
**Ad hoc expert group to consider the content of the non-legally binding instrument
United Nations Forum on Forests
New York, 11-15 December 2006**

Background Paper

Composite draft text for a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

This non-official document is a suggested draft prepared by the UNFF Secretariat in consultation with the UNFF 7 Bureau to facilitate the work of the Ad Hoc Expert Group, drawing from the proposals submitted by member States and regional groups.

Explanatory Note

Before reading this composite draft text of the non-legally binding instrument, experts participating in the Ad Hoc Expert Group for developing a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests should be aware of the following points:

1. The draft document that you have before you is a composite text for facilitating the negotiation of a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, which takes into account the proposals submitted by countries and regional groups. Every effort was made to try and accommodate the proposed indicative elements and suggested text contained in these submissions. Because of the variations on some issues, as well as the structure of the instrument, the task of compiling a coherent, smooth flowing text was a difficult challenge.
2. You will notice that after the paragraphs, abbreviations of countries and regional groups appear in parentheses. Within the first set of parentheses appears the country or regional group which proposed and provided text in various degrees. In the second set of parentheses appear those countries and regional groups who according to their proposals and country comments would appear to be in agreement. Abbreviations of these attributions are provided at the end of this note.
3. You will also notice that there are attributions next to some of the headings. These identify countries and regional groups who referred to the importance of these elements but did not provide any text or specific suggestions.
4. In cases where the proposals identified the importance of including a certain element, for example research, but did not provide any text, draft text is provided, using as much as possible previously agreed upon language by member States. The biggest exception is for definitions, since there is little in terms of negotiated text. In two cases, text was provided for key elements that were not directly addressed in the submissions but which member States may wish to include: (a) the UNFF Trust Fund and support to the participation of representatives from developing countries and countries with economies in transition and (b) country-led initiatives. In all these cases, the attribution given is (NTP), which means “no text provided”.
5. In those cases in which two or more submissions provided complementary text on a specific issue, the texts were merged with a view to streamlining the instrument.
6. In several cases, notes, often in parentheses at the end of the paragraphs, have been included, indicating preferences by countries or regional groups, as well as indications of the existence of similar paragraphs in other areas of the overall presentation.
7. Much of the text is highlighted, in italics and footnoted. This is to help identify those paragraphs with language that has already been negotiated and agreed upon. The footnotes indicate from where the language was taken. It has been estimated that 53%, over one half of the text of the instrument, is in language that has already been agreed upon.
8. In general, there was broad agreement among the proposals and the country comments on the indicative elements and substantive issues to be addressed in the non-legally binding instrument. However, in a few cases optional texts are provided as a result of competing proposals regarding specific issues.

Abbreviations

AG	African Group
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AUS	Australia
BRA	Brazil
CAN	Canada
COL	Colombia
EU	European Union
IDN	Indonesia
JPN	Japan
NTP	No text provided
NZL	New Zealand
PAK	Pakistan
KOR	Republic of Korea
ZAF	South Africa
CHE	Switzerland
USA	United States of America
ZWE	Zimbabwe

**Non-legally Binding International Instrument/Understanding/Code for the
Sustainable Management of All Types of Forests**

Table of Contents

	Page
Preamble	1
I. Principles	4
II. Use of terms	5
III. Purpose	7
IV. Global Objectives on Forests	7
V. Scope	8
VI. National measures, policies, actions or goals contributing to the Global Objectives	8
VII. Relationship to other instruments	10
VIII. The seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management and the IPF/IFF proposals for action	11
IX. International trade in forest products	11
X. Research	12
XI. Public awareness and education	14
XII. Enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination	14
A. Countries	14
B. International processes and organizations	15
C. Regional processes and organizations	17
XIII. Means of implementation	18
A. Finance	18
B. Incentives	20
C. Capacity building and transfer of environmentally sound technologies	20
XIX. Technical Assistance	22
XV. Monitoring, assessment and reporting	22
XVI. Information exchange	24
XVII. Institutional and working modalities	25
A. Governing Body	25
B. Meetings	25
C. Subsidiary bodies	26
D. Stakeholder participation	26
E. Multi-year programme of work	26
F. The UNFF Secretariat	27
G. The UNFF Trust Fund	27
H. Review of progress achieved in 2015	27
XVIII. Adoption/subscription	28
XIX. Amendments	28
XX. Adoption of annexes and supplementary instruments	28
XXI. Authentic texts	28

Preamble

Member States and regional economic integration organizations,¹

Recalling ECOSOC resolution 2006/49 on the outcome of the sixth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests *and resolution 2000/35 of 18 October 2000 on the report of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests, which, inter alia, decided the main objective and functions of the international arrangement on forests, established the UNFF, and invited the executive heads of relevant organizations, institutions and instruments to form a CPF to support the work of the Forum and to enhance cooperation and coordination among participants;*² (USA) (BRA, EU, IDN, ZAF) (**Note:** EU proposed first part as a separate preambular paragraph.)

*Reaffirming their commitment to the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including, inter-alia that states have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principle of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other states or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and to the common but differentiated responsibilities of countries as set out in Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;*³ (ASEAN, AUS, BRA, EU, IDN, PAK, SA)

*Also recalling the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests; chapter 11 of Agenda 21; the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests Proposals for Action; resolutions and decisions of the United Nations Forum on Forests; the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development; the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development; and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and relevant international legally binding instruments;*⁴ (USA) (ASEAN, AUS, BRA, CAN, EU, IDN, ZAF, CHE)

Note: The EU proposes combining the above two preambular paragraphs and adding the 2010 Biodiversity Target.

¹ Hereinafter “member States” also refers to regional economic integration organizations.

² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, first preambular paragraph.

³ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, fourth preambular paragraph.

⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, fourth, third and fifth preambular paragraphs.

Reaffirming the importance of achieving the Millennium Development Goals within their timeframe and their concern that some countries may not be in a position to do so in view of lack of adequate financial and technical resources; (BRA)

Recognizing the importance of the multiple economic, social and environmental benefits derived from goods and services provided by forests and trees outside forests;⁵ (AG, AUS, COL, EU, PAK, ZAF, USA)

Emphasizing that sustainable forest management contributes significantly to sustainable development, poverty eradication and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, taking full account of the linkages between the forest sector and other sectors;⁶ (AUS, EU, IDN, ZAF, USA)

Expressing concern about continued deforestation and forest degradation, as well as the slow rate of afforestation and forest cover recovery and reforestation, and the resulting adverse impact on economies, the environment, including biological diversity, and the livelihoods of at least a billion people and their cultural heritage, and emphasizing the need for more effective implementation of sustainable forest management at all levels to address these critical challenges;⁷ (AUS, BRA, EU, PAK, ZAF, USA)

Reaffirming the special needs and requirements of countries with fragile forest ecosystems, including those of low forest cover countries;⁸ (BRA, ZAF)

Expressing concern that illegal logging and its associated trade in illegally harvested forest products have reached an alarming rate that is causing the loss of revenues, degradation of ecosystems, loss of biodiversity and aggravating poverty, particularly in developing countries; (IDN)

Recognizing the importance of domestic forest law enforcement and governance to sustainable forest management, and the contribution in this regard of regional forest law enforcement and governance ministerial processes and related trade initiatives; (USA) (ASEAN, AUS, EU, JPN, CHE)

Recognizing also the significant contribution of major groups and relevant stakeholders in the planning, development and implementation of national forest policies; (IDN) (AG, ASEAN, AUS, CAN, COL, EU, PAK, ZAF, CHE, USA)

Also recognizing the important contribution of voluntary public-private partnerships and private sector initiatives at all levels to achieving effective

⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, sixth preambular paragraph.

