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PREPARATION OF A SUCCESSOR AGREEMENT TO THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER AGREEMENT, 1994

Working document resulting from the first session (26 – 30 July 2004) of the Conference for the Negotiation of a Successor Agreement to the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994

PREAMBLE

The Parties to this Agreement,

- (a) Recalling the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order; the Integrated Programme for Commodities; the New Partnership for Development; and the Spirit of São Paulo and São Paulo Consensus, [in particular its paragraph 100,] as adopted by UNCTAD XI;
- (b) Also recalling the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983, and the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994, and recognizing the work of the International Tropical Timber Organization and its achievements since its inception, including a strategy for achieving international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed sources;
- (c) <u>Further recalling</u> the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation as adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in September 2002, the United Nations Forum on Forests established in October 2000 and the associated creation of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, of which the International Tropical Timber Organization is a member, as well as the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Non-Legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, and the relevant Chapters of Agenda 21 as adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in June 1992 [, the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change, the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity, and the U.N. Convention to Combat Desertification];
- (d) <u>Recognizing</u> the importance of timber [,non-timber forest products and forest-related services] to the economies of timber producing countries;
- (e) Also recognizing the multiple economic, environmental and social benefits provided by forests, [including non timber forest products and [ecological] [environmental] services], at local, national and global levels and therefore the contribution of sustainable forest management and related trade [and services] to sustainable development and poverty alleviation and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;
- (f) <u>Further recognizing</u> the need to promote and apply comparable criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management as important tools for all members to assess, monitor and promote progress toward sustainable management [of all types of forests];
- (g) <u>Taking into account</u> the linkages of the tropical timber trade and the international timber market and wider global economy and the need for taking a global perspective in order to improve transparency in the international timber trade;
- (h) <u>Reaffirming</u> their commitment to moving as rapidly as possible toward achieving exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources, ITTO Objective 2000 [and their commitment to the Bali Partnership Fund];

- (i) Recalling the commitment made by consuming members in January 1994 to maintain or achieve the sustainable management of their forests;
- [(j) <u>Recognizing</u> the importance of collaboration among members, international organizations, the private sector and civil society, including indigenous [peoples] and/or local communities, and other stakeholders in promoting sustainable forest management;]
- [(j)bis Also recognizing the importance of such collaboration for improving forest law enforcement and promoting trade from legally harvested timber;]
- [(j)ter Noting the role of good governance, forest law enforcement, clear land tenure arrangements and cross-sectoral coordination [at a national level] in achieving sustainable forest management and legally sourced timber exports, [and the commitment of consumer members to the Bali Partnership Fund and the Special Account;]]
- (k) Noting that enhancing the capacity of forest-dependent indigenous [peoples] [and/or] local communities including those who are forest owners and managers can contribute to achieving the objectives of this Agreement [for all types of forests];
- (l) Also noting the need to improve the standard of living and working conditions within the forest sector, bearing in mind relevant internationally recognized principles on these matters;
- [(m) <u>Further recognizing</u> that labour and environmental standards shall not be used for protectionist trade purposes;]
- (n) <u>Noting</u> that timber is an energy-efficient, renewable and environmentally friendly raw material compared with competing products;
- [(o) <u>Recognizing</u> the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities and workers, consistent with relevant ILO conventions, and the need to contribute to improvement in their standards of living;]
- [(p) Recognizing the need for transparency in timber economy including subsidies in member countries;]
- [p)bis <u>Recognizing</u> the necessity to provide for tropical timber on the international markets a fair price which is remunerative and equitable for all members;]
- [q) Taking into account the special needs of least developed tropical timber producing countries.]

[CHAPTER I. OBJECTIVES

ARTICLE 1 OBJECTIVES

Recognizing the sovereignty of members over their natural resources, as defined in Principle 1 (a) of the Non-Legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, the Objectives of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, Year x (hereinafter referred to as "this Agreement": [international cooperation]

The objectives of the International Tropical Timber Agreement are:

- [(a) To promote the lasting, equitable production and trade of tropical timber based on sustainable forest management (SFM), taking into account all relevant social, economic and environmental aspects thereof;
- (b) [To promote sustainable forest management] to enhance the [long term] capacity [and efforts] of members to implement a strategy for achieving exports of tropical timber and timber [and non-timber] products from sustainably managed forests [while conserving other forest values] [or sources;]
- (c) To promote the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber and timber [and non-timber] products from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests, including forests managed by [indigenous people and local communities] [local and indigenous communities] [and small forest owners;]
- [(d) To enhance the capacity of members to implement a strategy for achieving exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources;]
- [(e) To promote the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests, including forest managed by locals;]
- [f) To encourage information sharing, improve market intelligence, promote and support research and development with a view to improving forest management and efficiency of wood utilization;]

Promotion of trade in tropical timber Trade within the context of SFM Objectives (a), (f), (g), (k), (l), (m) Need for equitability in trade] [To reach these objectives, the Organization has the following functions/mechanisms/means:]

[In order to achieve these objectives, the Organization will:] (include the following objectives from the ITTA, 1994)

- (a)
- (f)
- (g)
- (h)
- (i)
- (j)
- (k)
- (1)
- (m)
- (n)
- (a) To promote and support trade of timber and valued-added products and services from tropical forests;
- (b) To provide an effective framework for consultation, international cooperation and policy development among all members with regard to all relevant aspects of the world timber economy;
- (c) To enhance the capacity of members to implement a strategy for achieving exports of tropical forest products and services from sustainable managed sources;
- To take effective measures against illegal logging and related trade.
- To promote certification and to foster the mutual recognition between different certification schemes.
- To explore potential markets for ecological services and to promote trade in them.
- To promote legal trade in non-timber forest products, excluding genetic resources with a view to alleviating poverty.

The following are to be considered in the development of the Objectives chapter:

- (a) To provide an effective framework for consultation, international cooperation and policy development among all members with regard to all relevant aspects of the world timber economy;
- (b) To provide a forum for consultation to promote non-discriminatory timber trade practices [and promote the elimination of subsidies in the forest and timber sectors of member countries;]
- (c) To contribute to the process of sustainable development;

- (d) To enhance the capacity of members to implement a strategy for achieving exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources by the year 2000;
- (e) To promote the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainable sources by improving the structural conditions in international markets, by taking into account, on the one hand, a long term increase in consumption and continuity of supplies, and, on the other, prices which reflect the costs of sustainable forest management and which are remunerative and equitable for members, and the improvement of market access;
- (f) To promote and support research and development with a view to improving forest management and efficiency of wood utilization as well as increasing the capacity to conserve and enhance other forest values in timber producing tropical forests;
- (g) To develop and contribute towards mechanisms for the provision of new and additional financial resources and expertise needed to enhance the capacity of producing members to attain the objectives of this Agreement;
- (h) To improve market intelligence with a view to ensuring greater transparency in the international timber market, including the gathering, compilation, and dissemination of trade related data, including data related to species being traded;
- (i) To promote increased and further processing of tropical timber from sustainable sources in producing member countries with a view to promoting their industrialization and thereby increasing their employment opportunities and export earnings;
- (j) To encourage members to support and develop industrial tropical timber reforestation and forest management activities as well as rehabilitation of degraded forest land, with due regard for the interests of local communities dependent on forest resources;
- (k) To improve marketing and distribution of tropical timber exports from sustainably managed sources;
- (l) To encourage members to develop national policies aimed at sustainable utilization and conservation of timber producing forests and their genetic resources and at maintaining the ecological balance in the regions concerned, in the context of tropical timber trade;
- (m) To promote the access to, and transfer of, technologies and technical cooperation to implement the objectives of this Agreement, including on concessional and preferential terms and conditions, as mutually agreed; and
- (n) To encourage information-sharing on the international timber market.

