Chapter VI

INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS FOR MANAGEMENT OF TROPICAL FOREST

I. International Tropical Forest Policy

The Structure of the deforestation problem is multidimensional, organic and interrelated; no single component like corruption or excluding indigenous people from management of tropical forest are responsible for deforestation. Tropical deforestation is not just an event that is setting in motion a chain of devastating ecological consequences, it is also a social processes reflecting continuum of human responses to diverse and changing economic and political conditions. These responses are ranging from desperate hunger to outright greed. Responsibility for the Indonesian deforestation problem and its consequences are not confined to Indonesia or other tropical countries alone. An effective check and control of tropical deforestation requires confrontation of numerous seemingly intractable social ills and injustices that are both country specific and global in nature.

With the increase in knowledge about global ecological interrelationships and trends and the interdependence of north and south, the convictions developed that the survival and continued existence of tropical forest can only be guaranteed within the framework of an intentionally coordinated plane of action.

Thirty years after the completion of the study “The Limits to Growth” by The Club of Rome (Meadows, 1972) and the first UN conference on Environment (Stockholm, 1972), worldwide awareness of the impact of this continuous destructive processes, on the “environment versus Development” controversy has grown tremendously in the public as well as the political arena.

This leads to the unavoidable need to reorient development goals from quantitative to qualitative growth which can be achieved through a strategy for sustainable development as suggested by the Bruntland Commission. The political value of this international task has increased greatly. This was evident in the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) at Rio de Janeiro, 1992.

At the International level the destruction processes of tropical forest has aroused special attention.

II. Strategies and Programmes Pertaining to Tropical Forests.

International activities to protect topical forests are broad based, extending from a global outline plan to individual projects. Relevant action includes international initiatives and measures taken with the explicit aim of preserving the tropical forests and also other measures which have,
in the course of their development, likewise proved capable of making a contribution to the conservation of tropical forests.

II.1  Tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP)

The tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP) is the most important concept so far agreed upon at the international level with the declared aim of utilizing and protecting the tropical forests, while respecting the sovereignty of the countries in which these forests are situated.

Origins and Concept

The Tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP) dates back to an initiative taken by the committee on Forest Development in the Tropics set up by the Food and Agriculture organization of UN IN 1983, confronted with the increasing widespread destruction of the tropical forests, the committee went on to recommend that the FAO should draw up proposals for an international strategy to save the Tropical Forests.

The FAO accepted that recommendation and presented the Tropical Forestry Action Plan in 1985. An annex to its document estimated the financial resources required for programs in 53 Tropical forest countries over a period of 5 years. These proposals were drawn up in 1984 and 1985 by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the World Resources Institute (WRI) the latter three organizations published their conclusions in October 1985 under the title “Tropical Forest: A Call for action”.

The TFAP was then adopted at the government level within the FAO in 1986.

In essence, the international TFAP is a global outline plan, which is not finding in international law, but is intended to serve as a guideline for the definition and implementation of strategies in the forestry sector at the level of the individual developing countries. It also constitutes a basis for coordination of International Development Cooperation designed to protect the forest and develop forest resources in the tropics.

In detail, the TFAP concept provides for action in the following five main areas:

1. Forestry and land use.
2. Development of the forest and timber economy.
3. Fuel wood and energy.
4. Conservation of tropical forest ecosystems.

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1 Expert Statement Submitted to The Hearing “Measures to Protect the Tropical Forests” on 7/8 June 1989, Enquete-Commission Printed Papers 11/64 and 11/70-78
5. Institution building.5

II.2 International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) and International Tropical Timber organization (ITTO).

The International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) is a primary commodity convention which was negotiated and adopted during the United Nations Conference on International Trade in Tropical Timber held in Geneva on 7-18 November 1983, after 10 years of preparatory work by 36 producer countries and 34 consumer countries of tropical timber under the aegis of the United Nations conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).6

All primary commodity agreements share the aim of providing producer and consumer countries with a relatively stable basis for their trade in specific commodities.

Objectives of the Agreement

By definition, the objective of the primary commodity agreement are primarily economic but the same allowance is also made for ecological aspects. On the subject of the economic objectives the preamble states that the contracting parties have concluded the agreement by virtue of their recognition of the importance of tropical timber for the economy of the signatory countries, in particular for exports from the producer member countries and to meet the supply requirement of the consumer countries, and also in an endeavor to create a framework of international cooperation between the producer and consumer countries which will help to solve the problems confronting the tropical timber trade.7

In the context of efforts to protect the tropical forests, it is interesting to note that the International Tropical Timber Agreement seeks to encourage the definition of national policies which will safeguard the sustainable use and conservation of the tropical forests and their genetic stocks and preserve the ecological balance of the regions concerned. On this subject, the preamble stipulates that the agreement has been concluded having regard to the importance of and need for appropriate and effective conservation and utilization of the tropical forests to permit their best possible utilization while preserving the ecological balance of the regions concerned and of the biosphere.8

The new ITTA 1994, which came into force on 1 January 1997, has been signed by 28 producer countries, 25 consumer countries and the European Union, giving the International Tropical Timber organization (ITTO) a total membership of 54.

