



INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

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DECISION 4(LVIII)

WORKING GROUP ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO ARTICLE 44 OF ITTA, 2006

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling Article 44 of the ITTA, 2006;

Noting that the ITTA, 2006 entered into force on 7 December 2011, with an initial duration of ten years and was extended for a period of five years with effect from 7 December 2021 until 6 December 2026, in accordance with Decision 4(LVII);

Further noting the work and recommendations of the intersessional working group established under Decision 4(LVII) to assess the need for renegotiation and/or further extension of the ITTA, 2006 as contained in Document ITTC(LVIII)/5;

Recognizing that deliberations on these matters are complex, need to involve all ITTO members, and require time in order to obtain the necessary information for Council to take a decision;

Further recognizing the need to plan for the expiry of the ITTA, 2006 to allow adequate time and resources for determining, preparing and implementing any subsequent agreement;

Decides to:

1. Extend the mandate of the intersessional working group, established under Decision 4(LVII), for one year until the Fifty-ninth Session of the Council;
2. Request the intersessional working group with the support of the Secretariat to collect further views on whether members would support a renegotiation and/or a final extension of the ITTA, 2006 as set out in Article 44 paragraph 2 of the ITTA, 2006;
3. Request the intersessional working group, in close collaboration with the Secretariat, to draft preparatory roadmaps for both potential expiry dates and information on the procedural implications of expiry, extension and/or renegotiation of ITTA, 2006. The roadmaps should include the following elements:
 - a. a process and scope for consultative review of the ITTA, 2006 and related matters;
 - b. the composition and settings for a preparatory group for potential renegotiation;
 - c. cost estimates for key elements;
 - d. timing, including for renegotiations;
4. Request that the report of the intersessional working group, including recommendations, the roadmaps and any draft decisions, be provided to members no less than two months before the Fifty-ninth Session of the Council;
5. Request that the intersessional working group recommence its work no later than February 2023 and continue to meet virtually to substantially complete its work, and then take a decision on the need to meet in person to finalize its report;

6. Authorize the Executive Director to seek voluntary contributions to meet the financial requirements of this Decision, not exceeding US\$150,000. In the absence of sufficient voluntary contributions, the Executive Director is requested to use funds from the Working Capital Reserve.

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