CHAPTER II. DEFINITIONS

ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Agreement:

- [1. "Tropical timber" means [non-coniferous tropical] wood [for industrial [and handicraft] uses], which grows or is produced in the countries situated between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. [The term covers logs, sawnwood, veneer sheets, [panelwood and engineered structural wood] and plywood [and furniture]]. Plywood [panelwood, panel products and engineered lumber] which includes in some measure conifers [of tropical origin] shall also be covered by this definition;]]
- [2. "Further processing" means the transformation of logs into primary wood products, semi-finished and finished products [made wholly or almost wholly of tropical timber]; [and transformation of other forest products to give them an added-value;]]

[2ter "Sustainable forest management" is the process of managing forests to achieve one or more clearly specified objectives of management with regard to the production of a continuous flow of desired forest products and services without undue reduction of its inherent values and future productivity and without undue undesirable effects on the physical and social environment;]

[2quater "Non-timber forest products" mean goods of biological origin other than wood that are derived from forests, [other wooded land and trees outside forests] [excluding genetic resources;]]

- 3. "Member" means a Government [, the European Community or any other] [or an intergovernmental organization referred to in article 5] which has consented to be bound by this Agreement whether it is in force provisionally or definitively;
- 4. "Producing [Producer] member" means any country situated between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn with tropical forest resources and/[or] a [net] exporter of tropical timber in volume terms which is listed in annex A and which becomes a party to this Agreement, or any country with tropical forest resources and/[or] a [net] exporter of tropical timber in volume terms which is not so listed and which becomes a party to this Agreement and which the Council, with the consent of that country, declares to be a producing [producer] member;
- 5. "Consuming [Consumer] member" means any country [member] [which is an importer of tropical timber] listed in annex B which becomes a party to this Agreement, or any country [member] [which is an importer of tropical timber] not so listed which becomes a party to this Agreement and which the Council, with the consent of that country [member], declares to be a consuming [consumer] member;

Alternative versions of paragraphs 4 and 5:

- 4. "Producing member" means any member with forest resources and/or exporter of tropical timber listed in Annex A and which becomes a party to this Agreement or which is not so listed and which becomes a party to this Agreement and which the Council, with the consent of that country, declares to be a producing member.
- 5. "Consuming member" means any member listed in Annex B which becomes a party to this Agreement, or which is not so listed and becomes a party to this Agreement and which the Council, with the consent of that member, declares to be a consuming member.
- 6. "Organization" means the International Tropical [Timber] [Forests] Organization established in accordance with article 3;
- 7. "Council" means the International Tropical [Timber] [Forests] Council established in accordance with article 6;
- [8. ["Special] vote" means a vote requiring a least two thirds of the votes cast by producing members present and voting and at least [60] per cent of the votes cast by consuming members present and voting, counted separately, on condition that these votes are cast by at least half of the producing members present and voting and at least half of the consuming members present and voting;]

See changes proposed in Article 12

[9. "Simple distributed majority vote" means a vote requiring more than half of the votes cast by producing members present and voting and more than half of the votes cast by consuming members present and voting, counted separately;]

See changes proposed in Article 12

- 10. "Financial [biennium] [year]" means the period from 1 January to 31 December [over a two-year period] inclusive;
- 11. "Freely usable currencies" means the [Euro], the Japanese yen, the pound sterling, [the Swiss franc] the United States dollar and any other currency which has been designated from time to time by a competent international monetary organization as being in fact widely used to make payments for international transactions and widely traded in the principal exchange markets.

Need to include definition on "timber certification"

CHAPTER III. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 3 HEADQUARTERS AND STRUCTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL [TIMBER] [FOREST] ORGANIZATION

- 1. The International Tropical Timber Organization established by the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983 shall continue in being for the purposes of administering the provisions and supervising the operation of this Agreement.
- 2. The Organization shall function through the Council established under Article 6, [the committees and other subsidiary bodies referred to in article 26] and the Executive Director and staff.
- 3. The headquarters of the Organization shall at all times be located in the territory of a member.
- 4. The headquarters of the Organization shall be in Yokohama, unless the Council, [by special vote], decides otherwise.

[4bis Regional offices shall [may] be established in Africa and Latin America.]

One delegation proposed to reverse the order of paragraphs 3 and 4.

ARTICLE 4 MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION

There shall be two categories of membership in the Organization, namely:

- (a) Producing [Producer]; and
- (b) Consuming [Consumer].

ARTICLE 5 MEMBERSHIP BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Any reference in this Agreement to "Governments" shall be construed as including the European Community [and [any other] intergovernmental organization[s]] having responsibilities in respect of the negotiation, conclusion and application of international agreements, in particular commodity agreements. Accordingly, any reference in this Agreement to signature, ratification, acceptance or approval, or to notification of provisional application, or to accession shall, in the case of such intergovernmental organizations, be construed as including a reference to signature, ratification, acceptance or approval, or to notification of provisional application, or to accession, by such intergovernmental organizations.

2. In the case of voting on matters within their competence, such intergovernmental organizations shall vote with a number of votes equal to the total number of votes attributable to their member States in accordance with article 10. [The same applies for the purposes of counting the presence of members.] In such cases, the member States of such intergovernmental organizations shall not be entitled to exercise their individual voting rights [during the period of the duration of the Agreement].

CHAPTER IV. INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

ARTICLE 6 COMPOSITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

- 1. The highest authority of the Organization shall be the International Tropical Timber Council, which shall consist of all the members of the Organization.
- 2. Each member shall be represented in the Council by one representative and may designate alternates and advisers to attend sessions of the Council.
- 3. An alternate representative shall be empowered to act and vote on behalf of the representative during the latter's absence or in special circumstances.

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:

1. [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 regulations shall, *inter alia*, govern the receipt and expenditure of funds under [the accounts established in Article 18.] [the Administrative Account, the Special Account and the Bali Partnership Fund.] The Council may, in its rules of procedure, provide for a procedure whereby it may, without meeting, decide specific questions.

[1bis Take such decisions as are necessary to ensure the effective and efficient functioning and operation of the Organization, including through the development of periodic action plans and work programmes. Such action plans and work programmes should serve to guide the Organization's policy and project activities [and to communicate the Organization's objectives and priorities to members, the international community, the private sector and civil society.]

2. 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 producing members and the other from among the representatives of consuming members.

2bis 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, [by special vote] of the Council.

3. 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 producing members and/or from among the representatives of the consuming 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 9 SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

- 1. As a general rule, the Council shall hold [at least] [one] [two] regular session[s], [one in a Producer country] a year.
- 2. The Council shall meet in special session whenever it so decides or at the request of:
 - (a) The Executive Director, in agreement with the Chairman [and Vice-Chairman] of the Council; or
 - (b) A majority of producing members or [and] a majority of consuming members; or
 - (c) Members holding at least [500] votes.
- 3. Sessions of the Council shall be held at the headquarters of the Organization unless the Council, [by special vote], decides otherwise. [In this regard, the Council shall seek to convene alternate sessions of the Council outside headquarters.] If on the invitation of any member the Council meets elsewhere than at the headquarters of the Organization, that member shall pay the additional cost of holding the meeting away from headquarters.
- 4. Notice of any sessions and the agenda for such sessions shall be communicated to members by the Executive Director at least six weeks in advance, except in cases of emergency, when notice shall be communicated at least seven days in advance.

[ARTICLE 9BIS EXECUTIVE BOARD

- 1. Council shall establish an Executive Board that supplements the work of the Council.
- 2. It shall be composed by the Council Chair and Vice-Chair; Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs; caucus spokespersons; host country (Japan) representative; representatives not included above from six producer and six consumer member countries selected by respective caucuses to serve for a period of two[three] years; and the Executive Director.

[2bis Sessions of the Executive Board shall be held at the headquarters of the Organization unless the Council [by special vote] decides otherwise. If, on the invitation of any member, the Executive Board meets elsewhere than at the headquarters of the Organization, that member shall pay the additional cost of holding the meeting away from headquarters.]

- 3. Its functions shall be as follows:
 - (a) Receive, generate, synthesize and provide advice to Council and in this context review previous Council decisions and assess and advise Council on the need to sunset or further examine such decisions in light of the ITTA, 1994.
 - (b) Consider, in the context of the overall policy and strategic priorities of Council, priorities related to public relations and public education with respect to the ITTO.
 - (c) Advise Council on ITTO's coordination and cooperation priorities with external agencies and organizations, for further decision and implementation of appropriate action by Council.
 - (d) Review and approve project and pre-project proposals identified as Category 1 by the Expert Panel on Technical Appraisal of Projects and Pre-Projects as part of the 6-month project cycle ending in the interval between Council Sessions and inform potential donors of projects and pre-projects recommended for immediate financing from the Special Account with a view to obtaining the funds necessary for implementation.
 - (e) Consider actions/activities, pre-projects and projects eligible for funding under Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund and prioritize them taking into account the "criteria and priorities" contained in the Annex to Decision 4(XXX).
 - (f) Identify actions needed to respond to emerging issues, including requesting meetings of the Council in Special Session as provided in Article 9 of the ITTA.
 - (g) Advise the Chairman on agendas for Council sessions.