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5 Ibid.
7 "Measures to Date, Possibilities for Action and Recommendation for Protection of the Tropical Forests in German Bundestag (ed.) 2nd Report of the Enquate Commission (Bone, 1999), p. 589
This agreement had a greater focus on Sustainable Forest Management than did the previous one. The Central focus of ITTO was that all producer countries made a commitment to have their exports of tropical timber and topical timber products came from sustainable managed sources. Consumer member countries also made a commitment have their exports of tropical timber and tropical timber products came from sustainably managed sources.

A new fund the Bali Partnership Fund was created to help the producing member countries implement sustainable forest management. Among the issues being addressed by ITTO are, the updating of ITTO’S criteria and indicators for sustainable management of natural tropical forest, forest fires, market access and market difficulties created by the current Asian economic crisis. For its realization, ITTO the International Tropical Timber Organization with its head quarter in Yakoahama (Japan) was created. ITTO is perhaps the only commodities trade promotion organization with conservation as an explicit goal.

Financing

The ITTO is currently financed by payments into two accounts. First each member state pays fixed annual contribution into an administrative account intended to defrag the costs incurred for the implementation of the agreement. The annual contribution depend on the ratio of the number of votes held by the member country. Concerned at the time of approval of the administrative budget to the total number of votes of all the member countries.

In addition, a special account has been opened to be used for the financing and preparation of projects. The ITTO indicates that it only receives voluntary contributions in this account at present.

Main Activities

The International Tropical Timber organization commenced its activities in 1987 and had also turned its attention to environmental issues. Its main activities are:-

- A research project on the biological rehabilitation of the fire-devastated territory in East Kalimantan on Borneo (Indonesia), and other rehabilitation programs for deforested areas in the Asian Pacific region (starting date June 1988).
- Studies of trends on the European market for tropical timber and analysis of the ultimate use of timber.
- Publication of a monthly bulletin on market trend in the tropical timber trade and publication of technical information material on tropical timber processing.

8 Ibid.
10 Freezolah, B. C. Y., Written Statement Submitted to the Hearing “Measures to Protect the Tropical Forests”, Enquete Commission Printed Paper 11/64, p. 76
• Studies and proposals relating to the utilization of less well known species in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean with the Creation of a database in Paris.
• Management training in the forestry industries of the developing countries.
• Research into the use of timber in the building industry.
• Planning international and regional seminars on potential tropical timber processing.\(^1\)

Since the 5\(^{th}\) meeting of the Administrative council of the International Tropical Timber organization, nature conservation's agencies active in the environmental sector which previously only had the status of observers have been allowed for the first time to play an active part.\(^2\)

The favorable fact about this Agreement & organization are that:

The international Tropical timber agreement is the sole agreement adopted within the framework of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) which concerns itself in any way with the conservation of the Tropical forests.

The International Tropical Timber Agreement is supported by both trade and environmental organizations.

Producer and consumer countries have equal right in the ITTO.

However the choice of Japan as the host country for the ITTO headquarter has been criticized since Japan has a particular interest in the exploitation of tropical forests under favorable market conditions because of its high level of timber consumption. The Nature Conservation organization also stresses the fact that the activities of ITTO, in line with the purpose for which it was set up, have not been directed primarily at conservation of the tropical forests but mainly at agricultural and forestry utilization.\(^3\)

### III. Activities of International Governmental Organizations

International Governmental Organization are playing a important role in conservation and protection of tropical forests.

#### III.1 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Among the activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and cultural organization the 'Man and the Biosphere' (MBA) Program launched in 1971 deserves special mentioned.

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\(^1\) Freezoilah, B. C. Y., Oral Testimony Submitted to the Hearing, Measures to Protect the Tropical Forest, Enquate Commission Record no.49,p.61


As the name of the program implies the effects of human activities on various ecosystem are to be investigated, 14 fundamental research topics are covered- one of these 14 topics, i.e. the ecological impact of human activities on the ecosystem of tropical and sub tropical forests, has gradually taken greater priority. UNESCO is planning on already undertaking projects in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture organization of United Nations (FAO), in the following subject areas:

- Biological diversity, traditional ecological knowledge among rural populations and integrated conservation concepts for moist tropical areas.
- Sustainable ecological and economic management of tropical rain forests.
- Reforestation and restoration of forests and regeneration of ecosystems in moist tropical areas.
- Fertility of tropical soils and their biological management.
- Ecology and management of Savannas.

