



**INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL
TIMBER COUNCIL**

**COMMITTEE ON ECONOMICS,
STATISTICS AND MARKETS**

COMMITTEE ON FOREST INDUSTRY

Distr.
GENERAL

CEM-CFI(LIX)/1 Rev.1
24 October 2025

Original: ENGLISH

FIFTY-NINTH SESSION
27-31 October 2025
Panama City, Panama

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ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 - Opening of the Session

The Fifty-ninth session of the Committees will be conducted jointly and chaired by Mr. Ray Thomas Fernandez Kabigting (Philippines), Chairperson of the Committee on Economics, Statistics and Markets (CEM) and the Committee on Forest Industry (CFI).

Item 2 - Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work

[Document CEM-CFI(LIX)/1 Rev.1]

The Committees may consider the Provisional Agenda and adopt the Agenda for their session. On the organization of work, it is to be noted that the schedule of meetings for the work of the Committees will be determined after usual consultations. The Committees may also constitute the usual informal open-ended working group(s) to assist in the consideration of specific matters related to the Agenda. Items 4, 5, 9(A) and 10 of the Agenda will be considered at a joint session of all Committees.

Item 3 - Admission of Observers

The Committees may admit those observers as approved by the Council to attend the session as observers.

Item 4 - ITTO Annual Market Discussion - 2025

This item will be taken up in the joint session of the Committees, as part of a Trade and Markets Day during the session (an agenda for the proposed Trade and Markets Day will be circulated prior to the session). The theme of the ITTO Annual Market Discussion - 2025 as proposed by the Trade Advisory Group (TAG) is “The Timber Industry Reimagined: Lessons from Market Struggles and Sustainability Efforts”. An information note detailing the schedule and speakers for the ITTO Annual Market Discussion - 2025 will be circulated prior to the session.

Item 5 - Report of the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals

[Document [ITTC/EP-60](#)]

The report of the Sixtieth Expert Panel, which was convened virtually, is contained in document ITTC/EP-60. Pursuant to Annex B of ITTC Decision 4(XXV), the general observations of the report produced by the Expert Panel shall be considered under this item in a joint session of all Committees.

Item 6 - New Projects and Pre-projects

[Document [ITTC/EP-60](#)]

The Committees may note the following projects which have been approved under the time-bound electronic no objection procedure to accept Expert Panel ratings and circulated to member countries pursuant to ITTC Decision 6(XLIII), following the recommendations of the 60th Expert Panel for the Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals from its virtual consideration of projects in August-October 2025, as contained in document ITTC/EP-60. The Category 1 project was approved under the above procedure.

Sixtieth Expert Panel

Category 1:

Committee on Economics, Statistics and Markets		
PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 948/25 Rev.1 (M)	Experimental Commercial Plantations of Caoba (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>) in the Northern Coastal Area of Peru	Peru

The Committees may also be informed that in compliance with the new financing architecture (approved by the 56th ITTC under Decision 4(LVI)), a donor has expressed interest in funding the Concept Note CN-25040-Viet Nam. Subsequent to that, the following proposal has been developed (without review by the Expert Panel) by the Executing Agency in collaboration with the ITTO Secretariat and donor and taking into account comments received during the time-bound electronic no objection procedure that was completed on 24 October 2025:

Committee on Forest Industry		
PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 952/25 (I)	Driving Forest-based Bioeconomy in Viet Nam's Acacia Forestry: Development of Guidance and Dialogue Platform for Cross-Border Vietnamese Acacia Value-Chain Stakeholders	Viet Nam

Rating schedule for proposals

Category 1: The Panel concluded that the proposal could be commended to the Committee with incorporation of amendments.

Item 7 - Review of Projects and Pre-projects in Progress

[Document [CEM-CFI\(LIX\)/2 Rev.1](#)]

In order to further streamline their work, the Committees, in accordance with ITTC Decision 4(XXV), Annex A, Section VI, requested that reporting and discussion during the session be limited to projects and pre-projects that are:

- having implementation problems;
- requiring additional funding;
- requesting extension in time of more than six months beyond the original duration of the project; or
- requesting essential major modifications of the work plan and budget.