- (h) Review the implementation of Council decisions and advise Council on further actions needed
- (i) Advise the Council regarding any complaints or disputes referred to the Council for decision pursuant to Article 31 of the ITTA]

ARTICLE 10 [DISTRIBUTION OF VOTES

- 1. The producing members shall together hold 1,000 votes and the consuming members shall together hold 1,000 votes.
- 2. The votes of the producing members shall be distributed as follows:
 - (a) Four hundred votes shall be distributed equally among the three producing regions of Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. The votes thus allocated to each of these regions shall then be distributed equally among the producing members of that region;
 - (b) Three hundred votes shall be distributed among the producing members in accordance with their respective shares of the total tropical forest resources of all producing members; and
 - (c) Three hundred votes shall be distributed among the producing members in proportion to the average of the values of their respective net exports of tropical timber during the most recent three-year period for which definitive figures are available.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 of this article, the total votes allocated to the producing members from the African region, calculated in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article, shall be distributed equally among all producing members from the African region. If there are any remaining votes, each of these votes shall be allocated to a producing member from the African region: the first to the producing member which is allocated the highest number of votes calculated in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article, the second to the producing member which is allocated the second highest number of votes, and so on until all the remaining votes have been distributed.
- 4. For purposes of the calculation of the distribution of votes under paragraph 2 (b) of this article, "tropical forest resources" means [productive closed broadleaved forests] as defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
- 5. The votes of the consuming members shall be distributed as follows: each consuming member shall have 10 initial votes: the remaining votes shall be distributed among the consuming members in proportion to the average volume of their respective net imports of tropical timber during the three-year period commencing four calendar years prior to the distribution of votes.

- 6. The Council shall distribute the votes for each financial year [biennium] at the beginning of its first session of that year [biennium] in accordance with the provisions of this article. Such distribution shall remain in effect for the rest of that year [biennium], except as provided for in paragraph 7 of this article.
- 7. Whenever the membership of the Organization changes or when any member has its voting rights suspended or restored under any provision of this Agreement, the Council shall redistribute the votes within the affected category or categories of members in accordance with the provisions of this article. The Council shall, in that event, decide when such redistribution shall become effective.
- 8. There shall be no fractional votes.]

ARTICLE 11 VOTING PROCEDURE OF THE COUNCIL

- 1. Each member shall be entitled to cast the number of votes it holds and no member shall be entitled to divide its votes. A member may, however, cast differently from such votes any votes which it is authorized to cast under paragraph 2 of this article.
- 2. By written notification to the Chairman of the Council, any producing member may authorize, under its own responsibility, any other producing member, and any consuming member may authorize, under its own responsibility, any other consuming member, to represent its interests and to cast its votes at any meeting of the Council.
- 3. When abstaining, a member shall be deemed not to have cast its votes.

ARTICLE 12 DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL

- 1. The Council shall [make every effort] [endeavour] to take all decisions and to make all recommendations by consensus.
- 1bis. If consensus cannot be reached, the Council shall take all decisions and make all recommendations by a [simple distributed majority] vote, [as defined in Article 2] [unless this Agreement provides for a special vote];
- 2. Where a member avails itself of the provisions of article 11, paragraph 2, and its votes are cast at a meeting of the Council, such member shall, for the purposes of paragraph 1 of this article, be considered as present and voting.

ARTICLE 13 QUORUM FOR THE COUNCIL

- 1. [The quorum for any meeting of the Council shall be the presence of [a majority of] members of each category referred to in article 4, provided that such members hold at least two thirds of the total votes in their respective categories.]
- 2. If there is no quorum in accordance with paragraph 1 of this article on the day fixed for the meeting and on the following day, the quorum on the subsequent days of the session shall be the presence of a majority of members of each category referred to in article 4, provided that such members hold [a majority] of the total votes in their respective categories.
- 3. Representation in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, shall be considered as presence.

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 Council shall, [by special vote,] decide the number of executive and professional staff the Executive Director may appoint. [Any [increase] [changes] in the number of executive and professional staff shall be decided by the Council by special vote.] 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.

ARTICLE 15 COOPERATION AND COORDINATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

1. The Council [shall make arrangements as appropriate for] consultations and cooperation with the United Nations and its organs [and specialized agencies], including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), [intergovernmental] [international] [global, regional and sub-regional] organizations, including the [World Trade Organization (WTO)] and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and non-governmental organizations.

To find a proper place for:

[including the ITTO Civil Society Advisory Group and the ITTO Trade Advisory Group]

Possible alternative language:

1alt [The Council [shall [facilitate] make arrangements for ITTO] shall make arrangements for consultations and cooperation with the United Nations and its organs [and specialized agencies], with other relevant organizations [, conventions and processes] and non-governmental organizations [civil society and the private sector.]

2alt The Council [shall make arrangements as appropriate for] consultations and cooperation with the United Nations and its organs [and specialized agencies], processes such as UNFCCC, CBD [and other organizations], including non-governmental organizations [civil society and the private sector].

3alt The Council shall provide for, as appropriate, consultations and cooperation with the United Nations and its organs [and specialized agencies], UNCTAD, and other relevant organizations, conventions and processes, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector [and the ITTO Civil Society Advisory Group and the ITTO Trade Advisory Group].

2. The Organization shall, to the maximum extent possible, utilize the facilities, services and expertise of intergovernmental, governmental or non-governmental [civil society/private sector] organizations, in order to avoid duplication of efforts in achieving the objectives of this Agreement and to enhance the complementarity and the efficiency of their activities.

2bis. The Organization shall take full advantage of the facilities of the Common Fund for Commodities (shifted from Article 28, "Relationship with the Common Fund for Commodities").

ARTICLE 16 ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

The Council may invite any non-member Government or any of the organizations referred to in [the present Agreement] [article 15, article 20 and article 29,] interested in the activities of the Organization to attend as observers any of the meetings of the Council.

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 VI. FINANCE

ARTICLE 18 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

- 1. There shall be established:
 - (a) The Administrative Account;
 - (b) The Special Account;
 - (c) The Bali Partnership Fund; and
 - (d) [The Work Programme Account; and]
 - (e) Such other accounts as the Council shall deem appropriate and necessary.
- 2. The Council shall establish in accordance with article 7, financial rules that provide transparent management and administration of the accounts including Rules covering the settlement of accounts on termination or expiry of this Agreement
- 3. The Executive Director shall be responsible for, and report to the Council on the Administration of the financial accounts

ARTICLE 19 ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNT

- 1. The expenses necessary for the administration of this Agreement and for [policy work in support of key Council functions according to Article 24] shall be brought into the Administrative Account and shall be met by annual contributions paid by members in accordance with their respective constitutional or institutional procedures and assessed in accordance with paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of this article.
- 2. The expenses of delegations to the Council, the committees and any other subsidiary bodies of the Council referred to in article 26 shall be met by the members concerned. In cases where a member requests special services from the Organization, the Council shall require that member to pay the costs of such services.
- 3. Before the end of each financial biennium, the Council shall approve the administrative budget of the Organization for the following the biennium and shall assess the contribution of each member to that budget.
- 4. [The contribution of each member to the administrative budget for each financial year shall be in the proportion which the number of its votes at the time the administrative budget for that financial year is approved bears to the total votes of all the members. In assessing contributions, the votes of each member shall be calculated without regard to the suspension of any member's voting rights or any redistribution of votes resulting therefrom.]
- 5. The initial contribution of any member joining the Organization after the entry into force of this Agreement shall be assessed by the Council on the basis of the number of votes to be held by that member and the period remaining in the current financial year, but the

assessment made upon other members from the current financial year shall not thereby be altered

- 6. Contributions to administrative budgets shall become due on the first day of each financial year. Contributions of members in respect of the financial year in which they join the Organization shall be due on the date on which they become members.
- 7. If a member has not paid its full contribution to the administrative budget within four months after such contribution becomes due in accordance with paragraph 6 of this article, the Executive Director shall request that member to make payment as quickly as possible. If that member has still not paid its contribution within two months after such request, that member shall be requested to state the reasons for its inability to make payment. If at the expiry of seven months from the due date of contribution, that member has still not paid its contribution, its voting rights shall be suspended until such time as it has paid in full its contribution, unless the Council, [by special vote,] decides otherwise. If a member has not paid its contribution in full for [two] [three] consecutive years, the member shall become ineligible to submit project or pre-project proposals for funding consideration under paragraph 1 of Article 25. If, on the contrary, a member has paid its full contribution to the administrative budget within four months after such contribution becomes due in accordance with paragraph 6 of this article, the member's contribution shall receive a discount as may be established by the Council in the financial rules of the Organization.
- 8. A member whose rights have been suspended under paragraph 7 of this article shall remain liable to pay its contribution.