In all these activities, UNESCO is primarily concerned with the development of sustainable concepts of land utilization which are compatible with the social, cultural and biological living conditions of the population and with the ecological systems in the moist and semi moist tropics.¹⁵

The MAB budget is currently supporting research projects in 20 tropical forest countries. In the context of these MAB activities, 30 biosphere reserves have been set up worldwide with the aim of conserving major ecosystems.

The biosphere reserve program is organized by UNESCO/MAB in close cooperation with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Union for the conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). Representatives of these four organizations meet for regular coordinating discussions. The role of the IUCN is to evaluate applications for recognition as biosphere reserves. The International council of scientific unions (ICSU) participates in the planning and monitoring of biosphere research. Nature conservation agencies such as the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) support projects with a bearing on the conservation of biological and cultural values in biosphere reserves.

A further UNESCO activity designed to project the tropical forest is the world Heritage Trust Fund. The legal basis for that Fund is the convention for protection of the world cultural and National Heritage which was adopted by UNESCO in 1973.

¹⁵ Hadley, Malcolm(UNESCO): Written statement submitted to the hearing “Measures to Protect the Tropical Forests, Enquete Commission Printed Paper 11/77, p.4
The activities of both the MAB program and the World heritage Trust Fund are designed in part by UNESCO to make a contribution to the Tropical Forestry Action Plan which is coordinated by the FAO.16

### III.2 United Nations Environment Program:

In 1988, the United Nations Environment Program or UNEP adopted a project designed to examine the assistance which might be provided by UNEP for the implementation of the Tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP). This project is to:

- Examine possibilities of coordinating conservation activities and improving analysis of the extent of destruction, while also verifying the extent to which the Environment Program can mobilize corresponding financial and technical aid within the United Nations System.
- Determine how the environment program can help to develop a global regional and national awareness of the impact of the destruction of the tropical forests or the environment and of possible ways of stemming this destruction.
- Examine ways and means for the Environment program to strengthen the national capability of managing and conserving the tropical forests in six selected developing countries.17

The 15th Meeting of the UNEP Administrative council in Nairobi, attended by delegation from over 100 countries, also reaffirmed the intention of UNEP to give priority, in coming years, to measures seeking to halt the destruction of the forests. Emphasis was placed on the urgent need to conserve the tropical rain forests in the interests of the biological diversity of species and the conservation of natural resources.18

Cooperation between UNEP and the World Meteorological organization is also significant, in view of the fact, that an increase in the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is resulting in global climatic changes, which might lead to a rise in the sea level and may also have other harmful consequences on human kind, unless appropriate measures are taken at an early date at all political levels. These two organizations, founded in November 1988, the Intergovernmental Panel on climate change or IPCC. The Panel is to prepare internationally coordinated scientific studies of the effect of climatic changes in every area and to define realistic strategies to combat climatic changes and their effects. For this purpose the panel has set up three working groups.

The tropical, temperate and boreal forest are one of the main areas of study for each of these working groups.

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16 Ibid
17 UNEP: Report on New Projects 1989, p.29
III.3. **Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

The task of the Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO) is to improve the nutritional situation in the third world, primarily by increasing agricultural productivity and production. This objective also involves planned measures to improve, in particular, the living conditions of the rural population living near the tropical forests or dependent exclusively on these forests for their livelihood.

- In the first fifteen years of its existence its work in the forestry sector concerned the following main areas:
- 60% of its activities centered on forest surveys to assess forest utilization, including the development of Silviculture and the use of forest resources.
- 30% of its activities involved planning of projects and programs for institution building while the remaining 10% covered other areas.

The first world forest inventory was compiled by the FAO in 1948 and it covered 97 countries. Three further surveys were published in 1953, 1958 and 1963. The forest inventory drawn up in 1980 in conjunction with the United Nations Environmental program (UNEP) remains the most important source of information on the destruction of tropical forests, their causes and consequences.

In addition, the FAO Forest published detailed annual statistics on forest production which also contain information on non-timber products obtained from forests.

The FAO world conference on land reform and rural Development held in Rome in 1979 also influenced the FAO’s forestry programme. The alleviation of poverty and general rural development became the focal points of a “Strategy For Forest Development”, drawn up in 1980, which set out qualitative aims for the FAO’s regular program and field projects.

Today, 40% of all forest projects have the declared objective of encouraging the participation of rural populations in the planning of integrated agroforestry development measures and bringing direct socio-economic benefits to them. In addition, the FAO commission on Plant Genetic Resources is concerned with protection of the diversity of biological species and natural resources.

