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**COMMITTEE ON
REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

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

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REPORT

Item 1 - Opening of the Session

The Forty-third Session of the Committees was opened on 9 November 2009 at the Joint Session of the Committee on Economic Information and Market Intelligence (CEM), the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management (CRF), the Committee on Forest Industry (CFI), and the Committee on Finance and Administration (CFA), chaired by Ms. Siti Syaliza binti Mustapha (Malaysia), Chairperson of CEM. This Joint Session considered Agenda items 1-4. Joint Sessions of the Technical Committees were also convened under the chairmanship of Ms. Siti Syaliza binti Mustapha (Malaysia) to consider items 5 and 8 (A) of the Agenda, respectively. The subsequent meetings of the CRF were chaired by Mr. Hideaki Takai (Japan), assisted by Mr. Tabi Agyarko (Ghana), Vice-Chair of CRF. The list of participants is presented in document ITTC(XLIV)/Info.2.

Item 2 - Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work

The Agenda for the Committees as contained in documents CEM-CFI(XLIII)/1 Rev.1, CFA(XXIV)/1 Rev.1 and CRF(XLIII)/1 Rev.2 was duly adopted.

Item 3 - Admission of Observers

The Committees admitted the observers listed in document ITTC(XLV)/Info.3 Rev.1 as approved by the Council.

Item 4 - Report of the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals

The Committees noted the presentation made by Mr. Hideaki Takai (Japan), Chairman of the Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals at its Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth meetings held on 2-6 February and 3-7 August 2009 in Yokohama, Japan as contained in documents ITTC/EP-37 and ITTC/EP-38, respectively. In summary, the report of the Expert Panel indicated:

- (i) a total number of 29 and 31 proposals were appraised at its Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth meetings respectively;
- (ii) a total number of 9 proposals (32% of proposals evaluated) comprising 9 projects were accorded category 1 rating at the Thirty-seventh meeting and a total number of 10 proposals (34% of proposals evaluated) comprising 10 projects were accorded category 1 rating at the Thirty-eighth meeting;
- (iii) three (3) out of the 9 proposals accorded category 1 rating during the Thirty-seventh meeting and 3 out of the 10 proposals accorded category 1 rating at the Thirty-eighth meeting were revised proposals;
- (iv) ten (10) proposals appraised during the Thirty-seventh meeting and 14 proposals during the Thirty-eighth meeting were sent back to proponents for revision and nine (9) proposals appraised during the Thirty-seventh meeting and 5 proposals during the Thirty-eighth meeting were recommended not to be approved by the Committees.

Mr. Takai presented the general comments made by the Expert Panel at its Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth meetings including:

- Conventional weaknesses are still common, including illogical problem analyses and problem trees, weak logical frameworks with immeasurable indicators, and unclear presentations of sustainability.
- Utilization and application of the relevant ITTO policy documents is often insufficient.
- There is insufficient consideration of the recommendations of relevant past projects, ex-post evaluation reports, ITTO diagnostic missions and Expert Panels.
- The new format of the third edition of the Manual enables clear understanding of the contents of the project but many projects indicate a lack of understanding of the instructions of the Manual.
- Some proposals are clear, unambiguous and logical, demonstrating a clear understanding of the Manual.

Mr. Takai informed the Committees that the new scoring system had assisted panel members in assessing proposals, reduced subjectivity in assessments, facilitated comparisons between evaluations, improved the weighting of different elements of project proposals and assisted the ITTO Secretariat in writing recommendations for the projects' proponents. Mr. Takai noted that although the system was operational, it was subject to further fine tuning. He also pointed out that the system was merely a tool for assisting in final decision making. The Panel's suggestions for proponents were to ensure stakeholder participation in project formulation, to focus the scope of the project along with the capacity, time and budget available, to follow the new Manual more precisely and to use and provide feed-back on the ITTO Pro-Tool. Member countries were advised to provide full support for ensuring sustainability of the projects after completion, to limit new proposals to three or less per cycle, to develop a mechanism for pre-screening and monitoring proposals and to establish a national training mechanism on project formulation. The Secretariat was advised to continue conducting training workshops on project formulation, provide relevant documents for Panel members and to refine and maintain the ITTO Pro-Tool.

The delegation of Switzerland expressed appreciation of the work of the Expert Panel and noted that the new tools and scoring system had improved the project appraisal process considerably. The delegation of the USA reiterated these comments, and expressed an overall positive reaction to the tools developed. The new scoring system had resulted in more structured and objective assessments of project proposals. The delegation also hoped that the revised Manual would contribute to more successful projects on the ground. The need for active focal points in producer member countries was acknowledged and the Secretariat was urged to engage focal points in producer countries to improve the quality of proposals. The delegation of Cameroon noted that there was a great deal of work still to be done to improve the Manual and stressed the need to increase the level of training at country level to be able to pre-select and improve the quality of project proposals. The delegation of China fully supported the conclusions of the Expert Panel and the adoption of the new scoring system. The delegation further supported the need for training at the country level to improve the quality of proposals. The delegation of Indonesia urged the continued use of project tools which were still not considered user friendly in some respects.

Item 5 – New Projects and Pre-Projects

The Committees took note of the following projects and pre-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 Decision 6(XLIII), following the recommendations of the Expert Panel for the Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals at its Thirty-seventh Meeting held in Yokohama, Japan on 2-6 February 2009, as contained in document ITTC/EP-37, in conformity with Articles 25 and 27 of the ITTA, 1994.

For Thirty-seventh Expert Panel

PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 477/07 Rev.3 (F)	Improving Forest Functions in Bengkulu Province through Community Participation in Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest by Using Local Prospective Commodities	Indonesia
PD 492/07 Rev.3 (F)	Participatory Rehabilitation and Management Project for Mangroves and Watersheds in the Coastal Area of the Douala/Edéa Wildlife Reserve – "Douala-Edéa Mangrove Project" (Cameroon)	Cameroon
PD 519/08 Rev.1 (F)	Tropical Forest Conservation for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Carbon Stocks in Meru Betiri National Park, Indonesia	Indonesia
PD 527/08 Rev.1 (F)	Enhancing Capacity Building on Assessing Tropical Forest Carbon Stock and its Changes in China	China
PD 528/08 Rev.1 (F)	Towards Sustainable Indigenous Mahogany Timber Production in Ghana: Phase II, Refining the Silvicultural "Tool Kit" and Practical Training for Industrial-Foresters and Community Farmers	Ghana
PD 534/08 Rev.1 (F)	Small-Scale Private Mixed Plantations Development PLUS Nutrition Promotion: The Case of Six Rural Community Women's Groups in the Eastern and Ashanti Regions of Ghana: Phase II	Ghana

The Committee also took note of the following projects and pre-projects which have been approved under the time-bound electronic no objection procedure to accept Expert Panel ratings pursuant to Decision 6(XLIII), following the recommendations of the Expert Panel for the Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals at its Thirty-eighth Meeting held in Yokohama, Japan on 3-7 August 2009 as contained in Document ITTC/EP38.

For Thirty-eighth Expert Panel

PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 495/08 Rev.3 (F)	Guatemalan Forest Productivity Information System	Guatemala
PD 530/08 Rev.2 (F)	Phase II of ITTO Project [PD 30/97 Rev.6 (F)] Management of Forests Established through Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests by Local Communities in Ghana	Ghana
PD 539/09 Rev.1 (F)	Promoting Conservation of Selected Tree Species Currently Threatened by Habitat Disturbance and Population Depletion	Indonesia
PD 541/09 Rev.1 (F)	Forest Promotion and Development by Native Communities in Peru	Peru
PD 542/09 Rev.1 (F)	Support to Convene the V Latin American Forestry Congress	Peru
PD 544/09 Rev.1 (F)	Increased Economic Returns from Forest Management in Permanent Production Forests of Peru	Peru
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	Papua New Guinea
PD 554/09 Rev.1 (F)	Pilot Sustainable Management Systems for Secondary Forests in the Collective Territory of the Bajo Calima Community Council, Buenaventura, Colombia	Colombia

In addition, the Committees took note of the following revised project into Phase I and II, and pre-project prepared based on the recommendation of the Thirty-seventh Expert Panel:

PD/PPD NUMBER	TITLE	SUBMITTING COUNTRY
PD 456/07 Rev.2 (F)	Building the Capacities of Forestry Training Institutions Members of the Network of Central African Forestry and Environmental Training Institutions (RIFFEAC) for Providing SFM Training for Forest Concessions – <u>Phase I (partially pending financing); Phase II (pending financing)</u> (ITTO)	ITTO
PPD 143/09 (F)	Assessment of Mangrove Forest Affected by Cyclone Nargis to Facilitate the Development of an Integrated Mangrove Ecosystem Management on in Ayeyarwady Delta, Myanmar	Myanmar

Item 6 – ITTO Annual Market Discussion -2009

The Committees noted the summary of the ITTO Annual Market Discussion – 2009, held in the Joint Session of the Technical Committees on 11 November 2009, as contained in Appendix A. The theme of the Market Discussion was “Tropical Timber Markets at a Crossroads: Buyers Perspectives”. Ms. Siti Syaliza binti Mustapha (Chairperson of CEM) chaired the meeting and Mr. Barney Chan (TAG Coordinator) served as the moderator of the Market Discussion.