⁶ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, seventh preambular paragraph.

⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, eighth preambular paragraph.

⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, ninth preambular paragraph.

*implementation of sustainable forest management and support national strategies, plans and priorities related to forests;*⁹ and noting in this regard, inter alia, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership and Asia Forest Partnership; (AUS, BRA, EU, NZL, PAK, ZAF, CHE, USA)

*Also stressing the need to strengthen political commitment and collective efforts at all levels, to include forests on national and international development agendas, to enhance national policy coordination and international cooperation and to promote intersectoral coordination at all levels for the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests;*¹⁰ (USA) (AG, ZAF)

Understanding that States should cooperate to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to economic growth and sustainable development in all countries to better address the problems of environmental degradation, and that trade policy measures for environmental purposes should not constitute a means of arbitrary or unjustified discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade; (BRA)

*Emphasizing that effective implementation of sustainable forest management is critically dependent upon adequate resources, including financing, capacity development and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, and recognizing in particular the need to mobilize increased financial resources, including from innovative sources, for developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition;*¹¹ (USA) (BRA, CAN, IDN, ZAF)

*Welcoming the accomplishments of the international arrangement on forests since its inception, including the joint initiatives of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;*¹² (EU, ZAF, USA)

Recognizing the need to strengthen the interaction between the United Nations Forum on Forests and relevant regional forest-related mechanisms, institutions and instruments, organizations and processes, with the participation of major groups, as identified in Agenda 21, and relevant stakeholders to facilitate enhanced cooperation and effective implementation of sustainable forest management, as well as to contribute to the work of the Forum; (IDN) (AG, ASEAN, AUS, CAN, COL, EU, PAK, ZAF, CHE, USA)

Reaffirming that the United Nations Forum on Forests, with the assistance of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, is the key intergovernmental mechanism to support, facilitate and coordinate the implementation of sustainable forest management at the

⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, eleventh preambular paragraph.

¹⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, twelfth preambular paragraph.

¹¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, tenth preambular paragraph.

¹² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, thirteenth preambular paragraph.

national, regional and global levels, and stressing the importance of its appropriate strengthening; (BRA)

Desiring to strengthen the international arrangement on forests, as set out in the Economic and Social Council Resolution 2000/35, and to focus on the effective implementation of sustainable forest management at the national, sub-regional and regional levels; (EU) (BRA, ZAF)

Agree to the following Non-legally Binding Instrument/Understanding/Code on the Sustainable Management of all types of forests as a voluntary instrument to enhance international cooperation and to support national, regional and sub-regional policies and measures, within the International Arrangement on Forests and the mandate of the United Nations Forum on Forests, (BRA) (ZAF) and further request the General Assembly of the United Nations to adopt this International Instrument/Understanding/Code on all types of forests. (EU)

I. Principles

1. The Non-Legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, also known as the Rio Forest Principles and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which were adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio De Janeiro in June 1992, form the basis for the principles contained in this Instrument/Understanding/Code.¹³ (ZAF)

2. Member States recognize and resolve to respect the following principles:

(a) This Instrument/Understanding/Code is non-legally binding and participation in this Instrument/Understanding/Code is voluntary and open to all States. (USA)

(b) *States have sovereignty over their forest resources, as set forth in principle I(a) of the Rio Forest Principles.* (USA) (ASEAN, AUS, BRA, COL, EU, IDN, PAK, ZAF)

(c) Each country is responsible for the sustainable management of its forests and for the enforcement of its forest laws, which is essential to achieving sustainable forest management. (BRA) (EU, JPN, USA)

(d) In striving for sustainable forest management, *countries have common but differentiated principles, in accordance with principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.* (ASEAN, COL, EU, IDN, KOR, ZAF) (**Note:** This is also in the Preamble.)

¹³ United Nations General Assembly, Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/CONF.151/26 (Vol.III)) (14 August 1992). The Rio Forest Principles consist of 15 principles

(e) International cooperation plays a crucial catalytic role in reinforcing the efforts of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve the management of their forests. (BRA) (EU, USA)

(f) Nothing in this Instrument/Understanding/Code is intended to affect international legal obligations. (USA)

(g) *Forest and forest resources should be sustainably managed to meet the social, economic, ecological, cultural and spiritual needs of present and future generations, as set forth in principle 2(b) of the Rio Forest Principles.* (ASEAN, AUS, ZAF)

(h) The private sector, forest owners, local and Indigenous communities, women and other stakeholders can contribute to achieving sustainable forest management and, as such, should be involved in a transparent and participatory way in public forest decision-making that affects them; (USA) (AG, ASEAN, AUS, BRA, CAN, COL, EU, IDN, NZL, PAK, ZAF, CHE, ZWE)

(i) *The following seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management, drawn from the criteria identified by existing criteria and indicators processes, offer a coherent and useful reference framework for sustainable forest management¹⁴ and constitute an indicative global set of criteria for sustainable forest management:*

- i. *Extent of forest resources*
- ii. *Forest biological diversity*
- iii. *Forest health and vitality*
- iv. *Productive functions of forest resources*
- v. *Protective functions of forest resources*
- vi. *Socio-economic functions of forests*
- vii. *Legal, policy and institutional framework¹⁵*
(USA) (ASEAN, AUS, EU, NZL, ZWE)

II. Use of terms (NTP)

3. For the purposes of this Instrument/Understanding/Code:

(a) “*International arrangement on forests*” means the arrangement consisting of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests established with the *objective of promoting the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end.*¹⁶

¹⁴ UNFF Resolution 4/3, operative paragraph 6.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Based on operative paragraphs 1 to 3 of ECOSOC Resolution 2000/35.

(b) **Option 1:** “*Sustainable forest management*”: Forest management has been defined as the formal or informal process of planning and implementing practices aimed at fulfilling relevant environmental, economic, social and/or cultural functions of the forest and meeting defined objectives.¹⁷ Sustainable forest management is forest management that aims at maintaining the sustainability of forest resources for the use of present and future generations.

