



# INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

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FIFTY-NINTH SESSION  
13 - 17 November 2023  
Pattaya, Thailand

## DECISION 5(LIX)

### MATTERS PERTAINING TO ARTICLE 44 OF ITTA, 2006

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling Article 44 of the International Tropical Timber Agreement (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) and extended for one year under Decision 4(LVIII) to assess the need for renegotiation and/or further extension of the ITTA 2006, as contained in Document ITTC(LIX)/5;

Recognizing the need to plan for the expiry of the ITTA, 2006 by allowing adequate time and resources for preparing any subsequent agreement;

Further recognizing that while broad support was indicated among membership at the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of Council to extend the ITTA, 2006 for an additional three years until 2029 but noting members require further time to complete their formal processes to support the decision to further extend the ITTA, 2006;

Decides to:

1. Take a Decision without Meeting by 1 June 2024 on the specific question of whether the ITTA, 2006 be extended for a period of three years with effect from 7 December 2026 until 6 December 2029, with this decision fulfilling the requirements under Rules of Procedure 35 and 36(d)(i);
2. Request members to refer to the Decision without Meeting, as referred to in operative paragraph 1, which is to be circulated to members at the earliest opportunity, and submit their votes no later than 27 May 2024;
3. Use the indicative Roadmap Scenario 1 on pages 7 and 8 of Document ITTC(LIX)/5 as the basis to guide consultations in the ITTA, 2006 review process;
4. Extend the virtual intersessional working group established under Decision 4(LVII) for a further period of one year until the 60<sup>th</sup> Session of Council in 2024, making it open-ended and renaming it as the Preparatory Working Group (PWG);
5. Request that the PWG advances the identification of elements to consider for future renegotiation through the gathering of views from members and external entities (including those expressed at the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of Council) and through analysis, undertaken in close collaboration with the Secretariat and supported by independent consultants;

6. Further request that the PWG submits a report to the Council at its 60<sup>th</sup> Session, based on outputs from paragraph 5, with additional recommendations from the PWG on the modalities for the ITTA, 2006 review process, including format (including whether virtual or in-person), timing and location/s of proposed meetings guided by the indicative Roadmap Scenario 1;
7. Request that the PWG commences its work no later than February 2024 and continues to meet virtually to substantially complete its work, and, if needed, takes a decision on whether to meet in person to finalize its report;
8. Review the indicative Roadmap Scenario 1 based on the report from the PWG at the 60<sup>th</sup> Session of Council, together with the need to extend the PWG for an additional year until the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of Council; and
9. Authorize the Executive Director to seek voluntary contributions to meet the financial requirements of this Decision, not exceeding US\$120,000. In the absence of sufficient voluntary contributions, the Executive Director is requested to use funds from the Working Capital Reserve.

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