The following feature presentations were made during the Market Discussion:

Mr. Andy Pitman, TRADA	The View from UK/Europe
Mr. Wu Shengfu, National Forest Products Association	China's Perspective
Mr. Ramkrishna Somaiya, Indian Timber Importers Association	The View from India
Mr. Yasuhiro Ohashi, Japan Lumber Importers Association	Commentary from Japan

Item 7 - Report on Completed Projects and Pre-projects

The Secretariat informed the Committee that the completed projects and pre-projects are described in document CRF(XLIII)/2, "Report on Completed Projects and Pre-projects in the Field of Reforestation and Forest Management", and are divided into two groups (A) and (B).

Group (A) lists the projects and pre-projects where the field activities have been completed, and the final report and other technical documentation have been submitted to the Secretariat as well as the audited financial report of the project's and pre-project's accounts.

Group (B) lists the projects and pre-projects where the field activities have been completed, and the final report and other technical documentation have been submitted to the Secretariat but where the audited financial report of the project's and pre-project's accounts is still pending.

As a general comment, the delegation of Switzerland invited the ITTO Secretariat to improve the reporting of completed projects by including a chapter on outcomes and impacts, to guide the executing agencies.

The Committee then proceeded to review the following completed projects and pre-projects:

7.1 Completed Projects

(A) Completed Projects, Including Financial Audit

1) PD 24/98 Rev.2 (F) Intensification of Teak Forestry (Côte d'Ivoire)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and acceptable Project Final Financial Audit Report. In view of the importance of the project results, the delegate from Côte d'Ivoire briefly presented the main outcomes of the project. Members praised the important work made under the project and the Committee commended the presentation given on the project achievements. However, that presentation was an opportunity for the Committee to recommend that the Secretariat should consider revising the format of the completion report in order to show the link between the project outcomes and impacts. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 24/98 Rev.2 (F) as completed.

2) PD 54/99 Rev.2 (F) Alternative Financing Model for Sustainable Forest Management in San Nicolas, Colombia (Colombia)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Completion Report and a series of Technical Reports. The Secretariat also informed the Committee that an adequate Final Financial Audit Report had recently been submitted by the Executing Agency. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 54/99 Rev.2 (F) as completed.

3) PD 63/01 Rev.2 (F) Assessment and Management of Mangrove Forests in Egypt for Sustainable Utilization and Development (Egypt)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report, several Technical Reports and acceptable Project Final Financial Audit Report. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 63/01 Rev.2 (F) as completed.

4) PD 240/03 Rev.1 (F) Alternative Financing Model for Sustainable Forest Management in San Nicolás – Second Phase: Non-Kyoto Rehabilitation Areas (Colombia)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Completion Report and several Technical Reports. The Secretariat also informed the Committee that an adequate Final Financial Audit Report had recently been submitted by the Executing Agency. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 240/03 Rev.1 (F) as completed.

5) PD 270/04 Rev.2 (F) Ex-situ and In-situ Conservation of Teak (*Tectona grandis* L.F.) to Support Sustainable Forest Management (Myanmar)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report and a series of Technical Reports. The Secretariat also informed the Committee that an acceptable Project Final Financial Audit Report has recently been submitted by the Executing Agency. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 270/04 Rev.2 (F) as completed.

6) PD 389/05 Rev.2 (F) Application of the Internal Monitoring of SFM Performance at Forest Management Unit Level (Indonesia)

The Committee took note that a series of Technical Reports, the Project Completion Report and the Final Financial Audit Report have been submitted by the Executing Agency. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 389/05 Rev.2 (F) as completed.

7) PD 393/06 Rev.1 (F) Village-Level Reforestation Plus Nutrition Promotion by Self-Motivated Community Women's Groups (Ghana)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Completion Report. The Secretariat also informed the Committee that an adequate Final Financial Audit Report had been recently submitted by the Executing Agency. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 393/06 Rev.1 (F) as completed.

(B) Completed Projects, Pending Financial Audit

1) PD 23/99 Rev.2 (F) Testing of ITTO Revised Criteria and Indicators and Dissemination of Results Applying to Cameroon (Cameroon)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report and Final Technical Report. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 23/99 Rev.2 (F) as completed, upon the reception of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat, and requested the Executing Agency to submit it to the Secretariat prior to the next Council Session.

2) PD 53/00 Rev.3 (F) Implementation of a Permanent Network of Stands Dynamics Monitoring Plots for the Gazetted Forests of Côte d'Ivoire (Côte d'Ivoire)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report and Final Technical Report. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 53/00 Rev.3 (F) as completed, upon the reception of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat, and requested the Executing Agency to submit it to the Secretariat prior to the next Council Session.

3) PD 138/02 Rev.2 (F) Integrated Evaluation and Strategy for the Sustainable Management of Secondary Forests in the Central Forest Region of Peru (Peru)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the completion report and several technical reports, but the Final Financial Audit Report is still pending. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 138/02 Rev.2 (F) as completed, upon the reception of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat, and requested the Executing Agency to submit it to the Secretariat prior to the next Council Session.

4) PD 228/03 Rev.3 (F) Tropical Forest Fire Monitoring Management System Based on Satellite Remote Sensing Data in China – Phases I and II (China)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report and a series of Technical Reports but the Final Financial Audit Report is still pending. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 228/03 Rev.3 (F) as completed, upon the reception of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat, and requested the Executing Agency to submit it to the Secretariat prior to the next Council Session.

5) PD 251/03 Rev.3 (F) Evaluation of Commercial Stocks and Strategy for the Sustainable Management of Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*) in Peru (Peru)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the completion report and several technical reports, but the Final Financial Audit Report is still pending. The Committee noted and further commended the presentation given on the project achievements. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 251/03 Rev.3 (F) as completed, upon the reception of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat, and requested the Executing Agency to submit it to the Secretariat prior to the next Council Session.

6) PD 386/05 Rev.2 (F) Technological Development for the Production of Planting Materials to Support Sustainable Plantation of Bali Indigenous Species Through Community Participation (Indonesia)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Project Completion Report and a series of Technical Reports but the Final Financial Audit Report is still pending. The Committee therefore decided to consider the project PD 386/05 Rev.2 (F) as completed, upon the reception of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report by the Secretariat, and requested the Executing Agency to submit it to the Secretariat prior to the next Council Session.

7.2 Completed Pre-projects

(A) Completed Pre-projects, Including Financial Audit

1) PPD 98/04 Rev.1 (F) Towards the Municipal Decentralization of Forest Management in the Chaco and Yungas Eco-Regions of Bolivia (Bolivia)

The Committee took note that the Completion Report, the Technical Reports, a project proposal and the Final Financial Audit Report have been submitted by the Executing Agency. The Committee decided to consider the pre-project PPD 98/04 Rev.1 (F) as completed.

2) PPD 134/07 Rev.1 (F) Guidelines for the Restoration of Mangroves and Other Coastal Forests Damaged by Tsunamis and Other Natural Hazards in the Asia-Pacific Region (Global-Japan)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Pre-Project Completion Report, two Technical Reports and the Final Financial Audit Report. The Committee therefore decided to consider the pre-project PPD 134/07 Rev.1 (F) as completed.

(B) Completed Pre-projects, Pending Financial Audit

1) PPD 108/04 Rev.1 (F) Sustainable Community Management, Utilisation and Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems in Ghana (Ghana)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Completion Report and a series of Technical Report but the Final Financial Audit Report is still pending. The Committee therefore decided to consider the pre-project PPD 108/04 Rev.1 (F) as completed upon receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report, prior to the next Council Session.

2) PPD 123/06 Rev.1 (F) Controlling dieback and Decay Phenomenon in Plantations Species (Côte d'Ivoire)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Completion Report and a series of Technical Report but the Final Financial Audit Report is still pending. The Committee therefore decided to consider the pre-project PPD 123/06 Rev.1 (F) as completed upon receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report, prior to the next Council Session.