(c) **Option 2:** “*Sustainable forest management*” means the stewardship and use of forests and forest lands in a way, and at a rate, that maintains their biodiversity, productivity, regeneration capacity, vitality and their potential to fulfil, now and in the future, relevant ecological and social functions, at local, national and global levels, and that does not cause damage to other ecosystems.¹⁸

(d) “*Sustainably managed forest*” is a forest subject to sustainable forest management.¹⁹

(e) “*Forest*”: Land spanning more than 0.5 of a hectare with trees higher than 5 metres, and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds *in situ*.²⁰

(f) “*Natural forest*”: Forest stands composed predominantly of native tree species established naturally. This can include assisted natural regeneration, excluding stands that are visibly offspring/descendants of planted trees.²¹

(g) “*Planted forest*”: Forests in which trees have been established through planting or seeding by human intervention.²²

(h) “*Forest resources*”: The natural resources found in a forest that include water, wildlife, foliage and forest floor plants²³, as well as in wooded land and trees outside forests.²⁴

(i) “*Forest goods and services*”: Wood and non-wood forest products obtained from forests, and environmental services (e.g., conservation of soil, water, biological diversity; micro and macro climatic effects; nutrient cycling) and socio-cultural services other than those provided by the production of wood and non-wood products (e.g.,

¹⁷ FAO, Proceedings of the Third Expert Meeting on Harmonizing Forest-related Definitions for Use by Various Stakeholders (Rome, 17-19 January 2005), p. 6.

¹⁸ MCPFE, Resolution H1.

¹⁹ Based on the definition of “managed forest” provided in the Proceedings of the Third Expert Meeting on Harmonizing Forest-related Definitions for Use by Various Stakeholders, p. 7.

²⁰ FAO, FRA 2005.

²¹ FAO, Proceedings of the Third Expert Meeting on Harmonizing Forest-related Definitions for Use by Various Stakeholders (Rome, 17-19 January 2005), p. 5.

²² FAO, FRA 2005.

²³ Marc Coté, ed., *Dictionnaire de la foresterie=Dictionnaire of Forestry=Diccionario de forestería*, Ed. Spéciale XII^e Congrès forestier mondial=Special ed. XII World Forestry Congress, p. 451.

²⁴ FAO, FRA 2005.

recreation and tourism; protection of cultural, aesthetic and scientific values) provided by forests.²⁵

(j) “*Environmentally sound technologies*” are not just individual technologies, but total systems which include know-how, procedures, goods and services, and equipment as well as organizational and managerial procedures.²⁶

III. Purpose

4. The purpose of this Instrument/Understanding/Code is fourfold: (a) to intensify and further raise the political and public profile of forests at both the national and international levels, as well as accord higher priority and support to conserve, protect and sustainably manage the world’s forests; (b) to provide a conceptual framework for the implementation of sustainable forest management and for effective guidance for actions at the national, regional and global levels for the achievement of the internationally agreed Development Agenda and internationally agreed policy objectives related to forests, in particular the Global Objectives on Forests; (c) to contribute to a greater understanding of what is meant by sustainable forest management; and (d) to provide a global platform for closer cooperation and collaboration among the many forest-related international and regional agreements, processes and organizations. (ASEAN, BRA, EU, NZL, CHE)

IV. Global Objectives on Forests

5. *The overarching objective of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code is to promote the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end.*²⁷ (EU) (ZAF)

6. Member States decide to set the following *shared global objectives on forests and to work globally and nationally to achieve progress towards their achievement by 2015, with a view to achieving the main objective of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code and enhancing the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with respect to poverty eradication and environmental sustainability, and in this regard, emphasizing the importance of political commitment and action at all levels for effective implementation of the sustainable management of all types of forests.*²⁸ (EU, USA)

Note: ASEAN, Australia, Brazil, Colombia, EU, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea and the USA propose the inclusion of the Global Objectives as the objectives of

²⁵ FAO.

²⁶ United Nations, *Agenda 21: Programme of Action for Sustainable Development* (1992), p. 252

²⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2000/35, operative paragraph 1.

²⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 3.

the Instrument/Understanding/Code, while Indonesia and South Africa suggest they should be reaffirmed/recalled.

Global Objective 1

*Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation.*²⁹

Global Objective 2

*Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits including by improving the livelihoods of forest dependent people.*³⁰

Global Objective 3

*Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, and increase the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests.*³¹

Global Objective 4

*Reverse the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management and mobilize significantly increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management.*³²

V. Scope

7. This International Instrument/Understanding/Code relates (covers) to all types of forests. (EU)

VI. National measures, policies, actions or goals contributing to the Global Objectives (ZWE)

8. Member States, *while taking national sovereignty, practices and conditions into account, will make all efforts to contribute to the above shared global objectives through the development or indication of voluntary national measures, policies, actions or specific goals*³³, including the following: (EU) (AUS, PAK, USA) (**Note:** Switzerland

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

³³ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 4.

has proposed the development of quantifiable national targets related to the Global Objectives.)

(a) To fully take into account the Proposals for Action adopted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and the resolutions of the United Nations Forum on Forests in programmes, plans and strategies that aim at the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests; (BRA) (ASEAN, AUS, EU, ZAF, ZWE) (**Note:** This is related to paragraph in section on Cooperation and Coordination/Countries.)

(b) To formulate, implement, publish and regularly update national programmes containing measures to support and increase sustainable forest management and to combat deforestation, as well as measures related to the Global Objectives on Forests; (BRA)

(c) *To develop and implement national forest programmes, policies and strategies as appropriate, and integrate national forest programmes or other forest strategies into national strategies for sustainable development, relevant national action plans and, where appropriate, poverty reduction strategies;*³⁴ (USA) (AUS, BRA, CAN, EU, IDN, NZL, PAK, ZAF, CHE)

(d) To identify and implement appropriate measures *to enhance cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination*³⁵ among sectors affecting and affected by forest management; (USA) (ASEAN, AUS, EU, IDN, CHE)

(e) *To develop, further elaborate and implement national forest programmes, policies and strategies, including forest conservation and rehabilitation strategies as well as strategies to increase the area under sustainable forest management and reduce forest degradation and loss of forest cover;*³⁶ (USA and EU text combined) (ASEAN, COL, NZL, PAK, ZWE)

(f) To strive to maintain a national forest estate as a percentage of total area. (CAN, CHE)

(g) To develop networks of protected areas. (ASEAN, CAN)

(h) To safeguard forests, as appropriate, from threats to health and vitality, including from fire, insects, diseases, pollution and alien species. (ASEAN, CAN, CHE, ZWE)

(i) To require environmental impact assessments for projects with likely adverse effects. (CAN, CHE)

³⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraphs 6 chapeau and 6 (c).

³⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 7 chapeau.

³⁶ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 2 (b).