In the forestry sector, the FAO undertakes about 250 projects each year with a total funding of 150 million dollars. The majority of these projects combine forestry and agricultural objectives. Environmental protection accounts for a financing share of close on 45%.19

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19 "Case Studies of Farm Forestry and Wasteland Development" in Forest Land and People, FAO (Bangkok, 1989)
IV. Activities Of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's).

Non-governmental organizations or NGOs have, from the outset played a decisive part in measures and initiative to protect the tropical forest at the national and international levels.

IV.1 The World Rainforest Movement: I

In 1986, tropical forest activists from all over the world gathered in Penang for a conference organized by Sahabat Alam Malaysia on the theme “Forest Resources Crisis in the Third World”. The meeting laid the foundation for a new international network of organization campaigning on “Rainforest Movement”.

The network is principally made up of environmental organization in the third world from Brazil, Kenya, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines, as well as supportive organization from Canada, U.S.A., Europe and Japan.

An April 1989, stimulated by the publication in ‘The Ecologist Magazine’, of its own alternative proposal to halt tropical deforestation, the World Rainforest Movement produced a document titled “An Emergency Call to Action for the Forest and their People”. This has come to be known as the “Penang Declaration”, and it sets out the movement’s alternative vision of the basis and solutions to the forest crisis.

IV.2 W.W.F. (World Wide Fund for Nature)

is the world’s largest and most experienced independent conservation organization with 4.7 million supporters and a global network of 25 national organizations, 6 associates and 22 programmes. It was established in 1961 with its headquarter in Switzerland. Fundamentally, WWF’s mission has always been to conserve the earth’s biological diversity. WWF decided in 1993 to concentrate its efforts on three areas that together account for the majority of this diversity: Forests, fresh water ecosystems and ocean and coasts. WWF has worked to protect forests tropical temperate and boreal, for more than 30 years. The organization objectives are to gain full protection for at least 10 percent of each of the world’s forest types; ensure that all forests outside; ensure that all forests outside these protected areas are managed sustainably.

The establishment of the Forest Stewardship Council (1993) is an important step towards achieving these goals.

V. Other Efforts

V.1 Efforts to improve forest harvesting practices.

Various efforts are underway to develop methods of timber harvesting that maintain both the potential for future production and the environmental services that forests provide. At the

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20 Rain forest Destruction; Causes and Effects & False Solution, World Rainforest Movement. Penang, 1992
21 WWF International Annual Report, 1994, p. 2-3
international level, FAO and CIFOR have been working on codes and guidelines for environmentally sound forest harvesting. FAO published a Model Code of Forest Harvesting Practices in 1996 (FAO, 1996). CIFOR recently developed guidelines for reduced impact-logging in dipterocarp forests in Indonesia. A regional code of practice for forest harvesting developed for the Asia and the Pacific region under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC), was adopted by the member countries at APFC’s seventeenth session in February 1998.

National Code in line with the code are currently being developed by several countries in the region, and a number of training workshops on implementation have been held.22

V.2 Development in Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management.

Criteria and indicators are tools for assessing national trends in forest conditions and forest management. While “Criteria” define the essential components of sustainable forest management, “indicators” are ways of measuring the description of a criterion. Together they provide a common framework for describing, monitoring and evaluating progress towards sustainable forest management.

More than 150 countries are currently participating in international process aimed at the development and implementation of national-level criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management. These efforts are grouped into seven regional and ecoregional initiatives, as follows:

- ITTO, covering the 28 tropical timber producing members of ITTO;
- The Tarapoto Proposal, Covering tropical forests in the eight member countries of the Amazon cooperation Treaty;
- The Dry Zone Africa process, for dry zone-forests in 28 sub Saharan Countries.
- The central American process of lepaterique, covering all types of forests in the seven member countries of the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD) and Cuba. ITTO, through an Expert Panel established in 1997 by ITTC, has revised its criteria for sustainable tropical forest management in line with recent trends and international development in the field. ITTC finalized the draft document criteria and indicators for the measurement of sustainable management of natural tropical forests in Libreville Gabon in May 1998.23

Activities at the Forest Management unit level: National and Forest Management Unit (FMU) level criteria and indicators should be linked and compatible with one another to ensure consistency of approaches for improved forest management. A number of initiatives are underway to identify indicators at the FMU level, including the following:

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The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) is coordinating a project on the identification and testing of indicators for sustainable forest management at the FMU level, with field activities in Brazil, Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, India and Indonesia.

ITTO has financed projects to test sustainable forest management indicators in Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, Congo, Ecuador, Gabon, Kalimantan (Indonesia), Panama, Peninsular Malaysia, Peru and Sarawak.