3) PPD 124/06 Rev.2 (F) Reforestation of Tropical Savannah Grassland with High Valued Teak in Papua New Guinea (PNG)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has submitted the Pre-Project Completion Report, a full project proposal but the Final Financial Audit Report is still pending. The Committee therefore decided to consider the pre-project PPD 124/06 Rev.2 (F) as completed upon receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report, prior to the next Council Session.

4) PPD 129/06 Rev.1 (F) Forest Promotion and Development by Native Communities in Peru (Peru)

The Committee took note that the Completion Report, several Technical Reports and a project proposal have been submitted by the Executing Agency pending the Final Financial Audit Report. The Committee therefore decided to consider the pre-project PPD 129/06 Rev.1 (F) as completed upon receipt of a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report, prior to the next Council Session.

Item 8 - Ex-post Evaluation

(A) Reports on Ex-post Evaluation of Projects

The Committee was informed that the ex-post evaluation of the six projects grouped under the theme of Forest Management/Inventory, selected by the Committee at its Forty-first Session, had been completed:

Thematic Group Evaluation: Forest Management/Inventory

PD 68/89 Rev.1 (F)	Management of the Tapajós National Forest for Sustainable Production of Industrial Timber (Brazil)
PD 185/91 Rev.2 (F)	Sustainable Forest Management and Development in Peninsular Malaysia – Phase II (Malaysia)
PD 2/93 Rev.1 (F)	Integrated Pilot Management of the Ngoua II Forest North - Phase I: The Preparation of a Management Plan (Republic of Congo)
PD 23/00 Rev.4 (F)	Promotion and Transfer of Knowledge on Sustainable Forest Management Models to Timber Producers (Peru)
PD 39/00 Rev.3 (F)	Sustainable Collaborative Forest Management: Meeting the Challenges of Decentralization in the Bulungan Model Forest (Indonesia)
PD 178/02 Rev.1 (F)	Information and Training Programme for Sustainable Forest Management in the Peruvian Amazon Region (Peru)

The Committee took note of the presentation of the synthesis of the ex-post evaluation as contained in document CRF(XLIII)/4 by the Team Leader of the evaluation team, Mr. Jean-Marie Samyn, during the Joint Session of the Committees.

The Committee requested the Secretariat to ensure that the ex-post evaluation findings be taken into account in the formulation and implementation of new projects in the area of Forest Management/Inventory. The Committee commended the report presented by the consultant and also requested the Secretariat to ensure its dissemination.

(B) Selection of Projects for Ex-post Evaluation

According to Decision 3(XXVIII), "Ex-post Evaluation of Projects", the Committees are requested to consider as candidates for ex-post evaluation all completed individual projects or group of projects. The Committee, at its Forty-second Session, decided to select further projects for ex-post evaluation during the Forty-third Session, based on an updated short list by thematic groups to be prepared by the Secretariat of projects completed since 2006 in the Reforestation and Forest Management Division and not previously

selected for ex-post evaluation. Accordingly, a shortlist of completed projects by thematic groups was provided in document CRF(XLIII)/5 for the Committee's action at this Session.

The Committee took note of the aforementioned document and established a small informal working group consisting of delegates representing Australia, Switzerland, Brazil, Mexico, Colombia and the Secretariat to consider the ex-post evaluation of projects using the list as the basis for their work.

The working group, in reviewing the list, noted that the projects under the themes of 1) Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management; 2) Biodiversity Conservation; 3) Forest Plantations/Growth and Yield and 4) Geographic Information System/Demonstrations Areas; currently contained enough completed projects throughout the three tropical regions, and therefore presented to the Committee four lists of 3, 4, 4 and 2 projects respectively pre-selected for ex-post evaluation grouped under the aforementioned themes. The working group's report was considered by the Committee, which approved the following projects ex-post evaluation by thematic group as follows:

1) Thematic Group Evaluation: Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management

- PD 225/03 Rev.1 (F) Adoption and Implementation of an Appropriate System of Criteria and Indicators for the Philippines
- PD 195/03 Rev.2 (F) To Establish a National Monitoring Information System for the Effective Conservation and Sustainable Management of Thailand's Forest Resources
- PD 389/05 Rev.2 (F) Application of the Internal Monitoring of SFM Performance at Forest Management Unit Level (Indonesia)

2) Thematic Group Evaluation: Biodiversity Conservation

- PD 14/00 Rev.5 (F) Integrated Plan for the Consolidation of the Bagre Highlands Biological Corridor, Province of Darien (Panama)
- PD 17/00 Rev.3 (F) Conservation and Development in the Natural Protected Areas System of Tambopata (Peru) – Madidi (Bolivia)
- PD 44/00 Rev.3 (F) The Implementation of a Community-based Transboundary Management Plan for the Betung Kerihun National Park, West Kalimantan, Indonesia, Phase II
- PD 224/03 Rev.1 (F) Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation: The Pulong Tau National Park, Sarawak State, Malaysia, Phase I

3) Thematic Group Evaluation: Forest Plantations/Growth and Yield

- PD 22/98 Rev.1 (F) Development of Teak Cloning and Establishment of Industrial Plantations (Côte d'Ivoire)
- PD 41/00 Rev.3 (F,M) Model Development to Establish Commercial Plantation of Dipterocarps (Indonesia)
- PD 53/00 Rev.3 (F) Implementation of a Permanent Network of Stands Dynamics Monitoring Plots for the Gazetted Forests of Côte d'Ivoire
- PD 386/05 Rev.1 (F) Technological Development for the Production of Planting Materials to Support Sustainable Plantation of Bali Indigenous Species through Community Participation (Indonesia)

4) Thematic Group Evaluation: Geographic Information System/Demonstrations Areas

- PD 57/99 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase I

PD 176/02 Rev.1 (F) Use of Remote Sensing Technology and Information Systems to Support Forestry Legislation Monitoring in the Republic of Congo

In addition, it also noted that the Committee had considered at its previous sessions that ITTO had been carrying out ex-post evaluations for many years, the results and the recommendations have not been used in a consistent way to influence the design and execution of new projects, nor that the recommendations and lessons learnt condensed in one useful document as regards the development and implementation of similar projects in the future, that could be referred to by project formulators and the members themselves of the ITTO Expert Panel for Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals. In addition, it is important to assess the consistency of the quality and methodology of ex-post evaluations so that useful conclusions from the reports can be drawn. In this light the CRF requested the Secretariat draft a set of TOR for the Meta evaluation and submit it the CRF at its next session for its consideration.

It was also suggested to the Secretariat that, for the next set of ex-post evaluations, the TOR of the consultants should be analyzed vis-à-vis the corresponding theme to contextualize their work.

The Committee further requested the Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements for the conduct of the ex-post evaluations before the 45th Committee Session, and also prepare an updated "Shortlist of Completed Projects Relevant for Ex-post Evaluation in the Field of Reforestation and Forest Management" for the 45th Session, which should include all completed projects since 2008 not previously selected for ex-post evaluation.

Item 9 - Review of Implementation of Approved Projects and Pre-projects

9.1 Project Work in Progress

The Committee took note of a status report [document CRF(XLIII)/3] by the Secretariat on the 88 projects, in the field of Reforestation and Forest Management, that have been approved by the Council, and which are either: A) in the process of implementation (61), B) awaiting the signing of an Agreement (4), C) projects awaiting financing (17), or D) falling under the sunset provision since the last Session (6).

The Committee noted the reports on the progress of these projects in the above document. In view of the desire of the Committee to further streamline its work in accordance with Council Decision 4(XXV) Annex A, Section VI.1, the Committee requested the Secretariat and Members to limit the reporting and discussion during the Session to those projects that are:

- having implementation problems;
- requiring additional funds;
- requesting extension in time of more than 6 months beyond the original duration of the project; or
- requesting essential major modifications of the work plan and budget.

The Committee then proceeded to discuss the issues associated with a number of projects. Details of these discussions are as follows:

(A) Projects under implementation

- 1) **PD 21/98 Rev.2 (F) Forest Management, Community Involvement and Sustainable Use of Si-Kop Forest Area (Coastal Province, Cameroon) (Phase II) (Cameroon)**

The Committee was informed that the project extension was granted for twenty-four months until July 2011, without additional ITTO funds, for the continuation and completion of planned activities. The Delegation from Cameroon thanked the ITTO Secretariat for its support and informed the Committee that the Ministry of Forestry and Fauna has put in place the mechanism for the regular disbursement of counterpart funds required for the implementation of the project during the extension period. The Committee took note of the updated information regarding the disbursement of counterpart funds to be provided for a smooth implementation of this project during the extension period.