ARTICLE 20 SPECIAL ACCOUNT

- 1. There shall be established a Special Account for financing pre-projects and projects.
- 2. The possible sources of finance for the Special Account may be:
 - (a) The Common Fund for Commodities;
 - (b) Regional and international financial institutions; and
 - (c) Voluntary contributions.
- 3. The resources of the Special Account shall be used only for approved pre-projects and projects, in accordance with article 25.
- 4. All receipts pertaining to specific pre-projects and projects under the Special Account shall be brought into that Account. All expenditures incurred on such pre-projects or projects, including remuneration and travel expenses of consultants and experts, shall be charged to the same Account.
- 5. The Council may nominate and sponsor any entity with the consent of that entity, including a member or members, to receive loans for the financing of approved projects and to undertake all the obligations involved, except that the Organization shall reserve to itself the right to monitor the use of resources and to follow up on the implementation of projects

so financed. However, the Organization shall not be responsible for guarantees voluntarily provided by individual members or other entities.

- 6. No member shall be responsible by reason of its membership in the Organization for any liability arising from any actions by any other member or entity in connection with projects.
- 7. In the event that voluntary unearmarked funds are offered to the Organization, the Council may accept such funds. Such funds may be utilized for approved policy and preprojects and project activities as set forth in the approved work programme established by the Council.
- 8. The Executive Director shall provide assistance in the development of project proposals in accordance with Article 25 and endeavour to seek, on such terms and conditions as the Council may decide, adequate and assured finance for pre-projects and projects approved by the Council.
- 9. Contributions for specified approved projects shall be used only for the projects for which they were originally intended, unless otherwise decided by the Council in agreement with the contributor.

[After the completion or termination of a pre-project or project, the Organization shall return to each contributor for specific pre-projects or projects the balance of any funds remaining pro rata to each contributor's share in the total of the contributions originally made available for financing that pre-project or project, unless otherwise agreed to by the contributor.]

[In the case of earmarked funds, the use of any remaining funds shall be decided by the contributor. In the case of unearmarked funds, the Council shall decide on the use of any remaining funds.]

ARTICLE 21 THE BALI PARTNERSHIP FUND

- 1. A Fund for sustainable management of tropical timber producing forests is hereby established to assist producing members to make the investments necessary to achieve the objective of article 1 [(d)] of this Agreement.
- 2. The Fund shall be constituted by:
 - (a) Contributions from donor members;
 - (b) [All] income earned as a result of activities related to the Special Account;
 - (c) Resources from other private and public sources which the Organization may accept consistent with its financial rules;
- 3. Resources of the Fund shall be allocated by the Council only for pre-projects and projects for the purpose set out in paragraph 1 of this article and approved in accordance with articles 24 and 25.

- 4. In allocating resources of the Fund, the Council shall [follow] establish[ed] criteria and priorities for use of the fund, taking into account:
 - (a) The needs of members for assistance in achieving the exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources;
 - (b) The needs of members who establish and manage significant conservation programmes in timber producing forests.
- 5. The Executive Director shall provide assistance in the development of project proposals in accordance with article 25 and endeavour to seek, on such terms and conditions as the Council may decide, adequate and assured finance for projects approved by the Council.
- 6. The Council shall examine on a regular basis the adequacy of the resources available to the Fund and endeavour to obtain additional resources needed by producing members to achieve the purpose of the Fund. The ability of producing members to achieve the objectives of Article 1 [d] will be influenced by the availability of resources.]

[ARTICLE 21BIS THE WORK PROGRAMME ACCOUNT

- 1. An Account to secure [funding] long-term funding for the essential operational work of the Organization, as defined in the yearly work programme of ITTO, prepared by the Secretariat and adopted by the Council, is hereby established.
- 2. The Account shall be constituted by the contribution of members according to GDP (previous year).
- 2alt The Account shall be constituted by the assessed contribution of each member country meeting the above criterion will be in proportion to its votes calculated as per the provisions for assessments for the Administrative Budget.
- 3. The maximum yearly amount of the Work Programme Account shall be US\$2 million.
- 4. [Those countries that contribute with an amount of more than US\$1 million through voluntary contributions could be exempt from contributing to the Work Programme Account or they are free to pay their share to the Work Programme Account through their voluntary contribution.]

[4alt All [all [developed] consumer] member countries whose average annual contribution to the Special Account for projects and the Bali Partnership in the 2-year period prior to the year of assessment is less than US\$1 million will be assessed an additional contribution to the Administrative Account, Sub-Account Work Programme Account.]]

ARTICLE 22 FORMS OF PAYMENT

- 1. Financial contributions to [accounts established under Article 18] shall be payable in freely [convertible] currencies and shall be exempt from foreign-exchange restrictions.
- 2. The Council may also decide to accept other forms of contributions to the [accounts established under Article 18 other than the administrative account,] including scientific and technical equipment or personnel, to meet the requirements of approved projects.

ARTICLE 23 AUDIT AND PUBLICATION OF ACCOUNTS

- 1. The Council shall appoint independent auditors for the purpose of auditing the accounts of the Organization.
- 2. Independently audited statements of the [accounts established under Article 18] shall be made available to members as soon as possible after the close of each financial year, but not later than six months after that date, and be considered for approval by the Council at its next session, as appropriate. A summary of the audited accounts and balance sheet shall thereafter be published.

CHAPTER VII. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ARTICLE 24 POLICY WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

- 1. In order to achieve the objectives set out in Article 1, the Organization shall undertake policy work and project activities [in the areas of economic information and market intelligence, reforestation and forest management and forest industry in an integrated and balanced manner.] [in an integrated [and balanced] manner [with attention to the specific needs in each area.] The Council shall establish priorities for this purpose, taking into account the topics contained [in annex A and which shall be reflected] in the Action Plan[s] and work programme[s] established by the Council.
- 2. [The Council will define a 5-year Action Plan that will serve as a basis for the specific actions to be undertaken in policy and project activities.] [The [specific] actions to be undertaken in policy [work] and project activities will [be defined by the Council in successive 5-year Action Plans. [and the programme of work] of the Organization.]
- [3. [Examples of policy activities include, *inter alia*, forest law enforcement, certification, market access, development of guidelines, ex-post evaluation, studies on market conditions, status of tropical forest management, community forest management, tenure rights, further processing of tropical timber[, trade of non-timber forest products and ecosystem services.]]

4. [In order to achieve the objectives in Article 1, the Organization will carry out activities related to policy work, programmes and projects based on a strategic plan approved by Council.]]

ARTICLE 25 PROJECT ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION

- 1. [Bearing in mind the needs of developing countries,] members may submit pre-project and project proposals which contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the present Agreement and one or more of the priority areas for work established by Council.
- 2. [The Council shall establish criteria for approving projects and pre-projects, taking into account *inter alia*, their relevance to the objectives of this Agreement, relationship to national forest programmes and strategies, their cost effectiveness, technical and regional needs, the need to avoid duplication of efforts, and the need to incorporate lessons learned.]
- 3. [The Council shall establish a schedule and procedure for submitting, appraising, and prioritizing pre-projects and projects seeking funding from the Organization, as well as for their implementation, monitoring and evaluation.]
- 4. The Executive Director may suspend disbursement of the Organization's funds to a pre-project or project if they are being used contrary to the project document or in cases of fraud, waste, neglect or mismanagement. The Executive Director will provide to the Council at its next session a report for its consideration. The Council shall take appropriate action.
- 5. [The Council may: (a) establish, according to agreed criteria, limits for the number of projects and pre-projects eligible for funding within a project cycle; and (b) [by special vote,] terminate its sponsorship of any pre-project or project following the report of the Executive Director.]

ARTICLE 26 COMMITTEES AND SUBSIDIARY BODIES

- 1. [The following are hereby established as Committees of the Organization:
 - (a) [Committee on Economic Information, Market Intelligence and Forest Industry;]
 - (b) Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management; and
 - (c) Committee on Finance and Administration.
- 2. The Council may, [by special vote,] establish [or dissolve] such other committees and subsidiary bodies as it deems appropriate and necessary.
- 3. Participation in each of the committees shall be open to all members. The rules of procedure of the committees [and subsidiary bodies] shall be decided by the Council.