The African Timber organization (ATO), in an effort to promote sustainable forest management in its member countries, has identified five principles, two sub principles, 26 criteria and 60 indicators for sustainable forest management at the regional and national levels. It has supported the testing of the indicators at the FMU level in Cameroon, The Congo, Cote d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Ghana.

The International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), in collaboration with FAO and CIFOR, organized an international conference on “Forestry related Stakeholder Input to Advance Development of Scientifically Based Indicators”, in Mellbourn, Australia in August 1998. The Conference recommended ways of further developing scientifically based indicators for sustainable forest management at the FMU level.24

V.3 Model and Demonstration Forests

With the framework of the International Model Forest Network, coordinated by Canada “model forest areas” have been established in several countries, including Canada, Mexico, the Russian Federation and the United States. Argentina, Austria, Chile, China, Ecuador, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and Vietnam are also in the process of establishing model forests. These forests, representing diverse environmental, social and economic conditions, provide an opportunity for comparing concepts and methods and for training in forest management. The network has continued to develop local indicators for assessing the effects of management actions and refining approaches to assess the costs and benefits of sustainable forest management.

Another network, which has similar objectives, has been developed by the Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATTE) in the Central American region under the Demonstration Forest Management Areas initiative.25

V.4 Eleventh World Forest Congress

The Eleventh World Forestry Congress, hosted by Turkey and organized by Turkey’s Ministry of Forestry, was held in Antalya from 13 to 22 October 1997. The World Forestry Congress is held on an average after every six years, with the support of FAO; it serves as an

24 Ibid.
25 Ibid
important technical forum and benchmark for developments in the forestry sector. The Eleventh Congress represented the largest global forestry meeting ever held, attended by over 4400 participants from 149 countries. The general theme was “Forestry for Sustainable development: towards the twenty first century”. The results of the Congress are recorded in the Antalya Declaration. The Declaration stressed the importance of raising public awareness of the vital roles of forests to society and of the problem facing them.26

In the 10th World Forestry Congress held in Paris in 1991 emphasis was given to country led and country driven processes based on participatory planning. By the beginning of the 1990s FAO Forestry department and the World Forestry Community in general had evolved from a guiding principle of “Sustained yield”.

“Sustained Yield” commercial logging in the face of mounting criticism over the destruction caused by commercial logging. The timber industry has sought to promote the view that with proper management, tropical rainforests could supply a sustainable timber yield.

“Sustainable Rainforest logging” has become a catch phase of development agencies and forestry service around the world who agree that rainforests will only be protected if they are able to produce timber and foreign exchange.27

V.5 The World Commission on forests and Sustainable Development:

The World Commission of Forest and Sustainable Development (WCFSD), an independent body of 25 scientists, policy-makers and international specialists from the North and South, was established in 1995. In 1996 and 1997 WCFSD held regional public hearing in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and the Russian Federation to gain a better idea of perceptions about how forests should be managed, for what purposes and for whose benefit. The hearings, which involved representatives from a wide range of interest groups, focused on the political constraints to implementing policy reforms aimed at sustainable forest management and on the interactions among groups that determine forest management outcomes in the political arena. By involving civil society in the debate about global forests, the hearings have provided a useful complement to intergovernmental processes.28

V.6 IUFRO World Congress

Recently (7-12 August 2000) International Union of Forestry Research Organization held a World Congress. The theme of the congress was “Forest and Society: The Role of Research”. It provides the recommendations for future developments of forest research in 21st century.

V.7 International Negotiations on Forests:(Global Forest Policy, A controversial Issue):

26 State of World Forests 1999, FAO(Rome, 1999)
27 Ibid
28 States of World Forest 1999, FAO.(Rome, 1999)
Forest trade, particularly of finished wood products is dominated by a few Northern countries in both exports and import.

- Their timber lobbies have prevailed upon their governments to keep the convention issue alive on the global agenda by creating high-level intergovernmental panels to large consensus among countries in international forest policy.

- Pre-Rio negotiations centered on the need for a convention for managing the world’s forests. Non-agreement led to the intergovernmental panel on forests (IPF), set up in 1995 for two years to look into a number of forest issues, including the possibility of a forest convention.

- The two-year IPF was replaced by the intergovernmental forum on forests (IFF) in 1997. The IFF has been no less preoccupied with the convention issue. It has held three meetings in three years, dominated by debates on ‘Sustainable forestry’ and ‘green’ forest products, and submitted its final report to the commission on sustainable Development in April 2000.

- Proponents of the Convention push a system of legally sanctioned global criteria and indicators to define “Sustainable forestry” to lay down a global definition of “green” wood. This would allow them to meet WTO requirements of eco-labeling on the basis of a multilateral agreement.  