(j) To *create an effective enabling environment for foreign and domestic investments in sustainable forest management, including investments to avoid the loss of forest cover and forest degradation and support reforestation, afforestation and forest restoration*, as well as where appropriate *an enabling environment for the involvement of and investment by local communities and other forest users in sustainable forest management*;³⁷ (USA) (ASEAN, AUS, ZAF)

(k) To involve forest owners, local communities, the private sector, civil society organizations and other stakeholders in a transparent and participatory manner in forest decision-making that affects them; (USA) (AG, ASEAN, AUS, CAN, COL, EU, IDN, NZL, PAK, ZAF, CHE)

(l) To *promote the active participation and empowerment of all forest related stakeholders, especially, where relevant, local and forest-dependent communities, Indigenous peoples, women and small scale private forest owners and forest workers, in the development and implementation of sustainable forest management policies and programmes*;³⁸ (USA) (AG, ASEAN, AUS, BRA, CAN, COL, EU, IDN, PAK, ZAF, CHE) (**Note:** EU proposed placing this paragraph under enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination.)

(m) *To encourage the private sector, including timber processors, exporters, and importers, as well as civil society organizations, to develop, promote and implement voluntary instruments, including forest certification schemes, (AUS, CAN, CHE) in order to adopt good business practices and to improve market transparency*;³⁹ (CHE, USA)

(n) *To foster access, where appropriate, by households and communities to forest resources and markets*;⁴⁰ (USA) (ZAF)

(o) To monitor and assess forest conditions and progress toward sustainable forest management using agreed criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, and prepare, periodically update and widely disseminate national reports reflecting such assessments; (USA) (AUS, CAN)

Note: ASEAN and Pakistan propose a number of national measures that are more appropriate for section VIII on measures to be implemented under the 7 thematic elements.

VII. Relationship to other instruments

9. Taking into account the work undertaken by *existing international legally binding instruments relevant to forests*,⁴¹ *interaction should be strengthened with these*

³⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraphs 5 (i) and 5 (j).

³⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (e).

³⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (h).

⁴⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (m).

*instruments in order to facilitate enhanced cooperation, synergies and effective implementation of sustainable forest management.*⁴² (ASEAN, AUS, CAN, COL, EU, NZL, PAK, ZAF)

VIII. The seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management and the IPF/IFF proposals for action

10. This Instrument/Understanding/Code should *facilitate the implementation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests Proposals for Action through clustering and further simplifying of the language, as needed, taking into account existing work, and through promoting greater stakeholder understanding of the intent of these proposals.*⁴³ Moreover, *voluntary national reports on progress towards achieving the forest global objectives should take into consideration, as appropriate, the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management*⁴⁴ identified in UNFF

Resolution IV/3, which are listed below. To this end, annexes should be developed that cluster and simplify the Proposals for Action according to the seven thematic elements. (NTP)

- a. *Extent of forest resources*
- b. *Forest biological diversity*
- c. *Forest health and vitality*
- d. *Productive functions of forest resources*
- e. *Protective functions of forest resources*
- f. *Socio-economic functions of forests*
- g. *Legal, policy and institutional framework*

IX. International trade in forest products

11. Member States commit to:

(a) Enhance trade through further development of open, predictable and non-discriminatory international trading rules and practices, including financial systems; (ASEAN)

(b) Remove trade barriers and impediments, including emerging trade restrictions, for better market access and prices for higher value-added forest products; (ASEAN)

⁴¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, fifth preambular paragraph.

⁴² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 2 (c); and Ministerial Declaration and Message from the United Nations Forum on Forests to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, paragraph 12..

⁴³ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 7 (a).

⁴⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 19.

(c) *Promote a mutually supportive relationship between trade and environment*⁴⁵ that further facilitates international trade of forest products from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests; (ASEAN)

(d) *Trade in forest products from sustainably managed* and legally harvested *forests*;⁴⁶ (ASEAN) (AUS, IDN, CHE)

(e) Not facilitate trade in illegally harvested forest products.⁴⁷ (ASEAN, AUS)

(f) Promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation in forest law enforcement and governance to combat illegal logging and its associated trade, particularly of illegally harvested timber, non-timber products, wildlife and other forest products. (IDN) (ASEAN, AUS, EU, JPN, CHE, USA)

(g) Ensure that *voluntary certification and labeling schemes are operated in accordance with relevant national legislation* so that *such schemes are not used as a form of disguised protectionism*;⁴⁸ and (ASEAN)

(h) Promote valuation, accounting and pricing systems that internalize the full environmental and social costs of forest products sourced from sustainably managed forests. (ASEAN)

12. The United Nations Forum on Forests will address illegal forest related practices and associated trade in forest products through greater information sharing and international cooperation. (EU) (ASEAN, AUS, IDN, JPN, CHE, USA)

X. Research (AUS, CAN, CHE, ZWE)

13. *Countries are encouraged to highlight the essential role of science and research in sustainable forest management and to incorporate, as appropriate, research strategies and programmes into national forest programmes or equivalent programmes*.⁴⁹ (PAK)

14. *Countries are also encouraged, within their capacities, to strengthen linkages between science and policy by enhancing the capacities of research organizations, institutions and scientists, in particular in developing countries*.⁵⁰ (NTP)

15. Countries are further encouraged to *strengthen forestry education, research and development through global, regional and sub-regional networks, as well as through relevant organizations, institutions and centres of excellence in all regions of the world*.

⁴⁵ IPF proposal for action 128 (b).

⁴⁶ IFF proposal for action 41 (a).

⁴⁷ Very similar to IFF proposal for action 41 (f).

⁴⁸ IPF proposal for action 133 (a).

⁴⁹ UNFF Resolution 4/1, operative paragraph 1.

⁵⁰ UNFF Resolution 4/1, operative paragraph 2.

particularly in developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition;⁵¹; (Brazil, IDN, EU) (PAK, ASEAN) (Note: EU proposed having this under technical and scientific cooperation.)

16. *The donor community, international organizations and financial institutions are called upon to enhance the capacity of research organizations in developing countries in generating and accessing forest-related data and information, including through information and communication technologies infrastructure, strengthening the skills of researchers and supporting networking activities.*⁵² (NTP)

17. *International and regional organizations, institutions and processes, with the involvement of various stakeholders, are encouraged to promote and support integrated and interdisciplinary research on forest-related issues of importance at the national and global levels, both within and between national and international research organizations and institutions to enhance sustainable forest management and to promote conservation and sustainable use of forest resources.*⁵³ (NTP)

18. *The Collaborative Partnership on Forests is invited to provide, if requested by the United Nations Forum on Forests, an assessment of scientific knowledge-based actions needed to achieve sustainable forest management and the global objectives at all levels.*⁵⁴ (EU) (Note: EU proposed to have this paragraph under Collaborative Partnership on Forests, which is under enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral coordination.)

19. Member States will support *the joint initiative by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations, the Center for International Forestry Research, and the International Center for Research in Agroforestry, in collaboration with other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, on science and technology in support of the United Nations Forum on Forests by assessing available information and producing reports on forests related issues of high concern to the Forum* and the implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code.⁵⁵ (EU) (Note: EU proposes having this under technical and scientific cooperation.)