The Committees may consider the report prepared by the Secretariat as contained in document CEM-CFI(LIX)/2 Rev.1 on the progress or status of projects, pre-projects and activities approved for financing and implementation by the Council. The report covers the following (those meeting one or more of the above criteria are denoted by an asterisk after the project number):

(A) Projects under implementation

Committee on Economics, Statistics and Markets

1. PD 933/23 Rev.2 (M) Promotion of Sustainable Teakwood Use in Domestic Markets of India

Committee on Forest Industry

1. PD 912/20 Rev.3 (I) Strengthening Technical and Business Management in the Timber Forest Industry of Peru
2. PD 935/23 Rev.1 (I) Promoting Sustainable Wood Use for Domestic Market in Malaysia
3. PD 943/25 (I) Enhancing Legal and Sustainable Supply Chain in the Wood Industry to Stimulate Good Forestry Governance (Indonesia)
4. PD 951/25 (I) Strengthening the Forest Sector Value Chain through Sustainable Forest Management and Harvesting in Costa Rica

(B) Projects pending financing**Committee on Forest Industry**

1. PD 912/20 Rev.3 (I) Phase II Strengthening Technical and Business Management in the Timber Forest Industry of Peru
2. PD 948/25 Rev.1 (M) Experimental Commercial Plantations of Caoba (*Swietenia macrophylla*) in the Northern Coastal Area of Peru
3. PD 952/25 (I) Driving Forest-based Bioeconomy in Viet Nam's Acacia Forestry: Development of Guidance and Dialogue Platform for Cross-Border Vietnamese Acacia Value-Chain Stakeholders

(C) Concept Notes pending financing (Awaiting Expression of Interest by Potential Donors)

1. CN-24028 Establishing a Pilot Plantation Forest Information Sharing and Wood Supply Chain Traceability System in Vietnam
2. CN-25036 Development of a National System to Verify the Geographical Origin of Mexican Tropical Timber through Dendro-isotopic Fingerprinting and Genomic Markers to Combat Illegal Timber Trade, Deforestation and Illegal Logging
3. CN-25041 Reactivation Plan for the Forest Production Sector and its Value Chains, Promoting Increased Wood Consumption in Various Regions of Costa Rica

Item 8 - Report on Completed Projects[Document [CEM-CFI\(LIX\)/3](#)]

The Committees may consider the report prepared by the Secretariat as contained in document CEM-CFI(LIX)/3 on the following projects that may be declared complete:

Committee on Economics, Statistics and Markets

1. PD 913/20 Rev.4 (M) Strengthening Forest Monitoring and Extending the Coverage of the Traceability System in Panama

Committee on Forest Industry

1. PD 926/22 Rev.1 (I) Promotion of Sustainable Domestic Consumption of Wood Products in Thailand
2. PD 928/22 Rev.1 (I) Development of Sustainable Domestic Market for Wood Products (Indonesia)
3. PP-A/60-369 Strengthening Surveillance and Monitoring to Tackle the Surge in Forest Loss and Land Degradation, Induced by Intensifying Conflict in Thailand's Border Areas

Item 9 - Ex-post Evaluation

(A) Ex-post Evaluation Reports

The Committees may note that there is no ex-post evaluation report under CEM or CFI to be considered at this Session.

(B) Selection of Projects for Ex-post Evaluation

According to ITTC Decision 3(XXVIII) on “Ex-post Evaluation of Projects” (see extract below), the Committees are requested to consider for ex-post evaluation all completed individual projects or group(s) of projects based on the criteria contained in Annex 1 of the Decision. The consideration by the Committees is normally to be taken at the session at which the projects are declared complete. A list showing projects declared complete by both Committees from 2023-24 (reported completed to the Committees in the two years preceding the current session) but not yet evaluated (indicating in bold those meeting the criteria of Decision 3(XXVIII) of ITTO budget of over US\$400,000) is included below. When considering projects for possible ex-post evaluation, the Committees should note that at the time of preparing this report, approximately \$167,043.70 remains available to CEM for future ex-post evaluations and \$30,315.09 remains available to CFI for future ex-post evaluations.

The Committees may recall that at their previous Sessions, PD 832/16 Rev.2 (M) “Implementing Mechanisms to Improve Traceability in the Forest Production Chain in Guatemala” was selected for the ex-post evaluation to be undertaken in 2026.