2) PD 55/98 Rev.3 (F) Evaluation of Mangrove Forests in the North-east of the Orinoco Delta Region in Venezuela with a View to Sustainable Forest Utilization (Venezuela)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency has requested an extension in time to December 2009 so as to be able to finalize the project's activities and outputs without the need of the third and last tranche of ITTO funds in the amount of US\$80,000.00. The Committee also observed that the interim annual Audit Report submitted did not follow ITTO's format and further presented what appeared to be irregularities and that the Secretariat had requested the Executing Agency to revise this audit report and resubmit it. In this light, the Committee endorsed an extension of the project until the end of December 2009, without additional funds, as per the written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency, with a view towards successfully completing the project's activities and outputs, and further urges the Executing Agency submit the Completion Report, the several technical reports and other outputs and means of verification produced by the project, and the Final Audited Report, all following the respective ITTO formats, immediately after project completion.

3) PD 27/99 Rev.2 (F) Pilot Project for the Sustained Management of the So'o Lala Forest - Phase II (Cameroon)

The Committee was informed that the project extension was granted until December 2009, without additional ITTO funds, in order to mainly revise, update and validate the draft management plan of the So'o Lala Forest Reserve. The Delegation from Cameroon thanked the ITTO Secretariat for its support and informed the Committee that the Ministry of Forestry and Fauna has put in place the mechanism for the regular disbursement of counterpart funds required for the implementation of the project during the extension period. The Committee took note of the updated information regarding the disbursement of counterpart funds required to ensure a smooth implementation of this project during the extension period.

4) PD 62/99 Rev.3 (F) Reforestation Pilot Project for the Recovery of Degraded Areas in the Medium Doce River Region, State of Minas Gerais, Brazil (Brazil)

The Committee took note that the project's Steering Committee, during its meeting in August 2009, observed that most of the project's activities continued to be severely delayed. It further observed that at that meeting the Executing Agency had expressed its interest in extending the project until March 2011 to successfully achieve its outputs. In this light, the Committee recommended the Executing Agency to immediately submit a formal request with a justification to the Secretariat for the aforementioned extension in time, together with any required budget amendments and an updated Detailed Work Plan and Yearly Plan of Operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities. The Committee further authorized the Secretariat to grant the extension until March 2011 upon receipt of appropriate supporting documents justifying the request of the project extension and approval of these by the Secretariat.

5) PD 66/01 Rev.1 (F) Establishment of the Mengamé-Minkébé Transboundary Gorilla Sanctuary (MMGS) at the Cameroon-Gabon Border (Cameroon)

The Delegation from Cameroon informed the Committee that most project activities have been completed and the great delay in submitting the project completion report and final financial audit report, which were due in September 2008 and October 2008, is mainly due to the delay for the signing by the Prime Minister of Cameroon of the decrees regarding the creation of the protected area complex composed of the Mengame Gorilla Sanctuary and Kom National Park. The Committee was informed that the latest Project Steering Committee meetings made a series of recommendations to be taken into account by the Executing Agency for the adequate completion of the project and for reflection on its future phases. Those recommendations should be revisited for the preparation of any follow-up phase. The Committee took note of that information and urged the Executing Agency to submit those reports as soon as possible in order to allow the Secretariat to report this project as completed during the next Committee Session.

6) PD 142/02 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Production of National Forests under the "Regime of Forest Concessions" (Brazil)

The Committee endorsed the request of the Executing Agency for a budget neutral extension for project completion until July 2011, pending submission and approval of the relevant Plan of Operation.

- 7) **PD 156/02 Rev.3 (F) Conservation and Reforestation of Threatened Mangrove Forest Areas along the Pacific Coast of Panama – Phase I (Completed), Phase II (Operational)** (Panama)

The Committee noted that the project will complete all its field activities by year-end and further submit the completion report and other relevant technical documents and means of verification to the Secretariat soon thereafter. The Committee noted and further commended the formal presentation given on the project outcomes and achievements at this Session of the CRF.

- 8) **PD 237/03 Rev. 4 (F) Binational Conservation and Peace in the Condor Range Region, Ecuador-Peru – Phase II (Peruvian Component)** (Peru)

The Committee took note that project implementation required some additional time than that initially allocated, as some activities have suffered delays particularly those related to the social and economic development of the communities in the buffer zones, due mainly to the sporadic social instability the region suffered from April to June 2009. As such, the Executing Agency has applied for an additional extension in time until February 2010 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project, and further submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, including budgetary modifications. Moreover, the Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents and considered these to be justified. In this light, the Committee endorsed an extension of the project until the end of February 2010, without additional funds, as per the written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency.

- 9) **PD 238/03 Rev.4 (F) Binational Conservation and Peace in the Condor Range Region, Ecuador-Peru (Ecuadorian Component), Phase II** (Ecuador)

The Committee noted that the project is to complete all its field activities by year-end and that, after bilateral coordination meetings and a last Joint Project Steering Committee with their Peruvian counterparts in December, 2009, it will further submit the completion report and other relevant technical documents and means of verification to the Secretariat. In addition, the Committee lauded the joint subscription on September 8th, 2009 of a Bilateral Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Matters between the Minister of Environment of Ecuador, Dra. Marcela Aguiñaga, and the Minister of Environment of Peru, Dr. Antonio Brack Egg, that will promote the technical cooperation between the two countries with a view towards the coordinated management of transboundary conservation areas, among other issues.

- 10) **PD 248/03 Rev.4 (F) Antimary Forest Management Regional Training Centre** (Brazil)

The Committee endorsed the request of the Executing Agency for a budget neutral extension until December 2010, pending submission and approval of the relevant Plan of Operation.

- 11) **PD 272/04 Rev.2 (F) Development of National Principles, Criteria and Indicators for the Sustainable Management of Congo Forest Based on ITTO Criteria and Indicators for SFM** (Congo)

The Committee was informed that most project activities had been completed, and the project completion report and final financial audit report were due in November 2008 and December 2008 respectively. The Committee took note of that information and asked the Executing Agency to submit those reports, as soon as possible, in order to allow the Secretariat to report this project as completed during the next Committee Session.

- 12) **PD 288/04 Rev.2 (F) Development of Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary as a Totally Protected Area, Phase IV (Final Phase)** (Malaysia)

The Committee took note of the Executing Agency's request for additional funds amounting to US\$56,700 to publish a high quality 'coffee table' book which will illustrate the main outcomes of the ITTO-sponsored project on the development of Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary from Phase I to Phase IV covering last 16 years. In this light, the Committee recommended that additional funds be made available for the proposed publication.

13) PD 297/04 Rev.3 (F) Implementation of the Sustainable Forest Management Programme of the Iwokrama International Centre (Guyana)

The Committee noted that the project had completed all its field activities and successfully achieved its objectives and outputs and that the Executing Agency had recently submitted the project's Completion Report, the Final Technical Report, several other technical documents and means of verification, and the Final Financial Audit Report. The committee further lauded the fact that, as one of the outstanding ITTO field projects, the Executing Agency was invited to give a presentation of the project's achievements in SFM at the World Forestry Congress in October 2009. This project will be reported as completed at the next Session.

14) PD 319/04 Rev.2 (F) Modular System of Forest Management in the Brazilian Amazon (Brazil)

The Committee noted that the project's Executing Agency IMAZON had not submitted any progress or technical reports, or other means of verification, to the Secretariat during the past year. It further noted that the project's Annual Financial Audit reports for the years 2007 and 2008 were also pending and that the Project's Steering Committee Meeting, slated for August 2009, had been postponed until further notice. On the other hand, it also observed that the Executing Agency had submitted a written request for an extension in time without additional funds to December 2009, albeit without the corresponding supporting documents.

In this light, the Committee urges the Executing Agency to immediately submit the following to the Secretariat: 1) an updated Progress Report, in both technical and financial terms and following ITTO's format, 2) a Financial Audit Report covering all disbursements made by ITTO to date, 3) a proper written justification for an extension in time without additional funds, including a detailed work plan and any budgetary modifications for the additional period required to adequately achieve the project's objectives, and 4) a request for the disbursement of the last tranche of funds. The Secretariat may wish to consider convoking a special Project Steering Committee meeting to review in a participatory manner all the aforementioned documents prior to the release of the last tranche of funds.

15) PD 346/05 Rev.2 (F) Conservation and Recovery of Degraded Land in Family Agriculture Units in the Eastern Brazilian Amazon (Brazil)

The Committee took note that the Executing Agency had been late in submitting its progress reports and annual financial audit reports, and when submitted these were incomplete and did not follow ITTO formats. In this light, the Committee urged the Executing Agency to strictly abide to ITTO's procedures and scheduling in the future.

