)* Development of a Regional Strategy for the Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Areas on the South Coast of Peru (Peru)
- 9) PD 877/18 Rev.2 (F)* Taper and Commercial Volume Systems for the Planning of the Sustainable Management of Ten Tropical Forest Species in Quintana Roo, Mexico (Mexico)
- 10) PD 890/18 Rev.2 (F)* Rehabilitation of the Upper Bandama Gazetted Forest in the North of Côte d'Ivoire with the Participation of the Local People (Côte d'Ivoire)

- 11) PD 894/19 Rev.1 (F)* Strengthening of Community Forest Management in Peru (Peru)
- 12) PD 895/19 Rev.1 (F)* Strengthening the Participation of Women in Rural Communities for the Development of Ecotourism Service Enterprises and Sustainable Business Models on the Coast of Veracruz, Mexico (Mexico)
- 13) PD 896/19 Rev.2 (F) Protection and Restoration of Forested Water Catchment, Regulation and Recharge Areas in the Upper Salinas River Watershed, Guatemala, to Ensure Water Supply for Guatemalan Communities (Guatemala)
- 14) PD 901/19 Rev.2 (F) Promoting Conservation and Community-Based Management of Mangrove Ecosystems Through Integrating Adaptation and Mitigation Action in Karang Gading and Langkat Timur Laut (KG-LTLWR) Reserve, North Sumatera, Indonesia (Indonesia)
- 15) PD 902/19 Rev.2 (F) Management of Upper Baram Forest Area for Conservation and Sustainable Development with Involvement of Local Communities, Upper Baram, Sarawak, Malaysia (Malaysia)
- 16) PD 903/19 Rev.2 (F) Management of Sungai Menyang Conservation Area for Orangutan Protection and Uplifting Community Livelihood, Sarawak, Malaysia (Malaysia)
- 17) PD 904/19 Rev.2 (F) Restoring Productivity in Post-Logging Hill Forests by Enrichment Planting in Sarawak, Malaysia (Malaysia)
- 18) PD 905/19 Rev.1 (F)* Providing Support for the Sustainable Management of the Fosse-aux-Lions Gazetted Forest in the Savanna Region in Togo (Togo)

The Delegation of Malaysia expressed its appreciation to the Expert Panel for the effective appraisal of three proposals from Forest Department Sarawak which are now included in the list of projects awaiting financing. These projects aim to improve the sustainable management of forests and productivity of timber production; restore ecosystems through enrichment planting; and enhance biodiversity conservation as well as empowering local communities. With regards to the ITTO effort in restructuring the project cycle mechanism, he pointed out that these projects cover Programmatic Approach for Biodiversity in Productive Forests and Landscape Restoration and Resilient Livelihood. He looked forward to funding from donors for the implementation of these three projects in support to improving and strengthening the capacity of sustainable forest management in Sarawak in line with the objectives of the ITTA 2006.

D) Projects to be subject to possible termination process

In accordance with the rules and procedures applying to ITTO projects, the Committee considered recommending the termination of the following projects because of the non-submission of the final financial audit report which is considered as due since 2016.

- 1) PD 383/05 Rev.2 (F) Community Forest Development in Gabon (Gabon)

The Committee was briefed by the Secretariat that the project implementing agency did not submit the final financial audit report in due time. Thus, it was suggested that the Committee may recommend this project to the Council for the termination process, in conformity with the rules of ITTO.

A written comment from the Delegation of Gabon informed the ITTO Secretariat that a letter of commitment was co-signed by the project implementing agency and the financial auditor firm for the finalization and submission of the final financial audit report by 31 March 2021. It was also indicated that the delay in the submission of this report was mainly due to the following causes: the demise of the director-general of the institution which is the project implementing agency and the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of many companies, including the financial auditor firm already selected for the auditing work.

The Delegation of Japan thanked the ITTO Secretariat for the efforts made through contacts with the implementing agency in order to get the submission of the final financial audit report. It was emphasized that

the final financial audit report is an important document allowing to assess whether the funds of the Government of Japan were appropriately managed during the implementation of this project. Therefore, the Delegation of Japan asked the ITTO Secretariat to continue interacting with the project implementing agency for the submission of a satisfactory final financial audit report which is a prerequisite for documenting this project as fully completed by the next Committee session.

The Committee urged the implementing agency to work with the Secretariat for the early submission of a satisfactory final financial audit report for the full completion of this project in 2021.

- 2) PD 653/12 Rev.1 (F) Sustainable, Mixed and Pure Forest Plantation Development in the Transitional Zone of Ghana's Biakoye District Assembly, Employing Poverty Reduction Strategies (Ghana)

The Secretariat briefly informed the Committee that the final financial audit report, requested since 2016, was not submitted by the end of February 2020 despite the promise of the project implementing agency. Because of the unfulfilled commitment of the project implementing agency, the Secretariat suggested that the Committee may consider recommending to the Council the termination of this project, in conformity with the rules of ITTO.

The Delegation of Japan thanked the ITTO Secretariat for the efforts made through contacts with the implementing agency in order to get the submission of the final financial audit report. It was emphasized that the final financial audit report is an important document allowing to assess whether the funds of the Government of Japan were appropriately managed during the implementation of this project. Therefore, the Delegation of Japan asked the ITTO Secretariat to continue interacting with the project implementing agency for the submission of a satisfactory final financial audit report which is a prerequisite for documenting this project as fully completed by the next Committee session.

The Committee urged the implementing agency to work with the Secretariat for the early submission of a satisfactory final financial audit report for the full completion of this project in 2021.

10.2 Pre-projects

The Committee took note of the status of approved pre-projects, as contained in Document CRF(LIV)/3 Rev.1.