Submitted by	Project ID	Title	ITTO Funding	Reported complete
Mozambique	PD 732/14 Rev.2 (M)	Improve Forest Governance in Mozambique	\$321,138	2023
Honduras	PD 770/15 Rev.1 (I)	Promotion and Sustainable Management of Lesser-Used Timber Species (LUTS) in the Moist Forests of the Departments of Atlantida, Colon and Northern Olancho in Honduras	\$196,224	2023
Ghana	PD 845/17 Rev.3 (M)	Enhancing the Capacity of Forest Communities in Forest Governance, Monitoring and Community Development Projects in Mankraso Forest District Ghana	\$120,000	2023
Vietnam	PD 922/21 Rev.1 (I)	Promotion of Sustainable Domestic Wood Consumption in Vietnam	\$339,500	2024

Extract from Decision 3(XXVIII) Annex I, Paragraph 1(iii):
Procedures to Identify Projects/Groups of Projects for Ex-Post Evaluation

To assess if a project requires ex-post evaluation, the Committee(s) should take into account the nature of the project (ex-post evaluation is particularly important for human resources and institutional/infrastructure development projects). A short-list of projects whose ex-post evaluations would be beneficial should be prepared by selecting those meeting the following requirements:

- (a) ITTO budget of individual projects or groups of projects above an appropriate level(e.g. US\$400,000);
- (b) Clear benefits to be derived from learning more about facts, achievements and difficulties during project implementation and completion, including information and data on:
 - whether the expected outputs were achieved;
 - whether the project achieved its specific objective(s);
 - whether there were unexpected results and impacts, either harmful or beneficial;
 - who benefited from the project;
 - what were the key lessons learned from the project;
 - what direct recommendations have arisen for future projects; and
 - whether the project activities are sustainable.
- (c) The potential for wider application of lessons learned;
- (d) Other factors as considered appropriate by the Committees.

Item 10 - Policy Work

ITTC policy work instructions to Committees, pursuant to ITTC Decision 4(XXV) include:

- Restructure the agendas of the Committees to include a separate agenda item for policy work.
- Use the current ITTO Strategic Action Plan, the policy-relevant aspects of the ITTO Biennial Work Programmes, the findings of completed projects and Council Decisions as the primary basis for identifying items for policy development.
- Decide during each session of each Committee those subjects which will be discussed under the agenda item Policy Work during its next session and agree upon the way to prepare for such a discussion in the Committee.

Committee on Economics, Statistics and Markets

The Committees at their Fifty-eighth session held discussions and agreed to continue to work in the Fifty-ninth session on the following policy-related matters under the Committee on Economics, Statistics and Markets:

- Legality frameworks;
- Forest and timber certification and traceability; and
- APEC EGILAT and ITTO collaboration.

Committee on Forest Industry

The Committees at their Fifty-eighth session held discussions and agreed to include the following policy-related matter in the Fifty-ninth session under the Committee on Forest Industry:

- Promotion of sustainable wood use in domestic markets.

Item 11 - Biennial Work Programme of the Committees for 2026-2027

In accordance with the recommendation by the Council, the Committees may wish to review the draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2026-2027, as contained in document ITTC(LXI)/7, particularly the section pertaining to the strategic policy activities of the Committees.

Item 12 - Election of Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons for 2026

The election of Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons for 2026 will be the subject of consultations within the Council and the Committees.

Item 13 - Dates and Venues of the Sixtieth and Sixty-first Sessions of the Committees

The dates and venues of the Sixtieth and Sixty-first sessions of the Committees are determined in relation to the dates and venues fixed by the Council for its Sixty-second and Sixty-third sessions.

Item 14 - Other Business

The Committees may consider any matters raised for discussion under this item.

Item 15 - Recommendations to the International Tropical Timber Council

The Committees may consider recommendations to the Council on projects, pre-projects, policy work and any other matters concerning economics, statistics, markets and forest industry.

Item 16 - Report of the Session

The Committees may consider and adopt a report containing recommendations to the Council. The Committees may request the Chairperson to present the report during the Sixty-first session of the Council for consideration and adoption.

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