16) PD 349/05 Rev.2 (F) Criteria for the Management of Mangrove and Flood Forests in the Central Coastal Plains of Veracruz, Mexico: A Community Management Tool (Mexico)

The Committee took note that, while most of the project's activities were progressing satisfactorily, some had suffered delays due to diverse reasons. As such, the Executing Agency has applied for an additional extension in time until September 2010 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project, and further submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, including budgetary modifications. Moreover, the Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents and considered these to be justified. In this light, the Committee endorsed an extension of the project until the end of September 2010, without additional funds, as per the written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency.

17) PD 350/05 Rev.3 (F) Production Systems and Integrated Management of Shoot-borers for the Successful Establishment of Meliaceae Plantations in the Yucatan Peninsula and Veracruz, Mexico (Mexico)

The Committee took note that project implementation was slower than initially projected due to a myriad of reasons and that, as such, the Executing Agency had considered applying for an additional extension in time until July 2011 without additional funds, in order for the project to successfully achieve its objectives and outputs. In this light, the Committee recommended the Executing Agency to immediately submit a formal request with a justification to the Secretariat for the aforementioned extension in time, together with any required budget amendments and an updated Detailed Work Plan and Yearly Plan of

Operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities. The Committee further endorsed the extension until July 2011 upon receipt of appropriate supporting documents justifying the request of the project extension and approval of these by the Secretariat.

18) PD 351/05 Rev.1 (F) Criteria and Indicators for the Evaluation of Tropical Forest Management Sustainability in Mexico (Southeastern Coastal Plains: Gulf of Mexico and Yucatan Peninsula) (Mexico)

The Committee took note that, whilst most of the project's activities were progressing satisfactorily, some had suffered delays due mainly to the participatory process required by the project to develop localized C&I. As such, the Executing Agency has applied for an additional extension in time until March 2011 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project, and further submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, including budgetary modifications. Moreover, the Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents and considered these to be justified. In this light, the Committee endorsed the extension of the project until the end of March 2011, without additional funds, as per the written request and justification submitted by the Executing Agency.

19) PD 359/05 Rev.1 (F) Building Capacity to Develop and Implement Afforestation and Reforestation Projects under Clean Development Mechanism (AR-CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol in Tropical Forestry Sector (Global-Japan)

The Committee took note of a need for an extension of the project in order to successfully complete its activities relating to the development of small-scale AR CDM project design documents. In this light, the Committee endorsed the extension of the project until December 2010 without additional funds.

20) PD 438/06 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Forest Management for the Forest Production Area of the Northern and Northeastern Regions of the Department of Antioquia, Colombia (Colombia)

The Committee took note that, while the planned project activities were being executed normally, the Executing Agency had cautioned that possibly quite a few output indicators in the Project Document were currently either overambitious or unrealistic in their achievement, due to the fact that the underlying legal framework in Colombia had been modified. It further noted that the Secretariat had recommended the Executing Agency to adjust the project's activities accordingly so as to conform to the forestry and environmental legislation in place and submit in writing the proposed changes so that they can be reviewed and approved at the next project Steering Committee meeting. In this light, the Committee recommended that the Project Steering Committee Meeting be carried forward in time.

(B) Projects awaiting implementation agreement

1) PD 470/07 Rev.1 (F) Development and Implementation of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Planted Forests and Community Forests (Thailand)

The Committee took note of the information by the Delegation from Thailand that the Project Agreement has been reviewed by concerned parties in Thailand.

2) PD 492/07 Rev.3 (F) Participatory Rehabilitation and Management Project for Mangroves and Watersheds in the Coastal Area of the Douala/Edéa Wildlife Reserve – “Douala-Edéa Mangrove Project” (Cameroon)

The Committee took note of the information, provided by the Secretariat, that the Project Agreement was fully processed after being signed by the Executive Director of ITTO on 5 November 2009.

(C) Projects awaiting financing

The Committee noted that seventeen (17) projects approved at earlier Sessions are still awaiting funding, out of which eleven (11) will be sunset if funding is not secured before the next Session.

1) *PD 450/07 Rev.2 (F,I) Capacity Building for CDM Forestry in the Framework of SFM Emphasizing Community Forests and Poverty Alleviation in Ghana (Ghana)

- 2) *PD 452/07 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II (Brazil)
- 3) *PD 454/07 Rev.2 (F) Community Forest Management: A Sustainable Alternative for the Maues State Forest, Amazonas State (Brazil)
- 4) **PD 456/07 Rev.1 (F) Building the Capacities of Forestry Training Institutions Members of the Network of Central African Forestry and Environmental Training Institutions (RIFFEAC) for Providing SFM Training for Forest Concessions (ITTO)

The Committee was informed by the Secretariat about the conversion of the project into a phase project (Phase I with an ITO budget of US\$ 569,689 and Phase II with US\$ 511,052). The Committee was also informed that the Phase I is partially funded with the contribution of US\$ 97,037 pledged by Belgium in January 2008, and therefore a balance of US\$ 472,652 is to be provided by donors for the commencement of the implementation of the Phase I of this project. The Committee took note of the information.

- 5) PD 460/07 Rev.2 (F) Achieving Sustainable Management of Mangrove Forests in China through Local Capacity Building and Community Development – Phase I (pending financing); Phase II (pending financing) (China)
- 6) *PD 467/07 Rev.3 (F) Generating an Ongoing Information System on the Status of Mahogany (*Swietenia Macrophylla*) and Cedar (*Cedrela Odorata*) Populations in Support of Cites Scientific Authority in Peru (Peru)
- 7) *PD 471/07 Rev.2 (F) The Potential Impact of Environmental Fluctuations and Climate Change on Forest Plantation Pests in Ghana: Improving Pest Management Strategies through Research, Training and Extension (Ghana)
- 8) *PD 474/07 Rev.1 (F) Strengthening Collaborative Forest Management among indigenous Cultural Communities (ICC's) and other Stakeholders in the East Diwata Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) in Mindanao, Philippines (The Philippines)
- 9) *PD 475/07 Rev.1 (F) Restoring the Ecosystem Functions of the Jambi Grand Forest Park Through Promotion of Multiple-Use Function of Forest Resources in Collaboration with Local Stakeholders (Indonesia)
- 10) *PD 476/07 Rev.2 (F) Clonal Test of Superior Progeny of *Shorea Leprosula* for Enrichment Planting Program (Indonesia)
- 11) PD 477/07 Rev.3 (F) Improving Forest Functions in Bengkulu Province through Community Participation in Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest by Using Local Prospective Commodities (Indonesia)
- 12) *PD 490/07 Rev.2 (F) Project to Build the Institutional Capacities of the CITES Scientific Authority for Plants in Cameroon to ensure the Conservation and Sustainable Management of *Prunus Africana* (Cameroon)
- 13) *PD 501/08 Rev.1 (F) Promoting Household Reforestation in Tropical Zone of Southwestern China through Development and Extension of Household-Oriented Techniques (China)
- 14) *PD 515/08 Rev.1 (F) Monitoring Deforestation, Logging and Land Use Change in the Pan Amazonian Forest (Brazil)
- 15) PD 527/08 Rev.1 (F) Enhancing Capacity Building on Assessing Tropical Forest Carbon Stock and its Changes in China (China)
- 16) PD 528/08 Rev.1 (F) Towards Sustainable Indigenous Mahogany Timber Production in Ghana: Phase II, Refining the Silvicultural "Tool Kit" and Practical Training for Industrial-Foresters and Community Farmers (Ghana)

- 17) PD 534/08 Rev.1 (F) Small-Scale Private Mixed Plantations Development PLUS Nutrition Promotion: The Case of Six Rural Community Women's Groups in the Eastern and Ashanti Regions of Ghana: Phase II (Ghana)

*Those projects with asterisk (approved but not funded within 20 months) will be sunset at the next Session.

**This project is partially financed.

(D) Projects coming under the sunset provisions since the last Session

The Committee noted that six (6) projects have become sunset since its last Session.