Challenges Ahead

- There is conflict between those who want a global forests policy and those who believe that forest are a community resource.

- If a forest convention materializes, forestry of local people would be pitted against large plantations of the forest industry.

- Far opponents of the convention, the challenge is to fight a centralized system that will undoubtedly define criteria for ‘sustainable forestry’ on the basis of business interests.

- The South will have to insist that any global criteria scheme for sustainable forestry must include, as an indicator, the involvement of local communities, none of the current certification and indicator schemes insist that “sustainable forestry” also involve management practices of local communities.  

Now the situation is such that world is divided into two groups: those who want an international convention on the management of forests, and those who do not. After almost ten years of negotiations, the issue remains controversial and refuses to die out.

VI. Policies and regulation about forest products trade.

29 "Free not Fair ", Analysis, Down to Earth. (New Delhi, March 31, 2000).p.40
To meet the needs for wood and non-wood products and at the same time fulfill demands for environmental and social services from forests are the challenge now facing the forest sector.

Issues related to trade in forest products and also to trade and the environment continues to be highly visible in the global forest agenda. Trade issues were debated at length although inconclusively at the second session of IFF in September 1998. A number of development have occurred in the past two years regarding certification of forest products, one of the most complex and, in many cases, controversial issues in the forest sector.31

VI.1 Development In Trade Liberalization
Moves to reduce trade restrictions that limit free trade in forest products have continued to receive considerable attention.

Both developed and developing countries have begun to implement the global reductions in tariffs agreed to by the Uruguay round in 1994. These tariff reductions have been supplemented by others regional discursion such as the Asia pacific Economic cooperation (IAPEC) and Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) Agreement. The term of the Uruguay Round require that commitments to tariff reductions be fulfilled by 2004.

In addition to the reductions resulting from the Uruguay round, an increasing number of regional trade agreements are establishing preferential terms of trade or often, free trade blocs. The list includes APEC, ASEAN, the Australia- New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement (ANZCERTA), the Caribbean community and common market (CARICOM), EU, MERCOSOR, the north American Free trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement. (SPARTECA). All of these include reductions affecting the forest sector.32

VI.2 Trade, Environment Impact And Development:
Although there is general agreement that trade and environment considerations should be mutually supportive there are widely differing views on how far this can be achieved and how this objective might be approached.

The conjunction of trade and the environment was considered important enough to be made one of the programme areas of the intergovernmental panel of forests (IPF). The complex and contentious nature of the issues is illustrated by the fact that IPF could not reach agreement on many of them, and the subject was passed to the Intergovernmental Forests Forum for further consideration.

30 "Wood Headed Proposal", Analysis, Down to Earth, March 31,200,p.39
Efforts to clarify the issue and seek agreement were made at a meeting on trade related aspects of sustainable management of all types of forests hosted by the government of Brazil, UNCTAD and ITTO in February 1999. But the lack of consensus continued; some of the issues involved in the trade environment debate are under further discussion in WTO’s committee on trade and environment (CTE); these include eco-labeling, market access, the effect of trade liberalization and the effects of WTO agreements.  

VI.3 Forest Products Certification- An Update

Certification of forest products continues to be a high profile and often-controversial subject in the forest sector. Accurate statistics on the area of forests and volume of wood certified are difficult to interpret. The forest stewardship council (FSC) reports that about 10.3 million hectares have been certified by FSC-accredited certifies:

In 1996 the area of forest certified, under both FSC and other certification schemes, was given as 2.3 to 4 million hectares (FAO, 1997).

It is significant that 90 percent of this area is in temperate developed countries thus only a minor part is in tropical countries where the problem of deforestation is the greatest.

Certification efforts are being made at all levels. International efforts include those of FSC and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO); regional initiatives include those of the African Timber organization (ATO) and EU, Eco Management and Auditing Scheme (EMAS) and Eco-Labeling Scheme; and countries with national programmes include Brazil, Canada, Finland, Ghana, Indonesia and Sweden.

Certification systems are based on evaluating the standard of forest management being practiced. The two main approaches whose relative merits are a subject of considerable disagreement, are those of FSC and ISO FSC favors a performance based approach stipulating that a specified level of forest management, covering all aspects including social aspects, must be achieved. ISO’s approach is based on the management systems and commitment to specified actions and procedures.

Vii. The Financial Aspect

Once of the main task facing international tropical forest policy is how to finance the programmes related to conservation and protection of forests and bio-diversity. The basic problem of establishing an appropriate financing mechanism for the division of cost among the tropical

33 State of World Forest, 1999, FAO (Rome, 1999), p. 43
34 The World Forests 1999, FAO (Rome, 1999), p. 44
countries, the developed countries and the international development organizations is even more difficult than providing the necessary fund.\textsuperscript{35}

The World Commission of Environment and Development (Brundtland Commission) has recommended the creation of a special International Banking Programme or facility for the conservation of the natural resources in the developing countries. It includes the tropical forest as an especially important entity.