20. Countries, member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, financial institutions and relevant regional and international organizations should strengthen follow-up to the implementation of Resolution 4/1 on forest-related scientific knowledge, adopted by the fourth session of the Forum. (NTP)

⁵¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 7 (b).

⁵² UNFF Resolution 4/1, operative paragraph 4.

⁵³ UNFF Resolution 4/1, operative paragraph 6.

⁵⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 22 (e).

⁵⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 23.

XI. Public awareness and education (CAN, CHE, ZWE)

21. Member States will promote and encourage understanding of the importance of and the measures required for the sustainable management of forests, as well as its dissemination through the media and the inclusion of these topics in education programmes. (EU) (ASEAN, CAN, IDN, PAK, CHE)

22. *Countries are urged, within their capacities, to recognize the importance of forestry education and research for achieving sustainable forest management, and are called upon, within their capacities, to enhance forestry education and research capacity.*⁵⁶ (PAK)

23. Member States will cooperate, as appropriate, with other member States and international organizations in developing educational and public awareness programmes with respect to the sustainable management of forests. (EU) (ASEAN, CAN, IDN, PAK, CHE)

24. *Countries are encouraged to support, particularly in developing countries, national programmes of education and public awareness regarding sustainable forest management among youth, women and other major groups, in order to promote their involvement in the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.*⁵⁷ (ASEAN, PAK)

XII. Enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination (AG, AUS, CAN, COL, ZWE)

A. Countries

25. *Countries are encouraged to enhance cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination in order to achieve the global objectives and to promote sustainable forest management by:*⁵⁸ (ASEAN, AUS, EU, CHE)

(a) *Facilitating implementation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests Proposals for Action through clustering and further simplifying of the language, as needed, taking into account existing work, and through promoting greater stakeholder understanding of the intent of these proposals;*⁵⁹ (EU) (ASEAN, AUS, BRA, IDN, ZAF, USA) (**Note:** There is a related paragraph under National Measures.)

(b) *Strengthening also cooperation and partnerships at the regional level, as needed, to:*

⁵⁶ UNFF Resolution 4/1, operative paragraph 15.

⁵⁷ Language taken from UNFF Resolution 3/3, operative paragraph 13.

⁵⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 7.

⁵⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 7 (a).

- i. *increase political, financial and technical support and capacity;*
- ii. *develop regional strategies and plans for implementation;*
- iii. *collaborate on implementation activities; and*
- iv. *exchange experiences and lessons learned;*⁶⁰ (EU) (BRA, JPN, ZAF, USA)
- v. enhance forest related wildlife law enforcement and governance; (USA) (ASEAN, EU, JPN, CHE)

(c) Promoting bilateral, regional and international cooperation on forest law enforcement and governance to combat illegal logging and its associated trade, particularly on illegally harvested timber, non-timber products, wildlife and other forest products; (IDN) (ASEAN, EU, JPN, CHE, USA)

(d) Identifying and implementing measures to improve regional and international coordination among sectors affecting and affected by forest management. (USA) (EU)

(e) *Establishing or strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships and programmes;*⁶¹ (AUS, EU, NZL, ZAF)

B. International processes and organizations

26. *Relevant multilateral environmental agreements, instruments, processes and United Nations bodies are invited to improve collaboration and cooperation with the international arrangement on forests* and this non-legally binding Instrument/Understanding/Code.⁶² (EU, NZL)

27. The United Nations Forum on Forests will establish and maintain cooperation with relevant international organizations, institutions, treaty bodies and major groups on matters covered by this International Instrument/Understanding/Code in a mutually supportive manner. (EU) (NZL)

28. Member States are encouraged to facilitate international support, especially through the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, for national actions to implement sustainable forest management and establish and maintain protected forest areas. (USA)

The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (AG, AUS)

29. The Collaborative Partnership on Forests is invited to support the work of the Forum and this non-legally binding Instrument/Understanding/Code. To this end, *the Forum will provide guidance to the Partnership.*⁶³ (EU)

⁶⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 7 (c), 7 (c) (i), 7 (c) (ii), 7 (c) (iii) and 7 (c) (iv).

⁶¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 7 (d).

⁶² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 9.

⁶³ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, preambular paragraph 14 and operative paragraph 22 chapeau.

30. *As State members of the governing bodies of the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, member States are urged to help ensure that the forest-related priorities and programmes of members of the CPF are integrated and mutually supportive, consistent with their mandates;*⁶⁴ (USA) (ASEAN)

31. *State members of the governing bodies of the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests* are urged to help ensure that forest-related activities in their programmes of work are in line with this International Instrument/Understanding/Code.⁶⁵ (EU)

32. The United Nations Forum on Forests and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests will review the programmes of work of the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests in order to identify opportunities for synergies as well as duplications and gaps with the International Instrument/Understanding/Code with a view to enhancing cooperation between the members of the Partnership, in particular by developing joint action plans. (EU) (NZL)

33. Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are invited to:

(a) *Strengthen collaboration and coordination on forest issues in order to foster progress towards sustainable forest management at the global, regional and national levels;*⁶⁶ (EU, NZL, USA)

(b) *Continue and further develop its ongoing initiatives on monitoring, assessment and reporting on forest resources, on streamlining national forest reporting, on the sourcebook on funding for sustainable forest management, on harmonizing forest-related definitions and on the Global Forest Information Service;*⁶⁷ (EU, USA)

(c) *Further harmonize processes for voluntary monitoring, assessment and reporting, taking into account the seven thematic elements for sustainable forest management, with a view to reducing the reporting burden on countries;*⁶⁸ (USA) (Note: this also has been included in the section on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting.) (EU, AUS)

(d) *Translate relevant policy recommendations of the United Nations Forum on Forests on the implementation of this Instrument/Understanding/Code into their work programmes.*⁶⁹ (EU) (USA)

⁶⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 24.

⁶⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 24.

⁶⁶ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 22 (a).

⁶⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 22 (b).

⁶⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 20.

⁶⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 22 (c).

(e) *Explore ways to involve major groups in the activities of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and to strengthen the Partnership's contribution to activities at the regional level;*⁷⁰ (EU)

(f) *Continue to strengthen the Tehran Process, consistent with their mandates and programmes of work, through developing and implementing strategies on conservation and rehabilitation of forests in low forest cover countries.*⁷¹ (EU)

34. Member States and stakeholders *interested in the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are urged to support its joint initiatives by making voluntary financial contributions to the respective lead organizations of the Partnership, as appropriate.*⁷² (EU)

C. Regional processes and organizations (AG, AUS)

35. *Forest-related regional and sub-regional bodies, mechanisms and processes, in coordination with the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat, as appropriate, are invited to strengthen collaboration and to provide input to the work of the Forum in the implementation of this Instrument/Understanding/Code by;*⁷³ (EU) (ASEAN, BRA, IDN, JPN, NZL, KOR, USA)

(a) *Raising awareness of the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests and this Instrument/Understanding/Code at the regional and sub-regional levels;*⁷⁴ (EU) (ASEAN, BRA, IDN, JPN, USA)

(b) *Addressing topics identified in the Multi-Year Programme of Work, with a view to sharing with the United Nations Forum on Forests regional and sub-regional perspectives on these topics;*⁷⁵ (EU) (IDN, JPN)

(c) *Encouraging participation of interested United Nations Forum on Forests members, especially from within the region, as well as Collaborative Partnership on Forests members, relevant regional organizations and major groups.*⁷⁶ (EU) (AUS, IDN, JPN)

⁷⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 22 (d).