- 4. The committees and subsidiary bodies shall be responsible to, and work under the general direction of, the Council. Meetings of the committees and subsidiary bodies shall be convened by the Council.
- [5. The committees and other subsidiary bodies shall formulate recommendations to the Council on project and policy activities of the Organization.]
- [6. The Council shall [have flexibility to] determine the scope of policy and technical work of the committees and subsidiary bodies in the successional action plans.]
- [7. The scope of policy and technical work of committees and subsidiary bodies will be the ones described in Annex I* until the Council formulates the next action plan.]

*Annex I is Article 27 of ITTA, 1994.

[ARTICLE 27 Replaced by paragraphs 5 to 7 of Article 26

FUNCTIONS OF COMMITTEES [AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES]

- 1. [The Committees [and other subsidiary bodies] shall provide advice [and formulate recommendations] to the Council [and to the Executive Board] on project and policy activities of the Organization;
- 1 alt. [The function of the committees and subsidiary bodies are defined by the Council.] [The Committee shall advice the Council]
- 2. The Council shall [have flexibility] determine the scope of [the work of the committees and other subsidiary bodies] policy and technical work of the Committees.]

[2 alt. The Council shall determine the scope of policy and technical work of the committees in successive action plans.]

CHAPTER VIII. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMON FUND FOR COMMODITIES

Merged in Article 14

CHAPTER IX. STATISTICS, STUDIES AND INFORMATION

ARTICLE 29 STATISTICS, STUDIES AND INFORMATION

1. The Council shall [provide the guidance to] [authorize] the Executive Director [shall] to establish and maintain [make arrangements for establishing and maintaining] close relationships with relevant intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental

organizations, in order to help ensure the availability of recent [accurate] and reliable data and information on the [production and] trade [of] tropical timber, [including trends] [and data discrepancies] as well as relevant information [on] non-tropical timber and on the management of timber producing forests. As deemed necessary for the operation of this Agreement, the Organization, in cooperation with such organizations, shall compile, collate, [analyse] and publish such information and analysis.

- 2. The Organization shall contribute to efforts to standardize and harmonize international reporting on forest-related matters avoiding overlapping and duplication in data collection from different organizations.
- 3. Members shall, to the fullest extent possible not inconsistent with their national legislation, furnish, within [the time specified by the] [Executive Director] [Council], statistics and information on timber, its trade and the activities aimed at achieving sustainable management of timber producing forests as well as other relevant information as requested by the Council. The Council shall decide on the type of information to be provided under this paragraph and on the format in which it is to be presented [and consider whether there is a need to provide assistance to members.] [The Organization shall provide assistance to members on request, to allow them to submit statistics.]
- 4. [If a member has not furnished the statistics and information required under paragraph 2 of this article within the time specified by the Council, and has not provided a satisfactory explanation for the delay, the voting rights of that member shall be suspended until such time as it has furnished the statistics and information. If at the expiry of 7 months from the due date specified by Council, that member has still not furnished the required statistics and information, it shall become ineligible to submit pre-project and project proposals or participate in Council decision-making processes until such time as it has furnished the required statistics and information.]
- 5. [In the case of non submission of the statistics, Council shall adopt appropriate measures.]

Some delegations proposed to consider moving paragraph 5 to Article 32.

6. The Council shall arrange to have any relevant studies undertaken of the trends and of short and long-term problems of the international timber markets and of the progress towards the achievement of sustainable management of timber producing forests.

ARTICLE 30 ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW

- 1. The Council shall publish an annual report on its activities and such other information as it considers appropriate.
- 2. The Council shall annually review and assess:
 - (a) The international timber situation;
 - (b) Other factors, issues and developments considered relevant to achieve the objectives of this Agreement.

2bis. [The Council shall periodically review and assess the state of the management of tropical timber producing forests.]

- 3. The review shall be carried out in the light of:
 - (a) Information supplied by members in relation to national production, trade, supply, stocks, consumption and prices of timber;
 - (b) Other statistical data and specific indicators provided by members as requested by the Council; and
 - (c) Information supplied by members on their progress towards the sustainable management of their timber producing forests;
 - (d) Such other relevant information as may be available to the Council either directly or through the organizations in the United Nations system and intergovernmental, governmental or non-governmental organizations.
- 4. The Council shall promote the exchange of views among member countries regarding:
 - (a) The status of sustainable management of timber producing forests and related matters in member countries;
 - (b) Resource flows and requirements in relation to objectives, criteria and guidelines set by the Organization.
- 5. Upon request, the Council shall endeavour to enhance the technical capacity of member countries, in particular developing member countries, to obtain the data necessary for adequate information-sharing, including the provision of resources for training and facilities to members
- 6. The results of the review shall be included in the reports of the Council's deliberations.

CHAPTER X. MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE [31] [32] COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTES

Any complaint that a member has failed to fulfil its obligations under this Agreement and any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall, [provided that all concerned parties agree,] be referred to the Council for decision. Decisions of the Council on these matters shall be final and binding [and by special vote].

ARTICLE [32] [31] GENERAL OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

1. Members shall, for the duration of this Agreement, use their best endeavours and cooperate to promote the attainment of its objectives and to avoid any action contrary thereto.

2. Members undertake to accept and carry out the decisions of the Council under the provisions of this Agreement and shall refrain from implementing measures which would have the effect of limiting or running counter to them.

Consider including obligations in relation to payments to administrative account and provision of statistics.

ARTICLE 33 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 34 DIFFERENTIAL AND REMEDIAL MEASURES AND SPECIAL MEASURES

- 1. Developing importing members whose interests are adversely affected by measures taken under this Agreement may apply to the Council for appropriate differential and remedial measures. The Council shall consider taking appropriate measures in accordance with section III, paragraphs 3 and 4, of resolution 93 (IV) of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.
- 2. Members in the category of least developed countries as defined by the United Nations may apply to the Council for special measures in accordance with section III, paragraph 4, of resolution 93 (IV) and with paragraphs 56 and 57 of the Paris Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.]

ARTICLE 35 [REVIEW

The Council shall review the scope [objectives] of this Agreement [four] years after its entry into force.]

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.

CHAPTER XI. FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 37 DEPOSITARY

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the depositary of this Agreement.

[ARTICLE 38 SIGNATURE, RATIFICATION, ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL

- 1. This Agreement shall be open for signature, at United Nations Headquarters from [1 April 1994] until [one month after the date of its entry into force], by Governments invited to the United Nations Conference for the Negotiation of a Successor Agreement to the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994.
- 2. Any Government referred to in paragraph 1 of this article may:
 - (a) At the time of signing this Agreement, declare that by such signature it expresses its consent to be bound by this Agreement (definitive signature); or
 - (b) After signing this Agreement, ratify, accept or approve it by the deposit of an instrument to that effect with the depositary.]

A third paragraph will be added regarding the EU

ARTICLE 39 ACCESSION

- 1. This Agreement shall be open for accession by the Governments of all states upon conditions established by the Council, which shall include a time-limit for the deposit of instruments of accession. The Council may, however, grant extensions of time to Governments which are unable to accede by the time-limit set in the conditions of accession.
- 2. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the depositary.

ARTICLE 40 NOTIFICATION OF PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

A signatory Government which intends to ratify, accept or approve this Agreement, or a Government for which the Council has established conditions for accession but which has not yet been able to deposit its instrument, may, at any time, notify the depositary that it will apply this Agreement provisionally either when it enters into force in accordance with article 41, or, if it is already in force, at a specified date.

[ARTICLE 41 ENTRY INTO FORCE

- 1. This Agreement shall enter into force definitively on [1 February 1995] or on any date thereafter, if 12 Governments of producing countries holding at least 55 per cent of the total votes as set out in annex A to this Agreement, and 16 Governments of consuming countries holding at least 70 per cent of the total votes as set out in annex B to this Agreement have signed this Agreement definitively or have ratified, accepted or approved it or acceded thereto pursuant to article 38, paragraph 2, or article 39.
- 2. If this Agreement has not entered into force definitively on [1 February 1995], it shall enter into force provisionally on that date or on any date within six months thereafter, if, 10 Governments of producing countries holding at least 50 per cent of the total votes as set out in annex A to this Agreement, and 14 Governments of consuming countries holding at least 65 per cent of the total votes as set out in annex B to this Agreement, have signed this Agreement definitively or have ratified, accepted or approved it pursuant to article 38, paragraph 2, or have notified the depositary under article 40 that they will apply this Agreement provisionally.
- 3. If the requirements for entry into force under paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 of this article have not been met on [1 September 1995], the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall invite those Governments which have signed this Agreement definitively or have ratified, accepted or approved it pursuant to article 38, paragraph 2, or have notified the depositary that they will apply this Agreement provisionally, to meet at the earliest time practicable to decide whether to put this Agreement into force provisionally or definitively among themselves in whole or in part. Governments which decide to put this Agreement into force provisionally among themselves may meet from time to time to review the situation and decide whether this Agreement shall enter into force definitively among themselves.
- 4. For any Government which has not notified the depositary under article 40 that it will apply this Agreement provisionally and which deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession after the entry into force of this Agreement, this Agreement shall enter into force on the date of such deposit.
- 5. The Executive Director of the Organization shall convene the Council as soon as possible after the entry into force of this Agreement.]