Typical problem like the length of forest production cycles and length of the gestation periods for forestry investment are often seen as obstacles to an increase in investment and funding in this regard.

\textbf{VII.1 Existing Financing Mechanism:}

In the past the enormous need for international action to implement a resource conserving tropical forest policy, with few exceptions such as the World Heritage Convention and the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) was based on the unspecific financial sources of the bi and multilateral development cooperation. As late as 1991, they were supplemented by the newly created “Global Environmental Facility” (GEF). Though innovative as funding mechanism, unless increased significantly in the funding levels, the dimension of this facility will not be able to come up to the huge challenge it has to address.

The insufficient availability of funds for the prompt implementation of National Tropical Forestry Action plans is the most important hindrance to a more effective realization of TFAP from the point of view of the tropical countries.\textsuperscript{36}

\textbf{VII.2 The Global Environmental Facility (GEF)}

The trust fund (GEF) which was established under the auspices of the World Bank in 1991 is endowed with U.S$ 300 million in Special Drawing Rights (SDR) for a 3 years pilot phase. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP & UNDP) both participate in its administration. The UNEP is responsible for scientific advice on planned promotional measures and has created a panel of scientific and technical experts for this purpose. The UNDP offers technical advice and supports pre-investment activities, every programme recommended for GEF financing is examined by World Bank, UNEP, UNDP and in specific cases, additional institutions including NGOs.

GEF is the first international funding mechanism that takes the particular circumstances of investment in the field of environmental and resource protection into account and provides special conditions of financing (subsidies or loans at low interest rate) UNEP 1991.

\textsuperscript{36} Ibid.
This facility also includes the US$ 240 million fund set up in July 1990 for the implementation of the Montreal Protocol (reduction of substances destructive to the Ozone layer). In view of its financial limitations it is apparent that the GEF in its present status can only serve as a pilot programme in the proposed field of activity and not have a wider effect.37

VII.3 Some Specific Agencies for Financial Resources

i. World Bank – The World Bank is by far the most influential aid agency on a global scale, both in terms of the amount of money it controls and the influence it has on the attitudes and policies of both other multilateral and bilateral aid agencies.38

ii. Among the regional development banks the most active in forestry is the Asian Development Bank followed by the Inter American Development Bank.

iii. In the UN system, World Forest Programme (W.F.P.) stands out as the largest donor to developing countries forestry field activities and is estimated to have mobilized over $ 120 million in 1994.39

iv. European Development Fund- is a multilateral aid fund supported by the EEC member states providing funds to those African Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP) which are signatories to the various conventions of EAMMA, Yaoundi and Lome. There have been three Lome Conventions in 1975, 1979 and 1995, which allow 99.5 of exports from the ACP countries into the EEC free of all duties. ACP countries have duty free entry for all tropical hardwood products including manufactured products such as furniture, which give them a considerable trade advantage over tropical countries outside the ACP which are forced to trade through the Generalized System Preferences (GSP).40

v. British Bilateral Aid Programme-. About 60% of Britain’s gross overseas aid goes towards bilateral programmes, although only half of this (30% of the total) is in the form of financial aid with a further 10% of technical assistance. The rest is used in bilateral programmes like Commonwealth Development Corporation loans and institutional and administration costs.41

The Overseas Development Administration(ODA) is responsible for bilateral aid disbursement. In 1979 the Thatcher administration stated that the ODA, in future, would “give greater weight in the allocation of our aid to political industrial and commercial consideration alongside our

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37 Ibid
39 Muthoo M. K., “International Development Cooperative in Forestry”, UNASYLVA(FAO),vol.46.1995
40 “The Role of the Overseas Development Bank · · · “ p. 309
41 “The Role of the overseas Development Bank · · · “ p. 312
basic development objectives". The ODA adopts a fairly cautious approach to environmental consideration in aid projects. It also provides the aid for Tropical Forests.  

vi. The European Community: The European Community is emerging as a major player with the aid for forestry having reached US $ 261 million in 1993 from only $ 20 million in 1986 and $ 45 million in 1990.

This aid can, in principle, provide mainly for forest production in a number of ways including the technical assistance for the development of sustainable forestry practices and finance for reforestation and finance for reforestation and community based forest projects, and even direct funding of national parks and wildlife conservation.

VIII. Indonesian Coordination with International Programmes.

At the international level Indonesia is an active member of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Forests (IPF) established under the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. Responsibility for Indonesian? Put and action on IPF recommendation lie with the Ministry of Forestry. For Indonesia to fulfill its commitments to Forest Principles adopted at the UNCED earth summit in Rio Janeiro in 1992, cooperative efforts with the international community will need to continue and expand.