- 1) PD 308/04 Rev.3 (F) Management of Secondary and Degraded Forests in the Peruvian Amazon Region by Indigenous Communities (Peru)
- 2) PD 341/05 Rev.3 (F) Restoration and Sustainable Management of Mangrove Forests in the Tumbes Region, Peru (Peru)
- 3) PD 404/06 Rev.3 (F) Conservation and Development in the Natural Protected Areas Complex of Tambopata (Peru) – Madidi (Bolivia) – Phase II (Peru and Bolivia)
- 4) PD 420/06 Rev.2 (F) Developing and Strengthening Institutions for the Implementation of the Philippine Criteria and Indicators (C & I) for SFM and Auditing System (The Philippines)
- 5) PD 436/06 Rev.1 (F) Forestry Partnership Pinhão Manso – Biodiesel Plant (Brazil)
- 6) PD 445/07 Rev.2 (F) Integrated Sustainable Forest Management Project for Forest Areas in the Lower Catatumbo River Watershed, North Santander Colombia (Colombia)

9.2 Pre-project Work in Progress

The Committee took note of a status report of approved pre-projects in document CRF(XLIII)/3. The Committee discussed the issues associated with a number of pre-projects. Details of these discussions are as follows:

(A) Pre-projects under implementation

- 1) **PPD 136/07 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Conservation, Land Management and Sustainable Mountain Biodiversity Management in the Centre North Region of Togo (Togo)**

The Committee was informed that this pre-project was approved by the Council in November 2007 and its full financing was pledged in June 2008. The Committee was also informed that the commencement of its implementation has been greatly delayed due to some governmental bureaucratic process for the opening of a separate bank account in US dollars. The Committee took note of that information and urged the Executing Agency to solve this problem before the pre-project PPD 136/07 Rev.1 (F) coming to under sunset provisions, if its implementation has not begun after 26 months since its approval by the Council.

(B) Pre-projects awaiting implementation agreement

The Committee noted that there was no pre-projects awaiting implementation agreement.

(C) Pre-projects awaiting financing

The Committee noted that there was no pre-projects awaiting financing.

(D) Pre-projects coming under the sunset provisions since the last Session

The Committee noted that there was no pre-project has become sunset since its last Session.

Item 10 – Biennial Work Programme of the Committee for 2010-2011

The Committee was invited to assess the relevant activities proposed under the Draft ITTO Biennial Work Programme 2010-2011 (Document ITTC(XLV)/9 Rev 2) with special reference to Expected Outputs 5 – Tropical Forest Resources Better Secured, and 6 – Tropical Forest Resources Sustainably Managed.

Various delegations provided comments to activities 45, 46 and 47 under Expected Output 5. A contact group was constituted and debated the Terms of Reference of these proposed activities in detail. The contact group reported back to the Committee, which endorsed its recommendations, which are presented in Annex of this report.

The delegation of the United States recalled the possibility of submitting Activity 46, related to the forest tenure, governance and enterprise conference with focus in Asia, to the consideration of the ITTO Thematic Programme on Tropical Forest Law Enforcement and Trade – TFLET.

Activities proposed under Expected Output 6 received no comments and were endorsed by the Committee as proposed by the Secretariat.

Item 11 - Policy Work

The Committee considered the following policy-related matters which are also included in the 2008-2009 ITTO Work Programme:

(i) Review and promote the use of the revised ITTO Guidelines for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Producing Forests (1993)

- Item related to ITTC Decision 4(XLIII)/17 of 10 November 2007 and Decision 6(XLIV) of 8 November 2008). The Secretariat reported on the following actions:

The final document (ITTO Policy Development Series number 17) has been printed in three languages. A launch ceremony was organized by ITTO and IUCN in Rome in March 2009 on the occasion of the World Forestry Week/COFO. During the ceremony, representatives of CBD Secretariat and GEF manifested their support to the Guidelines and interest to apply it in their projects.

Interest has been manifested by some forest concessionaires to apply the guidelines at forest management units, but financial resources are missing in order to initiate this activity, which has been included now in the ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2010-2011. Results of the implementation of the Guidelines in the field can be disseminated during an ITTO side event to be held during the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD CoP 10) to be held in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010.

(ii) Contribute appropriately to national and international efforts in the area of prevention and management of fire in relation to tropical timber-producing forests

- The Secretariat reported on the implementation of this activity, in particular on the developments in Nepal and other countries, as follows:

The Committee recalled that the Government of Nepal had requested ITTO's assistance under Decision 6(XXXIII) for the development of a policy, a strategy and building capacities in local, national and transboundary forest fire management for Nepal. This strategy was developed in 2009 through the joint collaboration of an international expert, Dr. Johann G. Goldammer of the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC, Fire Ecology Research Group of the Max Planck Institute at Freiburg University / United Nations University (UNU), and Mr. Sundar Sharma, UNISDR-Regional South Asia Wildland Fire Network (RSAWFN) and the Nepalese Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. Major achievements included the overall conclusions and recommendations of a multi-stakeholder national round table meeting on forest fires in Nepal, the study itself on the policy, strategy and building capacities in local, national and transboundary forest fire management for Nepal, and the submission to ITTO of a project proposal entitled PD 538/09 (F) "Participatory Forest fire Management Project in the National Forests, Nepal". This proposal was further reviewed by the Government of Nepal so as to incorporate the recommendations made by the 38th Expert Panel for the Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals, and resubmitted to the Secretariat for its evaluation by the 39th Expert Panel for the Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals in February 2010. Copies of the aforementioned reports on the findings of the multi-stakeholder national round table consultation meeting and on the strategy are available upon request from the Secretariat.

The Committee further took note that the Government of Honduras also recently officially submitted a request for ITTO's assistance under Decision 6(XXXIII) for the development of a comprehensive strategy of fire management oriented to build capacities at the local and national level for the management of forest fires in Honduras. The Secretariat is currently in negotiations with the Honduran National Institute for Forest Conservation and Development, Protected Areas and Wildlife (ICF) with a view towards finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding for the implementation of this activity. In addition, the Committee observed that the Secretariat was informally approached by the Government of Togo as regards ITTO's assistance under Decision 6(XXXIII) for the specific development of a strategy and further establishment of a forest fire prevention and control system in Togo, and that it would formalize its request soon.

The Committee additionally noted that in October 2008 ITTO became a Core Member of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) Global Wildland Advisory Group, and the related Global Wildland Fire Network (GWFN) and the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC). The Wildland Fire Advisory Group is a successor arrangement of the Working Group on Wildland Fire, UNISDR Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction. Together with the ISDR Global Wildland Fire Network the Advisory Group is serving as an advisory body to the UN in all matters related to wildland fires. In this light, Dr. Johann G. Goldammer of the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) gave a presentation to the Committee on past cooperation between ITTO and GFMC as well as on the visions and prospects as regards future joint activities within the UNISDR Global Wildland Fire Network, as well as on the outcomes of the assistance provided to the government of Nepal as regards the development of a forest fire strategy for that country. The Committee further lauded Prof. Goldammer's presentation and took note of the potential benefits an active collaboration among the aforementioned institutions may provide in the future.

The committee was also informed that in June 2009, the UNISDR Regional Wildland Fire Network (AFRIFIRENET), via the Government of Ghana, had submitted a project proposal for ITTO to further co-sponsor of the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference in May 2011 in an amount of approximately US\$ 200,000. This proposal was further reviewed by the 38th Expert Panel for the Technical Appraisal of Project Proposals, which noted that this proposal basically aimed at sponsoring the participation of producer member country fire experts at the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference to be held in South Africa in May 2011. However, in view that ITTO was now a Core Member of the UNISDR Global Wildland Advisory Group, the GWFN and the GFMC, the Panel suggested the Secretariat take a more proactive role in the aforementioned forest fire-related networks and in preparation of and its participation at WILDFIRE 2011, assuming direct responsibility for the selection of the participants to be sponsored. It was also noted that, following up on this, the Secretariat had reviewed the project proposal and also Council Decision 6 (XXXIII), in which approximately US\$ 95,000 remained unallocated, and had brought forward for the Committee's consideration the utilization of the aforementioned remaining funds in Decision 6 (XXXIII) to expand the use of these funds to cover the proactive participation of the Secretariat, and ITTO member countries – particularly those with ongoing fire projects - at the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference and Summit to be held in South Africa in 2011.

Moreover, several delegations highlighted the importance of the incorporation the aforesaid additional activities into Council Decision 6(XXXIII) and the Government of Japan, as the sole donor to this Council Decision, further expressed its interest to support such a proposal. As such, the Committee decided to endorse the partial use of the remaining funds allocated to Council Decision 6(XXXIII) to cover the proactive participation of the Secretariat, together with at least 6 participants from ITTO member countries – particularly those with ongoing fire projects - in the organization of an exchange of experiences and possibly a joint presentation of achievements as regards the prevention and management of tropical forest fires at the 5th International Wildland Fire Conference and Summit to be held in South Africa in 2011, in addition to the Secretariat's attendance and active participation at crucial GWFN meetings and other where tropical forest fires issues are to be deliberated, and submits it to the Council for approval in conjunction with this report.

(iii) Promote the implementation of guidelines for the management of secondary tropical forests, the restoration of degraded tropical forests and the rehabilitation of degraded forest land

The Secretariat reported on the collaboration with the Global Partnership on Forests Landscape Restoration (GPFLR), hosted by IUCN, for the development of three national or context specific

guidelines (Ghana, Indonesia and African Great-Lakes region including the Democratic Republic of Congo) plus three national or context-specific workshops to debate the forest landscape restoration concept in their local context. Workshops were held in Acre, Brazil, Bali, Indonesia and Kigali, Rwanda (for the African Great Lakes Region). A report on the activity (RFM Non-Paper 4) and copy of the workshop proceedings and country or context-specific guidelines have been distributed to members of the Committee.