⁷¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 22 (f).

⁷² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 25.

⁷³ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 11.

⁷⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 11 (a).

⁷⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 11 (b).

⁷⁶ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 11 (c).

XIII. Means of implementation

A. Finance (AG, COL, CHE)

36. *Countries* participating in this Instrument/Understanding/Code are *urged to make concerted efforts to secure sustained high-level political commitment to strengthen the means of implementation, including financial resources, to provide support in particular for developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing states, as well as countries with economies in transition in order to achieve the global objectives and to promote sustainable forest management by:*⁷⁷ (KOR, ZAF)

(a) *Reversing the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management;*⁷⁸ (EU, IDN, USA)

(b) *Mobilizing and providing significant new and additional resources for sustainable forest management from private, public, domestic and international sources to and within developing countries, especially least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states, as well as countries with economies in transition, as well as through voluntary contributions to existing forest related funds hosted by members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, including the National Forest Programme Facility, the Program on Forests, and the Bali Partnership Fund;*⁷⁹ (USA) (AUS, CAN, EU, IDN, ZAF)

(c) **Option 1:** Establishing a global financing mechanism/global forest fund/forest development fund with the aim of providing specific financial resources for achieving the objectives of this Instrument/Understanding/Code. (ASEAN, BRA, CAN, COL, IDN, ZAF)

(d) **Option 2:** *Assessing and reviewing the current funding mechanisms as well as, if appropriate, inter alia, the possibility of having a voluntary global funding mechanism as a contribution towards achieving the global objectives and implementing sustainable forest management;*⁸⁰ (EU)

(e) *Inviting Collaborative Partnership on Forests members, in particular the World Bank, as host of PROFOR, to maintain and enhance support to analytical work and knowledge generation and to develop new tools and approaches to key issues within the forest sector, in particular those relevant to the global objectives, in order to support developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in accessing additional national and international funding;*⁸¹ (AUS, EU, USA)

⁷⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5.

⁷⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (a).

⁷⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraphs 5 (b), 5 (c) and 5 (d).

⁸⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (e).

⁸¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (f).

(f) *Welcoming the on-going Global Environment Facility work to clarify its focal area strategies and operational programs and, in this context, invites the Global Environment Facility Council to fully consider the potential for strengthened Global Environment Facility support for sustainable forest management, including the option to establish a separate operational programme on forests, without prejudicing other operational programmes;*⁸² (BRA, EU)

(g) *Inviting the governing bodies of international financial institutions, development agencies and regional banks to consider ways to generate and facilitate access to resources, and to respond to requests from developing countries to finance forest-related activities;*⁸³ (EU, ZAF)

(h) *Creating an enabling environment for investment in sustainable forest management, including to avoid the loss of forest cover and forest degradation and to support reforestation, afforestation and forest restoration;*⁸⁴ (EU)

(i) *Creating an enabling environment for the involvement of and investment by local communities and other forest users in sustainable forest management;*⁸⁵ (EU)

(j) Initiate or strengthen public-private partnerships to promote implementation of national forest programs, criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management and good business practices. (USA) (AUS, BRA, EU, NZL, PAK, ZAF)

(k) *Further developing innovative financial mechanisms for generating revenue to support sustainable forest management;*⁸⁶ (EU, IDN, ZAF)

(l) *Encouraging the development of mechanisms which may include systems for attributing proper value, as appropriate, to the benefits derived from goods and services provided by forests and trees outside forests, consistent with relevant national legislation and policies;*⁸⁷ (COL, EU, PAK, ZAF, CHE, USA)

(m) Creating financial mechanisms to support new smaller land owners or users, especially in developing countries. (ZAF)

(n) Developing and implementing clean development mechanism (CDM) strategies for participating in market-based mechanisms of carbon sequestration promoting afforestation and reforestation. (PAK)

⁸² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (g).

⁸³ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (h).

⁸⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (i).

⁸⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (j).

⁸⁶ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (k).

⁸⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (l).

(o) *Fostering access, where appropriate, by households and communities to forest resources and markets;*⁸⁸ (EU, ZAF, USA)

(p) *Supporting livelihoods and income diversification from forest products and services for small scale forest owners, Indigenous peoples, including forest-dependent local communities and poor people living in and around forest areas, consistent with sustainable forest management objectives.*⁸⁹ (EU, ZAF, USA)

B. Incentives

37. Member States will, as appropriate, adopt economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable management of forests. (EU) (PAK)

38. Member States shall encourage/promote remunerative returns on timber and non-timber forest products sourced from sustainably managed forests to enable developing countries to finance sustainable forest management. (ASEAN)

C. Capacity building and Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies (AG, ASEAN, AUS, CAN, COL, IDN, PAK, KOR, ZAF, CHE, ZWE)

39. Member States will *promote sustainable forest management, through capacity building and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, including traditional technologies, and taking into account economic, social and environmental priorities specific to countries by;*⁹⁰ (EU) (almost all proposals referred to this.)

Capacity building (AG)

40. Member States decide/are urged to:

(a) *Enhance the capacity of countries, in particular developing countries, to significantly increase the production of forest products from sustainably managed forests;*⁹¹ (BRA, USA)

(b) Promote the transfer of technology to and capacity building in developing countries to enable them to implement national policies and measures aimed at reversing the loss of forest cover in their territories as well as significantly increase the area of protected and sustainably managed forests; (BRA) (NZL)

(c) *Promote the active participation and empowerment of all forest related stakeholders, especially local and forest-dependent communities, Indigenous peoples, women and small scale private forest owners and forest workers, in the development and*

⁸⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (m).

⁸⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 5 (n).

⁹⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6.

⁹¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (b).

*implementation of sustainable forest management policies and programmes;*⁹² (ASEAN, AUS, BRA, CAN, IDN, NZL, PAK, ZAF, CHE) (**Note:** Similar paragraph in section on National measures.)

(d) *Strengthen mechanisms that enhance sharing and use of best practices in sustainable forest management;*⁹³ (NTP)

(e) *Strengthen the capacity of countries to address illegal practices according to national legislation and illegal international trade in forest products in the forest sector, through the promotion of forest law enforcement and governance at the national and sub-national and regional and sub-regional levels, as appropriate;*⁹⁴ (EU) (ASEAN, AUS, IDN, JPN, CHE, USA) (**Note:** EU proposed having this in section on international trade.)