ARTICLE 42 AMENDMENTS

- 1. The Council may, [by special vote,] recommend an amendment of this Agreement to members.
- 2. The Council shall fix a date by which members shall notify the depositary of their acceptance of the amendment.
- 3. An amendment shall enter into force 90 days after the depositary has received notifications of acceptance from members constituting at least two thirds of the producing

members and accounting for at least [75] per cent of the votes of the producing members, and from members constituting at least two thirds of the consuming members and accounting for at least [75] per cent of the votes of the consuming members.

- 4. After the depositary informs the Council that the requirements for entry into force of the amendment have been met, and notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 of this article relating to the date fixed by the Council, a member may still notify the depositary of its acceptance of the amendment, provided that such notification is made before the entry into force of the amendment.
- 5. Any member which has not notified its acceptance of an amendment by the date on which such amendment enters into force shall cease to be a party to this Agreement as from that date, unless such member has satisfied the Council that its acceptance could not be obtained in time owing to difficulties in completing its constitutional or institutional procedures, and the Council decides to extend for that member the period for acceptance of the amendment. Such member shall not be bound by the amendment before it has notified its acceptance thereof.
- 6. If the requirements for the entry into force of the amendment have not been met by the date fixed by the Council in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article, the amendment shall be considered withdrawn.

ARTICLE 43 WITHDRAWAL

- 1. A member may withdraw from this Agreement at any time after the entry into force of this Agreement by giving written notice of withdrawal to the depositary. That member shall simultaneously inform the Council of the action it has taken.
- 2. Withdrawal shall become effective 90 days after the notice is received by the depositary.
- 3. [Pending] Financial obligations to the Organization incurred by a member under this Agreement shall not be terminated by its withdrawal.

ARTICLE 44 EXCLUSION

If the Council decides that any member is in breach of its obligations under this Agreement and decides further that such breach significantly impairs the operation of this Agreement, it may, [by special vote,] exclude that member from this Agreement. The Council shall immediately so notify the depositary. Six months after the date of the Council's decision, that member shall cease to be a party to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 45 SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS WITH WITHDRAWING OR EXCLUDED MEMBERS OR MEMBERS UNABLE TO ACCEPT AN AMENDMENT

- 1. The Council shall determine any settlement of accounts with a member which ceases to be a party to this Agreement owing to:
 - (a) Non-acceptance of an amendment to this Agreement under article 42;
 - (b) Withdrawal from this Agreement under article 43; or
 - (c) Exclusion from this Agreement under article 44.
- 2. The Council shall retain any assessments or contributions paid to the financial accounts established under Article 18 by a member which ceases to be a party of this Agreement.
- 3. A member which has ceased to be a party to this Agreement shall not be entitled to any share of the proceeds of liquidation or the other assets of the Organization. Nor shall such member be liable for payment of any part of the deficit, if any, of the Organization upon termination of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 46 DURATION, EXTENSION AND TERMINATION

- 1. This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of [four] [ten] years after its entry into force unless the Council, [by special vote,] decides to extend, renegotiate or terminate it in accordance with the provisions of this article.
- 2. The Council may, [by special vote,] decide to extend this Agreement for [two] [three] periods of [three] [five] years each.

2bis. [The Council may decide by special vote to extend this Agreement.]

- 3. If, before the expiry of the [four-year period] referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, or before the expiry of an extension period referred to in paragraph 2 of this article, as the case may be, the new Agreement to replace this Agreement has been negotiated but has not yet entered into force either definitively or provisionally, the Council may, [by special vote,] extend this Agreement until the provisional or definitive entry into force of the new Agreement.
- 4. If the new Agreement is negotiated and enters into force during any period of extension of this Agreement under paragraph 2 or paragraph 3 of this article, this Agreement, as extended, shall terminate upon the entry into force of the new Agreement.
- 5. The Council may at any time, [by special vote,] decide to terminate this Agreement with effect from such date as it may determine.
- 6. Notwithstanding the termination of this Agreement, the Council shall continue in being for a period not exceeding 18 months to carry out the liquidation of the Organization,

including the settlement of accounts, and, subject to relevant decisions to be taken [by special vote,] shall have during that period such powers and functions as may be necessary for these purposes.

7. The Council shall notify the depositary of any decision taken under this article.

ARTICLE 47 RESERVATIONS

Reservations may not be made with respect to any of the provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 48 SUPPLEMENTARY AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

- 1. This Agreement shall be the successor to the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994.
- 2. All acts by or on behalf of the Organization or any of its organs under the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994, which are in effect on the date of entry into force of this Agreement and the terms of which do not provide for expiry on that date shall remain in effect unless changed under the provisions of this Agreement.

ANNEX A

List of producing countries with tropical forest resources and/or net exporters of tropical timber in volume terms, and allocation of votes for the purposes of article 41

Bolivia21
Brazil
Cameroon
Colombia
Congo23
Costa Rica9
Côte d'Ivoire
Dominican Republic9
Ecuador
El Salvador9
Equatorial Guinea
Gabon 23
Ghana
Guyana14
Honduras 9
India
Indonesia
Liberia
Malaysia
Mexico
Myanmar33
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay11
Peru
Philippines
Tanzania, United Republic of23
Thailand
Togo
Trinidad & Tobago9
Venezuela10
Zaire
TOTAL1000

ANNEX B

List of consuming countries and allocation of votes for the purposes of article 41

Afghanistan
Algeria
Australia
Austria
Bahrain11
Bulgaria
Canada 12
Chile10
China
Egypt
European Community(302)
Belgium/Luxembourg
Denmark11
France 44
Germany
Greece 13
Ireland
Italy
Netherlands 40
Portugal
Spain 25
United Kingdom
Finland 10
Japan
Nepal
New Zealand 10
Norway
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Slovakia 11
Sweden
Switzerland 11
United States of America 51
TOTAL

ANNEX I Number and Functions of Financial Accounts (as prepared by the PrepCom II)

MODEL 1 (CURRENT)

ACCOUNT	ISSUE	OPTIONS IN THE TABLE
Administrative Account	Size of the account	Contributions based on approved budget
	Type of contributions	Assessed (based on votes)
	Who contributes	All members
Special Account	Objective	Policy and projects
	Size of the account	No defined size
	Type of contributions	Voluntary (earmarked)
	Who contributes	Consumers
Bali Partnership Fund	Objective	Projects for achieving ITTO Objective 2000 (d)
	Size of the account	No defined size
	Type of contributions	• 50% of interest coming from special account resources voluntary
		• Contributions on voluntary basis (unearmarked)
	Who contributes	Consumers (directly or indirectly)

Model 2

ACCOUNT	ISSUE	OPTIONS IN THE TABLE
Administrative Account	Size of the account	Contributions defined based on approved budget
	Type of contributions	Assessed
	Who contributes	All members
Special Account	Objective	Policy and projects (unearmarked funds)
	Size of the account	(to be defined)
	Type of contributions	Assessed
	Who contributes	All developed consuming members

MODEL 3

MODEL 3		
ACCOUNT	ISSUE	OPTIONS IN THE TABLE
Administrative Account	Size of the account	Contributions defined based on approved budget
	Type of contributions	Assessed (based on votes)
	Who contributes	All members
Work Programme	Objective	Develop policy activities defined in the "Biennial Work Programme"
	Size of the account	Defined upper limit
	Type of contributions	Assessed contributions (based on GDP)
	Who contributes	All members
		All members except LDC countries
		Only developed consumer countries
Special Account	Objective	Projects
	Size of the account	No defined size
	Type of contributions	Voluntary (earmarked)
	Who contributes	Consumers
Bali Partnership Fund	Objective	Projects for achieving ITTO Objective 2000 (d)
	Size of the account	No defined size
	Type of contributions	• 50% of interest coming from special account
		resources voluntary
		• Contributions on voluntary basis (unearmarked)
	Who contributes	Consumers (directly or indirectly)