The coordinator of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration, Ms. Carole Saint Laurent, made a presentation to the Committee on the activities developed and results achieved under this partnership, and introduced the proposal to establish a global network of Forest Landscape Restoration learning sites, inviting ITTO to actively participate and contribute to this network. For this purpose, a specific activity has been included in the ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2010-2011.

The delegation of USA praised the results of the partnership between ITTO and the GPFLR; the delegation of Colombia manifested the importance of this activity in the context of the National Ecosystem Restoration Plan being developed for the country.

(iv) Monitoring the progress in the application of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management

The Secretariat informed the Committee that national training workshops on criteria and indicators (C&I) had been convened in 25 producer member countries since 2002 with more than 1200 forest management stakeholders (concessionaires, forest authorities, NGOs, community representatives, etc.) trained to date. The latest workshop was held in Thailand in mid-2009. An additional 2-3 workshops are planned for 2010.

The Secretariat also informed the Committee that member countries had been requested to provide updated information on their progress towards sustainable forest management using the ITTO C&I Reporting Format for use in compiling the Status of Tropical Forest Management -2010 (SFM Tropics-2010) report under the 2008-09 Work Program, and the results obtained so far have been very promising. Those member countries that have not yet submitted their reports were encouraged to do so at their earliest convenience.

(v) Review and update the ITTO Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests to take into account recent developments in tropical forestry

The Secretariat informed the Committee that this activity, which received partial funding during the 44th ITTC on November 2008, was initiated in 2009 through the recruitment of the consultancy team and the development of the relevant work plan. The leading consultant, Dr. Jürgen Blaser, made a presentation to the Committee on the advances to date, the methods and approaches to be used for the completion of the task, which shall be achieved in 2010 pending availability of the necessary funding, as per proposed activity in the ITTO Biennial Work Programme for 2010-2011.

The delegation of Indonesia highlighted the importance of having the forest carbon assessment taken into account in this work. Japan highlighted the importance of this activity to be broad, recommending the involvement of the targeted audience in the revision of the Guidelines to guarantee further appropriation. He mentioned the importance of ITTO Guidelines to stand for a reasonable period of time, preferably 10 years.

(vi) Encourage and increase the involvement of non-government stakeholders in the activities of the Organization

The Secretariat reported on the results of the International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Enterprise, organized with partners in May 2009 in Yaoundé, Cameroon, and on the global assessment of the status of tropical forest tenure discussed during the Conference, which has been developed in collaboration with the Rights and Resources Institute and other partners. Copies of the Global Assessment document and the Key Messages and Recommendations of the Yaoundé Conference have been made available to the Committee members.

The Committee invited the representative of RRI, Ms Augusta Molnar, to provide a presentation on the results and impacts of this activity, which received various comments from the floor. Australia and the

European Commission highlighted the importance of the theme of forest tenure, especially in the context of REDD – Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, where forest carbon ownership will have to be clearly assessed. The delegation of PNG requested clarification on the types of forest tenure described in the report and the difficulty to apply the ITTO concept of permanent forest estate in a country where more than 90% of the land is owned by the communities.

The Secretariat call the attention of the Committee for three proposed activities under the ITTO BWP 2010-2011 that are resulting from the recommendations of the Yaoundé Conference, including the organization of a third conference on forest tenure, governance and enterprises in 2011, with focus in Asia, after the conferences of Latin America (2007) and Africa (2009).

Item 12 - Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for 2010

Mr. Tabi Agyarko of Ghana was elected as Chairperson for 2010. Mr. Patrick Hardcastle of United Kingdom was elected as Vice-Chairperson for 2010.

Item 13 - Dates and Venues of the Forty-fourth and Forty-fifth Sessions of the Committee

The Forty-fourth Session of the Committee would be held in conjunction with the Forty-sixth Session of the International Tropical Timber Council.

The Forty-fifth Session of the Committee would be held in conjunction with the Forty-seventh Session of the International Tropical Timber Council.

Item 14 - Other Business

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the joint study being carried out by ITTO and ICRAF on the role of agroforestry in supplying tropical timber markets.

Item 15 - Recommendations to the International Tropical Timber Council

(A) The Committee recommended that funding be made immediately available for the following projects and pre-project approved under the Project Cycle Spring 2009 and Project Cycle Autumn 2009:

Projects

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| PD 456/07 Rev.2 (F) | Building the Capacities of Forestry Training Institutions Members of the Network of Central African Forestry and Environmental Training Institutions (RIFFEAC) for Providing SFM Training for Forest Concessions (ITTO)
[Phase I: US\$569,689 and Phase: US\$511,052] |
| PD 477/07 Rev.3 (F) | Improving Forest Functions in Bengkulu Province through Community Participation in Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest by Using Local Prospective Commodities (Indonesia) [US\$338,256] |
| PD 495/08 Rev.3 (F) | Guatemalan Forest Productivity Information System (Guatemala) [US\$492,588] |
| PD 527/08 Rev.1 (F) | Enhancing Capacity Building on Assessing Tropical Forest Carbon Stock and its Changes in China [US\$207,065] |
| PD 528/08 Rev.1 (F) | Towards Sustainable Indigenous Mahogany Timber Production in Ghana: Phase II, Refining the Silvicultural "Tool Kit" and Practical Training for Industrial-Foresters and Community Farmers [US\$465,264] |
| PD 530/08 Rev.2 (F) | Phase II of ITTO Project [PD 30/97 Rev.6 (F)] Management of Forests Established through Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests by Local Communities in Ghana [US\$522,312] |

- PD 534/08 Rev.1 (F) Small-Scale Private Mixed Plantations Development PLUS Nutrition Promotion: The Case of Six Rural Community Women's Groups in the Eastern and Ashanti Regions of Ghana: Phase II [US\$424,837]
- PD 539/09 Rev.1 (F) Promoting Conservation of Selected Tree Species Currently Threatened by Habitat Disturbance and Population Depletion (Indonesia) [US\$149,710]
- PD 541/09 Rev.1 (F) Forest Promotion and Development by Native Communities in Peru [US\$610,505]
- PD 542/09 Rev.1 (F) Support to Convene the V Latin American Forestry Congress (Peru) [US\$114,523]
- PD 544/09 Rev.1 (F) Increased Economic Returns from Forest Management in Permanent Production Forests of Peru [US\$592,229]
- PD 552/09 Rev.1 (F) Encouraging Customary Landowners in the Lowlands of Papua New Guinea's Central Porvince to Reforest their Grasslands with High Value Trees [US\$644,814]
- PD 554/09 Rev.1 (F) Pilot Sustainable Management Systems for Secondary Forests in the Collective Territory of the Bajo Calima Community Council, Buenaventura, Colombia [US\$453,600]

Pre-project

- PPD 143/09 (F) Assessment of Mangrove Forest Affected by Cyclone Nargis to Facilitate the Development of an Integrated Mangrove Ecosystem Management on in Ayeyarwady Delta, Myanmar [US\$61,938]

B) The Committee recommended that additional funds be made immediately available for the following project:

- PD 288/04 Rev.2 (F) Development of Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary as a Totally Protected Area, Phase IV (Final Phase) (Malaysia) [US\$56,700]

Item 16 - Report of the Session

The Committee accepted this Report for submission to the Council.