(f) Strengthen the capacity of countries to effectively combat wildlife poaching in forests and related trafficking in wildlife and wildlife parts through enhanced public awareness, consumer education, law enforcement and information networks; (USA) (ASEAN, AUS, IDN, JPN)

Transfer of environmentally sound technologies

(g) Recognizing that both access to and transfer of technology among States are essential elements for the attainment of the overarching objective and purpose of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code, provide and/or facilitate access to and transfer of technologies to other Member States, that are relevant to the achievement of the overarching objective and purpose of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code; (EU) (almost all proposals referred to this.)

(h) Enhance access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, in accordance with the relevant provisions of Agenda 21; (IDN)

(i) *Provide greater support to scientific and technological innovations for sustainable forest management, including innovations that help local communities undertake sustainable forest management;*⁹⁵ (EU) (ZAF)

(j) Strengthen national and local capacity for the adaptation of technologies to national and local conditions. (ASEAN)

(k) *Promote international technical and scientific cooperation, including South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation* in the field of sustainable forest management, where necessary, through the appropriate international, regional and

⁹² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (e).

⁹³ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (f).

⁹⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (g).

⁹⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (a).

national institutions;⁹⁶ (EU) (BRA, IDN, USA) (**Note:** EU had this under technical and scientific cooperation.)

(l) Promote effective protection, use and related benefit-sharing of traditional knowledge in sustainable forest management. (EU) (ASEAN, AUS, CAN, CHE)

(m) *Encourage the private sector, including timber processors, exporters, and importers, as well as civil society organizations, to develop, promote and implement voluntary instruments, in order to adopt good business practices and to improve market transparency;*⁹⁷ (EU) (CAN, CHE, USA) (**Note:** Also in section on National measures.) (**Note:** EU proposed having this in section on international trade.)

XIV. Technical Assistance

41. Member States will promote the provision of technical assistance to other member States, especially those that are developing countries or countries with economies in transition, either bilaterally or through the appropriate international organizations, with the objective of facilitating the implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code. (EU) (NZL)

XV. Monitoring, assessment and reporting (AUS, CAN, ZWE)

42. Member States will monitor *progress in implementing national measures, policies, actions or specific objectives towards achieving the Global Objectives on Forests, taking into consideration, as appropriate, the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management.*⁹⁸ (EU) (ASEAN, NZL)

43. To measure progress towards the achievement of the global objectives on forests, indicators will be selected, utilizing as much as possible indicators from existing criteria and indicators processes. (ASEAN, AUS, IDN, CHE)

44. Member States *will submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports to the United Nations Forum on Forests, on progress in implementing national measures, policies, actions or specific objectives towards achieving the Global Objectives on Forests* in support of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code, *taking into consideration, as appropriate, the seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management,* in one of the official languages of the United Nations within two years after the adoption of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code by the General Assembly, and thereafter *in accordance with* any further decisions of *the Forum* on the submission of such national reports.⁹⁹ (EU) (BRA, KOR, ZAF, CHE, USA) *The Collaborative Partnership on*

⁹⁶ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (d).

⁹⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 6 (h).

⁹⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 19.

⁹⁹ Ibid.

Forests is also invited to continue to report in a consolidated manner to the United Nations Forum on Forests on its initiatives and activities, including progress on the means of implementation, in support of the work of the Forum and the implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code.¹⁰⁰ (EU, USA)

Comparable methodologies should be utilized, taking into account reports required by other multilateral environmental agreements. (BRA) (ASEAN, NZL, PAK)

45. The UNFF Secretariat will prepare, on the basis of the national reports and any other relevant information, a synthesis report including recommendations to the UNFF on decisions to enhance the implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code. Relevant members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are invited to participate in the preparation of the synthesis report. (EU)

46. *The members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests , in collaboration with the United Nations Forum on Forests, are invited to further harmonize processes for voluntary monitoring, assessment and reporting, taking into account, the seven thematic elements for sustainable forest management, with a view to reducing the reporting burden on countries.*¹⁰¹ (EU) (AUS, USA)

47. Countries, member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, financial institutions and relevant regional and international organizations should strengthen follow-up on the implementation of Resolution 4/3 on monitoring, assessment and reporting: criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, adopted by the fourth session of the Forum. (NTP)

Peer review of national reports

48. Voluntary peer review of national reporting can be agreed to by countries, with the objective of assessing the needs of countries for improving sustainable forest management and for identifying areas requiring financial assistance from the donor community. (CAN, IDN, CHE) (Pakistan can support provided that there is balanced representation of regions/common interest groups.)

Facilitative process in follow-up to national reports

49. A Committee of experts is hereby established to promote and facilitate the implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code, by *inter alia* giving advice and assistance to the UNFF upon its request regarding international and regional implementation, and any subscribing State upon its request regarding national implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code. (EU)

50. The Committee will conduct its work in a constructive and timely manner, and be non-judicial. (EU)

¹⁰⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 21.

¹⁰¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 20.

51. The Committee will consist of [x] members nominated by member States and elected by UNFF on the basis of [y] from each of the five regional groups of the United Nations. (EU)

52. Members of the Committee will have recognized competence in the field of sustainable forest management or other relevant fields of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code, including scientific, technical or legal expertise, and they will serve as experts in their individual capacity. (EU)

53. Members will be elected for a period of [z] years. Members will not serve for more than two consecutive terms. (EU)

54. The Committee may draw upon outside expertise as it deems necessary. (EU)

55. The Committee will be serviced by the UNFF Secretariat and hold sessions as necessary and, whenever possible, in conjunction with sessions of UNFF. (EU)

56. The Committee will report to each session of UNFF on all aspects of its work for consideration and appropriate action by UNFF. (EU)

57. The Committee will, upon a request received in accordance with paragraph 49, consider questions regarding the implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code in consultation with the subscribing State concerned and, in light of the nature of the question, and may:

- (a) Clarify and resolve of questions of implementation;
- (b) Provide advice to the subscribing State concerned, including on the access to technical and financial resources for the resolution of these difficulties;
- (c) Assist, as appropriate, the subscribing State concerned to further develop national forest programmes, policies and strategies with a view to the implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code within an adequate time frame;
- (d) Invite the subscribing State concerned to submit progress reports to the Committee on the efforts it is making to implement the provisions of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code. (EU) (Pakistan can support provided that there is balanced representation of regions/common interest groups.)