MODEL 4

ACCOUNT	ISSUE	OPTIONS IN THE TABLE
Administrative Account	Size of the account	Contributions defined based on approved budget
	Type of contributions	Assessed (based on votes)
	Who contributes	All members
Work Programme	Objective	Develop policy activities defined in the
		"Biennial Work Programme"
	Size of the account	Defined upper limit
	Type of contributions	Assessed contributions (based on GDP)
	Who contributes	All members
		All members except LDC countries
		Only developed consumer countries
Special Account	Objective	Projects (unearmarked funds)
	Size of the account	To be defined
	Type of contributions	Assessed (criteria to be defined)
	Who contributes	Consumers

ANNEX II¹/

Proposals made by the contact group of Working Group II on Chapter VI

Chairman: Ecuador

Members: China, Côte d'Ivoire, European Union, Ghana, Japan, Korea (Republic of), Malaysia, Switzerland and the United States of America

First revision by Working Group II	Proposals by the Contact Group of WGII
[CHAPTER VI. FINANCE]	CHAPTER VI. FINANCE
ARTICLE 18	ARTICLE 18
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS	FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
1. There shall be established: (a) The Administrative Account; (b) The Special Account; (c) The Bali Partnership Fund; and (d) [The Work Programme Account; and] (e) Such other accounts as the Council shall deem appropriate and necessary. Information on funding options and financial accounts as developed by the PrepCom are contained in Annex I.	There shall be established: (a) The Administrative Account; (b) The Special Account; (c) The Bali Partnership Fund; and (d) [The Work Programme Account; and] (e) Such other accounts as the Council shall deem appropriate and necessary.
2. The Executive Director shall be responsible for the administration of these accounts and the Council shall make provision [for this purpose] [thereof] in the financial rules of the Organization.	2. The Council shall establish in accordance with article 7, financial rules that provide transparent management and administration of the accounts including Rules covering the settlement of accounts on termination or expiry of this Agreement.
New2. In order to ensure a transparent process of management and administration of each of the financial accounts, the Council will ensure that there are put in place financial Rules and [, where] appropriate[,] policies covering the financial accounts, including rules covering the settlement of accounts on termination or expiry of this agreement. (Canada)	
3. The Council shall establish [policies and] financial Rules for the operation of the accounts, including Rules covering the settlement of account on termination or expiry of this Agreement. Such Rules shall ensure a transparent process of management and administration of the accounts. 3bis. The Executive Director shall be responsible for, and report to the Council on the Administration of the financial account. (Canada)	3. The Executive Director shall be responsible for, and report to the Council on the Administration of the financial accounts.

 $[\]frac{1}{2}$ This annex is reproduced in English only. The Changes reflected in column 2 have been introduced in the text that appears in the main body of the present document.

ARTICLE 19 ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNT

- 1. The expenses necessary for the administration of this Agreement and for [policy work in support of key Council function according to Article 24] shall be brought into the Administrative Account and shall be met by annual contributions paid by members in accordance with their respective constitutional or institutional procedures and assessed in accordance with paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of this article.
- 2. The expenses of delegations to the Council, the committees and any other subsidiary bodies of the Council referred to in article 26 shall be met by the members concerned. In cases where a member requests special services from the Organization, the Council shall require that member to pay the costs of such services.
- 3. Before the end of each financial [exercise] [biennium] [year], the Council shall approve the administrative budget of the Organization for the following two financial years and shall assist assess the contribution of each member to that budget.
- 4. [The contribution of each member to the administrative budget for each financial year shall be in the proportion which the number of its votes at the time the administrative budget for that financial year is approved bears to the total votes of all the members. In assessing contributions, the votes of each member shall be calculated without regard to the suspension of any member's voting rights or any redistribution of votes resulting therefrom.]

Consider other options for members' contributions to the Administrative Account.

5. The initial contribution of any member joining the Organization after the entry into force of this Agreement shall be assessed by the Council on the basis of the number of votes to be held by that member and the period remaining in the current financial year, but the assessment made upon other members from the current financial year shall not thereby be altered.

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- 5. The initial contribution of any member joining the Organization after the entry into force of this Agreement shall be assessed by the Council on the basis of the number of votes to be held by that member and the period remaining in the current financial year, but the assessment made upon other members from the current financial year shall not thereby be altered.

- 6. Contributions to administrative budgets shall become due on the first day of each financial year. Contributions of members in respect of the financial year in which they join the Organization shall be due on the date on which they become members
- [If a member has not paid its full contribution to the administrative budget within four months after such contribution becomes due in accordance with paragraph 6 of this article, the Executive Director shall request that member to make payment as quickly as possible. member has still not paid its contribution within two months after such request, that member shall be requested to state the reasons for its inability to make payment. If at the expiry of seven months from the due date of contribution, that member has still not paid its contribution, its voting rights shall be suspended until such time as it has paid in full its contribution, unless the Council, [by special vote,] decides otherwise. If a member has not paid its contribution in full for two consecutives years, the member shall be became ineligible to submit project or pre-project proposals for funding consideration under paragraph 1 of Article 25. If, on the contrary, a member has paid its full contribution to the administrative budget within four months after such contribution becomes due in accordance with paragraph 6 of this article, the member's contribution shall receive a discount as may be established by the Council in the financial rules of the Organization.]

Consider adding a paragraph on issues of arrears, including incentives and disincentives.

8. A member whose rights have been suspended under paragraph 7 of this article shall remain liable to pay its contribution.

ARTICLE 20 SPECIAL ACCOUNT

- 1. There shall be established two sub-accounts under the Special Account:
 - (a) The Pre-Project Sub-Account; and
 - (b) The Project Sub-Account.
- 2. The possible sources of finance for the Special Account may be:
- (a) The Common Fund for Commodities;

- 6. Contributions to administrative budgets shall become due on the first day of each financial year. Contributions of members in respect of the financial year in which they join the Organization shall be due on the date on which they become members
- If a member has not paid its full contribution to the administrative budget within four months after such contribution becomes due in accordance with paragraph 6 of this article, the Executive Director shall request that member to make payment as quickly as possible. If that member has still not paid its contribution within two months after such request, that member shall be requested to state the reasons for its inability to make payment. If at the expiry of seven months from the due date of contribution, that member has still not paid its contribution, its voting rights shall be suspended until such time as it has paid in full its contribution, unless the Council, [by special vote,] decides otherwise. If a member has not paid its contribution in full for [two] [Three] consecutive years, the member shall became ineligible to submit project or pre-project proposals for funding consideration under paragraph 1 of Article 25. If, on the contrary, a member has paid its full contribution to the administrative budget within four months after such contribution becomes due in accordance with paragraph 6 of this article, the member's contribution shall receive a discount as may be established by the Council in the financial rules of the Organization.
- 8. A member whose rights have been suspended under paragraph 7 of this article shall remain liable to pay its contribution.

ARTICLE 20 SPECIAL ACCOUNT

- 1. There shall be established a Special Account for financing pre-projects and projects.
- 2. The possible sources of finance for the Special Account may be:
- (a) The Common Fund for Commodities;

- (b) Regional and international financial institutions; and
 - (c) Voluntary contributions.

2bis. "The Council shall establish policies and financial Rules for the operation of the account, including Rules covering the settlement of account on termination or expiry of this Agreement. Such Rules shall ensure a transparent process of management and administration of the account.

- 3. The resources of the Special Account shall be used only for approved pre-projects or projects.
- 4. All expenditures under the Pre-Project Sub-Account shall be reimbursed from the Project Sub-Account if projects are subsequently approved and funded. [If within six months of the entry into force of this Agreement the Council does not receive any funds for the Pre-Project Sub-Account, it shall review the situation and take appropriate action.]
- 5. All receipts pertaining to specific identifiable pre-projects or projects under the Special Account shall be brought into that Account. All expenditures incurred on such pre-projects or projects, including remuneration and travel expenses of consultants and experts, shall be charged to the same Account.

6. Deleted

- 7. The Council may nominate and sponsor any entity with the consent of that entity, including a member or members, to receive loans for the financing of approved projects and to undertake all the obligations involved, except that the Organization shall reserve to itself the right to monitor the use of resources and to follow up on the implementation of projects so financed. However, the Organization shall not be responsible for guarantees voluntarily provided by individual members or other entities.
- 8. No member shall be responsible by reason of its membership in the Organization for any liability arising from any actions borrowing or lending by any other member or entity in connection with projects.

- (b) Regional and international financial institutions; and
 - (c) Voluntary contributions.