(A) Pre-projects under implementation

The Committee noted that there were no issues of the two pre-projects currently under implementation.

- 1) PPD 191/18 Rev.1 (F) Support to the Local Communities of the Mono Plain for the Promotion and Sustainable Management of Community Forests in Togo (Togo)
- 2) PPD 196/19 Rev.1 (F) Support for Operational and Planning Capacity-building for Stakeholders in the Private and Community Forestry Sector in Togo (Togo)

(B) Pre-projects awaiting implementation agreement

The Committee noted that one project is currently awaiting implementation agreement, as contained in Document CRF(LIV)/3 Rev.1.

- 1) PPD 189/17 Rev.3 (F) Development of A Full Project Proposal to Generate Tools to Ensure the Establishment of Timber Forest Species through Natural Regeneration in the Province of Tahuamanu, Peru (Peru)

(C) Pre-projects awaiting financing

The Committee noted that one pre-project approved at current session was still awaiting funding:

- 1) PPD 197/20 Rev.1 (F) Development of a Project for the Revaluation, Restoration and Sustainable Development of the Quina (*Cinchona spp.*) Tree and Associate Native Species of the Western Montane Forests of Peru (Peru)

10.3 Special Activities

The Committee noted that four activities are under implementation, as contained in Document CRF(LIV)/3 Rev.1.

- 1) PP-A/53-323 Capacity building for the implementation of “Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains (LSSC)” by stakeholders in the Congo Basin countries
- 2) PP-A/56-340-1 Capacity Building on Forest and Land Fire Management in Indonesia
- 3) PP-A/56-340-2 Forest Fire Prevention and Response in Tropical Forests and Forest Plantations in Peru
- 4) PP-A/56-341 Support for Women’s Groups with the Restoration of Forest Landscapes in the Prefectures of Blitta and Lacs, Togo

The Committee noted that the new ITTO Programmatic Approach and Programme Lines have been approved for a pilot phase from 2020-2022 under Decision 8(LV) ‘Implementing ITTO’s New Financing Architecture – Phase I’ in ITTC55 in Togo last year. The Secretariat informed the Committee that as the modalities for the reporting of the new approach are still under development, the above four activities which fall under the pilot phase of the Programme Lines are currently listed as Special Activity in Document CRF(LIV)/3 Rev.1 and these activities will be reported on the basis of the new procedures once they are established.

Item 11 - Biennial Work Programme of the Committee for 2021-2022

The Secretariat informed the Committee that under the draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2021-2022, a series of activities are expected to be implemented under the support of CRF. These include:

- Building legal and sustainable forest product supply chains (Activity 2)
(Strengthening SFM standards and timber legality framework in Myanmar)
- Prevention and management of fire in tropical timber-producing forests (Activity 9)
- Disseminating the ITTO Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics (Activity 11-b)
- Support for women’s groups with gender empowerment and forest landscape restoration in Togo (Activity 11-c)
- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests (Activity 12)
- Collaboration on criteria and indicators (C&I) for SFM, C&I workshops and adapting the 2016 ITTO C&I for SFM to African context (Activity 7-b)

Item 12 - Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2021

Ms. Aysha Ghadiali (USA) was elected as Chairperson of the Committee for 2021. The Spokesperson of the Producer Caucus will provide the name of the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee for 2021 in due time.

Item 13 - Dates and Venues of the Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth Sessions of the Committee

The Fifty-fifth and Fifty-sixth Sessions of the Committee would be held in conjunction with the Fifty-seventh and Fifty-eighth Sessions of the Council.

Item 14 - Other Business

The Delegation of Honduras informed the Committee that about 50 percent of Honduras is covered by forests and forests have played an important role in providing various goods and services. For the last 10 years, Honduras has faced the problem of climate change and worked to improve the timber legality framework under the EU FLEGT programme as well as sustainable forest management through many research activities, including biodiversity. He recommended ITTO support to address producer members’ need related to institutional strengthening.

Item 15 - Recommendations to the International Tropical Timber Council

The Committee recommended that funding be made immediately available for the following projects and pre-project approved under the Project Cycle 2020:

Projects

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|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PD 896/19 Rev.2 (F) | Protection and Restoration of Forested Water Catchment, Regulation and Recharge Areas in the Upper Salinas River Watershed, Guatemala, to Ensure Water Supply for Guatemalan Communities
[ITTO Budget: US\$ 150,000] |
| PD 901/19 Rev.2 (F) | Promoting Conservation and Community-Based Management of Mangrove Ecosystems Through Integrating Adaptation and Mitigation Action in Karang Gading and Langkat Timur Laut (KG-LTLWR) Reserve, North Sumatera, Indonesia [ITTO Budget: US\$ 499,228.80] |
| PD 902/19 Rev.2 (F) | Management of Upper Baram Forest Area for Conservation and Sustainable Development with Involvement of Local Communities, Upper Baram, Sarawak, Malaysia [ITTO Budget: US\$ 814,128] |
| PD 903/19 Rev.2 (F) | Management of Sungai Menyang Conservation Area for Orangutan Protection and Uplifting Community Livelihood, Sarawak, Malaysia
[ITTO Budget: US\$ 509,040] |
| PD 904/19 Rev.2 (F) | Restoring Productivity in Post-Logging Hill Forests by Enrichment Planting in Sarawak, Malaysia [ITTO Budget: US\$ 795,626] |

Pre-project

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PPD 197/20 Rev.1 (F) | Development of a Project for the Revaluation, Restoration and Sustainable Development of the Quina (Cinchona spp.) Tree and Associate Native Species of the Western Montane Forests of Peru
[ITTO Budget: US\$ 71,456] |
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Item 16 - Report of the Session

The Committee accepted this report.

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