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Negotiation of a Successor Agreement to the
International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994
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PREPARATION OF A SUCCESSOR AGREEMENT
TO THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER AGREEMENT, 1994

**ARTICLES APPROVED INFORMALLY DURING THE
THIRD PART OF THE CONFERENCE**

CHAPTER IV. INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

ARTICLE 7

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council shall exercise all such powers and perform or arrange for the performance of all such functions as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Agreement. In particular, it shall:

- (a) [By special vote,] adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Agreement and as are consistent therewith, including its own rules of procedure and the financial rules and staff regulations of the Organization. Such financial rules and regulations shall, *inter alia*, govern the receipt and expenditure of funds under the accounts established in Article 18. The Council may, in its rules of procedure, provide for a procedure whereby it may, without meeting, decide specific questions;
- (b) Take such decisions as are necessary to ensure the effective and efficient functioning and operation of the Organization;
- (c) Keep such records as are required for the performance of its functions under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8

CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

1. The Council shall elect for each calendar year a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, whose salaries shall not be paid by the Organization.
2. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall be elected, one from among the representatives of producer members and the other from among the representatives of consumer members.
3. These offices shall alternate each year between the two categories of members, provided, however, that this shall not prohibit the re-election of either or both, under exceptional circumstances.
4. In the temporary absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall assume the functions of the Chairman. In the temporary absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, or in the absence of one or both of them for the rest of the term for which they were elected, the Council may elect new officers from among the representatives of the producer members and/or from among the representatives of the consumer members, as the case may be, on a temporary basis or for the rest of the term for which the predecessor or predecessors were elected.

ARTICLE 14
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF

1. The Council shall, [by special vote,] appoint the Executive Director.
2. The terms and conditions of appointment of the Executive Director shall be determined by the Council.
3. The Executive Director shall be the chief administrative officer of the Organization and shall be responsible to the Council for the administration and operation of this Agreement in accordance with decisions of the Council.
4. The Executive Director shall appoint the staff in accordance with regulations to be established by the Council. The staff shall be responsible to the Executive Director.
5. Neither the Executive Director nor any member of the staff shall have any financial interest in the timber industry or trade, or associated commercial activities.
6. In the performance of their duties, the Executive Director and staff shall not seek or receive instructions from any member or from any authority external to the Organization. They shall refrain from any action which might reflect adversely on their positions as international officials ultimately responsible to the Council. Each member shall respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Executive Director and staff and shall not seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

CHAPTER V. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

ARTICLE 17
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

1. The Organization shall have legal personality. It shall in particular have the capacity to contract, to acquire and dispose of movable and immovable property, and to institute legal proceedings.
2. The status, privileges and immunities of the Organization, of its Executive Director, its staff and experts, and of representatives of members while in the territory of Japan shall continue to be governed by the Headquarters Agreement between the Government of Japan and the International Tropical Timber Organization signed at Tokyo on 27 February 1988, with such amendments as may be necessary for the proper functioning of this Agreement.
3. The Organization may conclude, with one or more countries, agreements to be approved by the Council relating to such capacity, privileges and immunities as may be necessary for the proper functioning of this Agreement.
4. If the headquarters of the Organization is moved to another country, the member in question shall, as soon as possible, conclude with the Organization a headquarters agreement to be approved by the Council. Pending the conclusion of such an Agreement, the

Organization shall request the new host Government to grant, within the limits of its national legislation, exemption from taxation on remuneration paid by the Organization to its employees, and on the assets, income and other property of the Organization.

5. The Headquarters Agreement shall be independent of this Agreement. It shall, however, terminate:

- (a) By agreement between the host Government and the Organization;
- (b) In the event of the headquarters of the Organization being moved from the country of the host Government; or
- (c) In the event of the Organization ceasing to exist.

CHAPTER X. MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE 32

RELIEF FROM OBLIGATIONS

1. Where it is necessary on account of exceptional circumstances or emergency or force majeure not expressly provided for in this Agreement, the Council may, [by special vote,] relieve a member of an obligation under this Agreement if it is satisfied by an explanation from that member regarding the reasons why the obligation cannot be met.

2. The Council, in granting relief to a member under paragraph 1 of this article, shall state explicitly the terms and conditions on which, and the period for which, the member is relieved of such obligation, and the reasons for which the relief is granted.

ARTICLE 36

NON-DISCRIMINATION

Nothing in this Agreement authorizes the use of measures to restrict or ban international trade in, and in particular as they concern imports of, and utilization of, timber and timber products.