Annex
CONTACT GROUP ON CRF ACTIVITIES UNDER BWP 2010-2011
Revised TOR of Activities under Expected Outcome 5:

EXPECTED OUTCOME 5: Tropical forest resources better secured

ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH AND COST IMPLICATIONS	RESPONSIBLE BODY
<p>Investigate gender equity in relation to forest management and enterprises. [ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(c), (j), (r)] [Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 5 (A), (F)]</p>	<p>Develop a global study on gender in relation to tropical forests in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the status of gender equity in the tropical forest countries in forest ownership, management, governance and forest enterprises as a basis for further dialogue and equity; and • Establish active dialogue with and support networks and second and third tier organizations of women forest producers and forest managers and evaluate their perspectives in relation to the ITTO activities and projects. <p>Estimated cost: US\$ 120,000 Expected funding source: Voluntary earmarked contributions</p>	<p>CRF</p>
<p>Organize an International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Small and Medium Forest Enterprises with focus in the Asia-Pacific. [ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(c), (j), (r)] [Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 5 (A), (F)]</p>	<p>Based on the recommendations of the International Conference on Tropical Forest Tenure, Governance and Enterprise, held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 25 to 29 May 2009; based on the results obtaining from the Conference on Community Forestry and Enterprises held in Rio Branco, Brazil in 2007; in partnership with relevant organizations and in collaboration with CSAG, organize an International Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Small and Medium Forest Enterprises with focus in the Asia-Pacific region to share experiences and learn from each other.</p> <p>Estimated cost: US\$ 300,000 Expected funding source: Voluntary earmarked contributions</p>	<p>CRF</p>
<p>Support the development and dissemination of guidelines on tropical forest tenure for the three tropical timber producing regions. [ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(j), (r)] [ITTC Decision 1(XXXVIII)] [Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 5 (A)]</p>		

Expected Outcome 5
Activity No. 45
Investigate gender equity in relation to forest management and enterprises
[ITTA, 2006, Article 1(c), 1(j) and 1(r)]
[Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Output. 5, Actions (d) & (g)]

I. Background

The international conference on forest tenure, governance and enterprises carried out in Yaoundé (Cameroon) in May 2009, recognized as a key challenge for sustainable forest management the need to recognize and address the gender dimensions in tropical forestry. Women in forestry face particular challenges due to lack of property ownership; lack of access to finance, markets and technology; unfavorable laws relative to access and ownership; and lack of information on laws and regulations. The conference requested ITTO to develop an agenda to promote gender equity within forestry and forest based enterprises, aiming at equitable sharing of responsibilities and benefits towards sustainable livelihoods.

II. Description

In close collaboration with ITTO's Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG), a study is proposed to:

- a) Assess the status of gender equity in the tropical forest countries in forest ownership, management, governance and forest enterprises as a basis for further dialogue and equity; and
- b) Establish active dialogue with and support networks and second and third tier organizations of women forest producers and forest managers and evaluate their perspectives in relation to the ITTO activities and projects.

An international consultant will be hired and be operational according to the following brief terms of reference:

- a) Prepare a background paper documenting the role of women in sustainable forest management in the tropics;
- b) Participate in a experts meeting to review and validate the background paper; and
- c) Prepare a policy brief to inform governments about gender issues in forest management and enterprises.

III. Expected Outputs

Validated policy brief on gender, forest management and forest based enterprises in the tropics

IV. Target countries

ITTO member countries

V. Duration & Timing

Duration: 12 months in 2010

VI. Budget

Total budget: US\$ 120,000

Expected Outcome 5
Activity No. 46

**ORGANIZE AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FOREST TENURE, GOVERNANCE
AND SMALL AND MEDIUM FOREST ENTERPRISES WITH FOCUS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC**

[ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(c), (j), (r)]
[Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 5 (A), (F)]

I. Background

In cooperation with relevant partners, provisions will be made to organize an international conference on forest tenure, governance and small and medium forest enterprises with focus in the Asian-Pacific region. As a follow-up of the previous international conferences held in Acre (Brazil), in July 2007, and in Yaoundé (Cameroon), in May 2009, this third international conference intends to share experiences and to learn from each other on the weak governance and insecure natural resources tenure rights, such as overlapping or conflicting claims, inequity in the allocation of rights, or a lack of recognition and acknowledgement of customary ownership, which could undermine the contributions of forestry to local, national and regional livelihoods and economies, as well as to the health of the global environment. As in the previous conferences, the activity is to be developed in close collaboration with ITTO's Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG).

II. Description

This international conference will be an opportunity to clarify and recognize that forest tenure and the rights to access forest resources could open up opportunities and options for all stakeholders to invest and engage in the sustainable use and conservation of the forests, as well as in the adequate, long term development of forest-based business initiatives.

Participants will share experiences in securing tenure rights, including the relationship between tenure reform and other goals such as uplifting livelihoods, securing investment, spurring small scale enterprises, and addressing climate change. The new initiatives emanating from this conference should help strengthen the impact of other key initiatives particularly on forest tenure, law enforcement and governance.

Master tasks regarding the implementation of this Activity are as follows:

- a) Selection a country in the Asia-Pacific for the holding of the international conference;
- b) Preparation of technical, administrative and logistical aspects for a smooth implementation of the international conference;
- c) Development of a background technical document, by an international consultant, to be circulated prior to the holding of the international conference;
- d) Convening of the international conference on forest tenure, governance and small and medium forest enterprises in a selected Asian country;
- e) Dissemination of the conference proceedings in ITTO working languages; and
- f) Report to the ITTC session.

An international consultant will be hired and be operational according to the following brief terms of reference:

- a) Prepare a background document discussion paper reflecting developments and experiences in the Three Tropical Timber Producing regions;
- b) Attend the international conference as technical expert and prepare its proceedings to be disseminated to member countries; and
- c) Prepare a summary on the findings and recommendations of the international conference to be presented to the Council or Committee as appropriate.

III. Expected Outputs

- a) ITTO member countries in the Asia-Pacific sensitized and informed on the tenure of forests and forest resources, governance and small- and medium-sized forest enterprises in relation to SFM purposes;
- b) Proceedings of the international conference prepared and disseminated by the ITTO Secretariat.; and
- c) A policy brief to inform decision makers and industry of the multiple forests and forest resource tenure issues to be considered in support of SFM and to assist SME with their efforts to verify the legal origins of their resources.

IV. Target Countries ITTO member countries

V. Duration & Timing 12 months in 2011

VI. Budget US\$ 300,000

Expected Outcome 5
Activity No. 47

~~SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF GUIDELINES ON
TROPICAL FOREST TENURE FOR THE THREE TROPICAL TIMBER PRODUCING REGIONS~~

~~[ITTA, 2006, Articles 1(j), (r)]
[ITTC Decision 1(XXXVIII)]
[Action Plan 2008-2011, Expected Outcome 5 (A)]~~

I. Background

~~Within the framework of the ITTO Work Programme for 2008 to 2009 which was approved during the Forty third Session of the Council, an international conference on forest tenure, governance and enterprise was held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in May 2009. The aim of the conference was to catalyze new and broader actions on securing tenure rights for implementation by governments, civil society organizations and local communities. Pursuant to one recommendation of the conference, it was asked to ITTO to provide support for the development and dissemination of guidelines on tropical forest tenure for the three tropical timber producing regions.~~

II. Description

~~Regarding the scope and content of this Activity, it should be considered the option of integrating the guidelines in the ITTO strategic policy work contributing to the sustainable management of tropical forests in its member countries.~~

~~The purpose of this Activity is to engage and support an international consultant to review relevant documents and publications for the development of a draft of ITTO Guidelines on Tropical Forest Tenure for the three tropical timber producing regions, and conduct an Expert Panel meeting gathering participants from these three producing regions.~~

~~The terms of reference, for the international consultant, include the following main actions:~~

- ~~a) Assess and analyze the latest developments in the tenure issue, in relation to the sustainable management of natural tropical forests in the tree producing, with its political, economic, social and ecological aspects;~~
- ~~b) Analyze and take into consideration the experience using existing SFM-oriented guidelines and manuals in relation to the tropical forest issue in selected ITTO member countries;~~
- ~~c) Prepare a discussion paper reflecting developments and experiences and including preliminary proposals for a draft of the Guidelines on the Tropical Forest Tenure for the Three Tropical Timber Producing Regions;~~
- ~~d) Organize and conduct an expert panel meeting with 20 (18+1+1) participants in order to capture experiences and needs with respect to the forest tenure in relation to the sustainable management of natural tropical forests. Participants should be drawn from experts and practitioners involved in projects or activities in relation to tropical forest tenure, as well as from organizations and institutions with hands-on experience in sustainable management of natural tropical forests; and~~
- ~~e) Prepare and present a report at a Council session containing: (i) a draft proposal of the Guidelines on the Tropical Forest Tenure for the Three Tropical Timber Producing Regions; and (ii) a proposal for communicating and disseminating the final version of the revised Guidelines.~~

III. Expected Outputs

~~The main expected output of this Activity is the draft of the *Guidelines on the Tropical Forest Tenure for the Three Tropical Timber Producing Regions* to be submitted to the Council for review and approval, as a tool for the ITTO strategic policy work contributing to the sustainable management of tropical forests in its member countries.~~

~~IV. Target Countries ITTO member countries~~

~~V. Duration & Timing 42 months in 2010~~

~~VI. Budget US\$ 150,000~~

Conclusions of the Contact Group related to proposed Activity 47:

- The Activity 47 shall be deleted from the ITTO BWP 2010-2011.
- It may be consider in the ITTO BWP 2012-2013, after completion of proposed activities 45 and 46, taking into account the lessons learned and recommendations of the three regional workshops.
- It shall not be treated as "Guidelines".