- 3. The resources of the Special Account shall be used only for approved pre-projects and projects, in accordance with article 25.
- 4. *Deleted*

5. All receipts pertaining to specific preprojects and projects under the Special Account shall be brought into that Account. All expenditures incurred on such pre-projects or projects, including remuneration and travel expenses of consultants and experts, shall be charged to the same Account.

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- 7. The Council may nominate and sponsor any entity with the consent of that entity, including a member or members, to receive loans for the financing of approved projects and to undertake all the obligations involved, except that the Organization shall reserve to itself the right to monitor the use of resources and to follow up on the implementation of projects so financed. However, the Organization shall not be responsible for guarantees voluntarily provided by individual members or other entities.
- 8. No member shall be responsible by reason of its membership in the Organization for any liability arising from any actions by any other member or entity in connection with projects.

9. In the event that voluntary unearmarked funds are offered to the Organization, the Council may accept such funds. Such funds may be utilized for approved policy and pre-projects and project activities as set forth in the approved work programme established by the Council.

Consider moving paragraph 9 to Articles 18

- 10. The Executive Director shall [facilitate the development of project proposals and] endeavour to seek, on such terms and conditions as the Council may decide, adequate and assured finance for pre-projects and projects approved by the Council.
- [11. Contributions for specified approved projects shall be used only for the projects for which they were originally intended, unless otherwise decided by the Council in agreement with the contributor. After the completion of a project, the Organization shall return to each contributor for specific projects the balance of any funds remaining pro rata to each contributor's share in the total of the contributions originally made available for financing that project, unless otherwise agreed to by the contributor.]
- [11alt. Contributions for specified approved projects [funded by earmarked] funds shall be used only for the projects for which they were originally intended, unless otherwise decided by the contributors.] [or in the case of unearmarked funds by Council.] -in agreement with the contributor. In the case of earmarked funds the use of any remaining funds will be decided by the contributor.] After the completion of a project, [the Organization shall return to each contributor for specific projects the balance of any funds remaining pro rata to each contributor's share in the total of the contributions originally made available for financing that project, unless otherwise agreed to by the contributor] ...[the organization shall put any funds remaining upon the completion of a project in the earmarked sub-account of the Bali Partnership Fund.

ARTICLE 21 [THE BALI PARTNERSHIP FUND

1. A Fund for sustainable management of tropical timber producing forests is hereby established to assist producing members to make the investments necessary to achieve the objective of article 1 [(d)] of this Agreement.

- 9. In the event that voluntary unearmarked funds are offered to the Organization, the Council may accept such funds. Such funds may be utilized for approved policy and pre-projects and project activities as set forth in the approved work programme established by the Council.
- 10. The Executive Director shall provide assistance in the development of project proposals in accordance with Article 25 and endeavour to seek, on such terms and conditions as the Council may decide, adequate and assured finance for pre-projects and projects approved by the Council.
- 11. Contributions for specified approved projects shall be used only for the projects for which they were originally intended, unless otherwise decided by the Council in agreement with the contributor.

[After the completion or termination of a pre-project or project, the Organization shall return to each contributor for specific pre-projects or projects the balance of any funds remaining pro rata to each contributor's share in the total of the contributions originally made available for financing that pre-project or project, unless otherwise agreed to by the contributor.]

[In the case of earmarked funds, the use of any remaining funds shall be decided by the contributor. In the case of unearmarked funds, the Council shall decide on the use of any remaining funds.]

ARTICLE 21 THE BALI PARTNERSHIP FUND

1. A Fund for sustainable management of tropical timber producing forests is hereby established to assist producing members to make the investments necessary to achieve the objective of article 1 [(d)] of this Agreement.

- 2. The Fund shall be constituted by:
 - (a) [Direct] contributions from [consumer] donor members;
 - (b) [Fifty per cent] [100%] of income earned as a result of activities related to the Special Account;
 - (c) Resources from other private and public sources which the Organization may accept consistent with its financial rules;
 - [(d) Remaining or unused funds from finished projects financed through the Bali Partnership Fund.]
- 3. Resources of the Fund shall be allocated by the Council only for pre-projects and projects for the purpose set out in paragraph 1 of this article and approved in accordance with article 25.
- 4. In allocating resources of the Fund, the Council shall take into account:
 - [regional benefits;
 - approved work programme of the Organization;]
 - (a) The [special] needs of members [whose forestry sectors' contribution to their economies is adversely affected by the implementation of the strategy] for assistance in achieving the exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources. [by the year 2000];
 - (b) The needs of members [with [significant] forest areas who establish conservation programmes **I**for their conservation programmes](Togo) in timber producing forests. [The needs of members who establish significant conservation programmes in timber producing forests.] (Switzerland)
- 4 bis. The Executive Director shall facilitate the development of project proposals [in cooperation with the *expert panel*] and endeavour to seek, on such terms and conditions as the Council may decide, adequate and assured finance for projects approved by the Council. (*EU*)

- 2. The Fund shall be constituted by:
 - (a) Contributions from donor members;
 - (b) [All] income earned as a result of activities related to the Special Account;
 - (c) Resources from other private and public sources which the Organization may accept consistent with its financial rules;
- 3. Resources of the Fund shall be allocated by the Council only for pre-projects and projects for the purpose set out in paragraph 1 of this article and approved in accordance with articles 24 and 25.
- 4. In allocating resources of the Fund, the Council shall establish criteria and priorities for use of the fund, taking into account:
 - (a) The needs of members for assistance in achieving the exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources.

(b) The needs of members who establish and manage significant conservation programmes in timber producing forests.

4 bis. The Executive Director shall provide assistance in project proposals in accordance with article 25 and endeavour to seek, on such terms and conditions as the Council may decide, adequate and assured finance for projects approved by the Council.

- 5. The Council shall examine [biennually] [annually] the adequacy of the resources available to the Fund and endeavour to obtain additional resources needed by producing members to achieve the purpose of the Fund. The ability of [producing] members to [achieve the objectives of article 1 [...]] [implement the strategy referred to in paragraph 4 (a) of this article] will be influenced by the availability of resources.
- 6. The Council shall establish and revise as needed policies and financial rules for the operation of the Fund, including rules covering the settlement of accounts on termination or expiry of this Agreement.]

Could be deleted if Article 18 para. 2bis is approved.(EU)

[ARTICLE 21BIS THE WORK PROGRAMME ACCOUNT

- 1. An Account to secure [funding] long-term funding for the essential operational work of the Organization, as defined in the yearly work programme of ITTO, prepared by the Secretariat and adopted by the Council, is hereby established.
- 2. <u>The Account shall be constituted by the contribution of members according to GDP (previous year).</u>
- 2alt The Account shall be constituted by the assessed contribution of each member country meeting the above criterion will be in proportion to its votes calculated as per the provisions for assessments for the Administrative Budget.
- 3. <u>The maximum yearly amount of the Work Programme Account shall be US\$2 million.</u>
- [4. Those countries that contribute with an amount of more than US\$1 million through voluntary contributions could be exempt from contributing to the Work Programme Account or they are free to pay their share to the Work Programme Account through their voluntary contribution.] (Switzerland)
- [4alt All [all [developed] consumer] member countries whose average annual contribution to the Special Account for projects and the Bali Partnership in the 2-year period prior to the year of

- 5. The Council shall examine on a regular basis the adequacy of the resources available to the Fund and endeavour to obtain additional resources needed by producing members to achieve the purpose of the Fund. The ability of producing members to achieve the objectives of Article 1 [d] will be influenced by the availability of resources.
- 6. Deleted

ARTICLES 21BIS;22 AND 23 WERE NOT CONSIDERED BY THE CONTACT GROUP OF WORKING GROUP II

assessment is less than US\$1 million will be assessed an additional contribution to the Administrative Account, Sub-Account Work Programme Account.] (Switzerland)

ARTICLE 22 FORMS OF PAYMENT

- 1. Deleted
- 2. Financial contributions to accounts established under Article 18 shall be payable in freely convertible currencies and shall be exempt from foreign-exchange restrictions.
- 3. The Council may also decide to accept other forms of contributions to the accounts established under Article 18 other than the administrative account, including scientific and technical equipment or personnel, to meet the requirements of approved projects.

ARTICLE 23 AUDIT AND PUBLICATION OF ACCOUNTS

- 1. The Council shall appoint independent auditors for the purpose of auditing the accounts of the Organization.
- 2. Independently audited statements of the accounts established under Article 18 shall be made available to members as soon as possible after the close of each financial year, but not later than six months after that date, and be considered for approval by the Council at its next session, as appropriate. A summary of the audited accounts and balance sheet shall thereafter be published.