XVI. Information exchange (AUS, CHE)

58. Member States will facilitate the exchange of information on sustainable forest management, including exchange of the results of technical, scientific and socio-economic research, as well as information on training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, and indigenous and traditional knowledge. (ASEAN, EU)

59. *The Collaborative Partnership on Forests is also invited to enhance cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination by promoting the exchange of forest management-related experiences and best practices and consider the feasibility of serving as a clearing-house to facilitate the access by developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to better technology for sustainable forest management* and for promoting technical and scientific cooperation.¹⁰² (BRA, EU, USA) (Note: This could also go under International Cooperation as proposed by the USA.) (Note: Pakistan supports the establishment of a clearing-house mechanism by countries, particularly at the regional level. ASEAN favors a clearing-house mechanism but without mentioning CPF.)

XVII. Institutional and working modalities (AG)

A. Governing Body

60. The United Nations Forum on Forests will serve as the governing body/intergovernmental forum of this Instrument/Understanding/Code. (BRA, EU, IDN)

61. The functions of the UNFF will be to monitor and promote the full implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code, keeping in view its overarching objective and purpose, *inter alia*, by adopting plans and programmes, including a multi-year programme of work for the UNFF and for the implementation of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code. (EU)

B. Meetings

62. The UN Forum on Forests will assess progress in the implementation of the Instrument/Understanding/Code, including a review of national reports, the mobilization of resources, support provided by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and cooperation with other forest-related processes. The Forum will also decide on priorities and emerging issues to be addressed by the Instrument/Understanding/Code and will consider and decide upon any additional actions required for the implementation of the Instrument/Understanding/Code and the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests. (BRA, EU, IDN, NZL, ZAF, CHE)

63. In addressing the implementation of this Instrument/Understanding/Code, the *United Nations Forum on Forests should consider inputs from forest-related regional and sub-regional bodies, mechanisms and processes and from country-led initiatives, as well as from major groups.*¹⁰³ (AUS, BRA, EU, JPN, ZAF, USA)

64. On alternate years, regional and sub-regional meetings should be held to discuss practical steps for the implementation of this Instrument/Understanding/Code at the national and regional levels. Such meetings should be conducted by regional or sub-

¹⁰² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 8.

¹⁰³ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 15.

regional organizations mandated by their member States and acknowledged by the UNFF. Meetings should be prepared jointly by the designated organizations and the UNFF Secretariat. (BRA) (IDN, NZL)

65. *The United Nations Forum on Forests should continue to support participants from developing countries, with priority to the least developed countries, as well as from countries with economies in transition, in accordance with General Assembly decision 58/554.*¹⁰⁴ (NTP)

C. Subsidiary bodies

66. The Forum may establish, as necessary, subsidiary or advisory bodies for supporting the implementation of the instrument. This could include, inter alia, ad hoc expert groups, ad hoc working groups, scientific and/or technical advisory bodies and other intersessional bodies. (EU)

D. Stakeholder participation (AG, AUS, COL)

67. *Voluntary public-private partnerships and private sector initiatives at all levels make important contributions to the achievement of the effective implementation of sustainable forest management and support national strategies, plans and priorities related to forests.*¹⁰⁵ (AUS, BRA, EU, NZL, PAK, ZAF, CHE, USA, ZWE)

68. The United Nations Forum on Forests should continue to encourage and facilitate participation of *major groups and other forest stakeholders in the meetings and work of the Forum.*¹⁰⁶ (AUS, BRA, CAN, EU, IDN, KOR, CHE)

E. Multi-year programme of work

69. *A Multi-Year Programme of Work* for the Forum and this Instrument/Understanding/Code for the period 2007-2015 will *be adopted by the Forum at its seventh session.*¹⁰⁷ (RA) (AUS, ZAF)

70. *Country- and organization-led initiatives should address issues identified in the Multi-Year Programme of Work for a given cycle.*¹⁰⁸ (NTP)

71. *Ad hoc expert groups, as referred to in paragraph 4(k) of Economic and Social Council Resolution 2000/35, could be convened to address issues identified in the multi-year programme of work.*¹⁰⁹ (EU)

¹⁰⁴ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 16.

¹⁰⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, 11th presbular paragraph.

¹⁰⁶ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 12.

¹⁰⁷ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 10.

¹⁰⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 13.

¹⁰⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 14.

F. The UNFF Secretariat (AUS)

72. The Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests will serve as the Secretariat of this Instrument/Understanding/Code. (EU, IDN, ZAF, USA)

73. The UNFF Secretariat will perform functions, including:

(a) arrange for and service sessions of the UNFF and of any subsidiary body that may be established;

(b) assist the UNFF in carrying out its functions, including the performance of specific tasks that the UNFF may decide to assign to it;

(c) report on its activities to the UNFF with respect to this International Instrument/Understanding/Code. (EU)

74. The Secretariat will cooperate with relevant international organizations, institutions and treaty bodies, in particular through the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, and major groups in achieving the objectives of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code. (EU)

*75. Consideration will be given on ways of strengthening the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests within existing resources, as well as through increased voluntary extra-budgetary resources to enable it to fulfill its function more effectively, bearing in mind paragraph 163b of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document.*¹¹⁰
(NTP)

G. The UNFF Trust Fund

76. Bearing in mind the importance of the UNFF Trust Fund for supporting participants from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the meetings of the Forum as well as the work of the UNFF Secretariat, *donor Governments, financial institutions and other organizations are called upon to make voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Forum on Forests Trust Fund; and urges other countries in the position to do so, and other interested parties to contribute to the Trust Fund.*¹¹¹ (NTP)

H. Review of progress achieved in 2015

77. The effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests and this non-legally binding Instrument/Understanding/Code will be reviewed in 2015 and on this basis a full range of options will be considered, including, inter alia, a legally binding instrument on

¹¹⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 17.

¹¹¹ ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 18.

*all types of forests, strengthening the current arrangement, continuation of the current arrangement and other options.*¹¹² (ASEAN, AUS, EU, IDN, CHE, USA)

XVIII. Adoption/subscription

78. The member States of the United Nations Forum on Forests at its seventh session adopt this International Instrument/Understanding/Code on the Sustainable Management of All Types of Forests. (AUS, PAK, CHE, USA)

79. Member States further decide that the Instrument/Understanding/Code will be open for subscription by States and regional economic integration organizations by submitting a diplomatic note to the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests. This procedure applies mutatis mutandis to the withdrawal of States and regional economic integration organizations from this Instrument/Understanding/Code. The UNFF Secretariat should disseminate the status of States' subscription to the Instrument/Understanding/Code to all member States of the UNFF on a periodic basis; (EU, IDN)

80. The present International Instrument/Understanding/Code becomes operational on [*day of inauguration*]. (EU)

XIX. Amendments/Modifications

81. The UNFF may decide on amendments/modifications to this International Instrument/Understanding/Code subject to adoption by the General Assembly. (EU) (ZAF)

XX. Adoption of annexes and supplementary instruments

82. The UNFF may decide on annexes and supplementary instruments to this Instrument/Understanding/Code subject to adoption by the General Assembly. (EU)

XXI. Authentic texts

83. The original of this International Instrument/Understanding/Code, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, will be deposited with the Secretariat. (EU)

¹¹² ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49, operative paragraph 32.