In accordance with the Tropical Forestry Action Plan (TFAP), Indonesia developed the Indonesian Forestry action plan (IFAP) in 1992 and established a consultative Group on Indonesian Forests to co-ordinate bilateral and multilateral projects.

The Ministry of Forestry has developed laws and regulation on Sustainable Forest Management. For instance, in April 1993, the Minister of Forestry issued a decree (no.252/Kpt SII/1993) on the criteria and indicators for the national level. This was followed by the decree (No. 208/ kpts/IV-set/ 1993) of the Director General for forest utilization concerning technical guidance on criteria and indicators for management at the unit (concession) level.

The ministry of forestry is also reviewing several policies with a view to make them more compatible with the principles of sustainable forestry management. Notable among those being reviewed are the Act on basic provisions for forestry and the concept of people's participation in forest management.

In the Indonesian agenda 21, efforts to achieve the objectives of sustainable forest management are outlined in the following five program Areas:

- Developing and sustaining integrated sustainable forest production.

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42 "The Role of the overseas Development Bank..." p. 313
43 Ibid.
44 "Natural Resource Aspects of Sustainable Development in Indonesia." South East Asian Policy Advisory Network in Global Change an Initiative of BIOTROP-GCTE Impact Center for South East Asia: webmaster@icsea.or.id Revised: 22 Sep. 1998
• Enhancing the regeneration rehabilitation and protection of forests;
• Strengthening regulation and law enforcement for sustainable forest management;
• Maintaining and Improving the participation and welfare of Forest-Dwelling communities;
• Establishing and strengthening research and capacity in sustainable forest management;

recommended and proposed activities include development and testing of environmentally sensitive forest harvest practices; a complete review of logging concession policy; dissemination, monitoring and enforcement of existing forest sustainability decrees; the development of strong sanctions for violations of sustainable forest management practices; and pursuit of the eco-labeling approach such that eco-labels apply to marketing of all forest products by 2005.45

As required by ITTO, the government of Indonesia has declared its intention to ensure that its forest exports came from sustainably managed forests. A major effort in this direction is the development of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management. In June 1994, the criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management set out for the Indonesian Eco-labeling working group were tested in three concession areas in Riau, East Kalimantan and Central Kalimantan. The results of the test were discussed in the International Conference on Forest Product Certification system September 1994 and the pact was constituted in West Java in 1996, the working group developed the decision making procedure for certification. The second version of the criteria and indicators as well as the decision making procedure was than tested again in 11 logging concessions in Aceh, North and West Sumatra, Riau, East and West Kalimantan. The full system testing out was assisted by experts from various backgrounds grouped into an expert panel, evaluation team and task force. The field assessment was assisted by forestry consultants who acted as assessors.46

A refined certification system for sustainable natural forest management at the field management unit level has been established. The system consists of a procedure for certification of natural production forest management; logical framework for evaluation of production forest management; decision making procedure with Analytic hierarchy process; criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management and chain of custody for certified timber. The system is now proposed to become the national standard for certification of forest management to the relevant agencies.

In 1993, Indonesia was also appointed as host of the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR). Since then, Indonesia, in cooperation with CIFOR, has conducted various
forestry seminars and meetings among others, including the CIFOR dialogue on Science and Forest which was held in Bali in the late 1994.

Recent regulations have strengthened environmental policy and enforcement in forest extraction, particularly through new approaches to concession management and inspection. For instance, with a World Bank loan, a study is being conducted to improve concession management and inspection service. The inspection system developed in being tried out in three provinces: Riau, East Kalimantan and Maluku. On active logging concessions, the Indonesian selective culturing system is slowly being replaced with the Production Forest Management Unit (KPHP) concept.

At the field level, the Ministry of Forestry has revoked the licenses of several logging companies for failing to comply with the existing regulatory measures, particularly regarding environmental protection. In many cases, the Ministry has taken over the management of these concessions through state forestry enterprises.\textsuperscript{47}

\textbf{Cooperation:}

At the regional level, the government of Indonesia, in cooperation with the Government of Malaysia, launched a joint conservation Trans-boundary Reserve Bentuangarimun and Lanjak Entimau, located in northern Kalimantan, launched in October 1994, this project was supported by the ITTO. This Trans-boundary biodiversity conservation area covers over a million hectares with natural tropical forest which is the habitat of some important endangered species such as orangutan and proboscis Monkey.

In addition to the above programme several other programme have been undertaken through international cooperation. They are, among others:

- Development of low input logging with CIRAD of France through the silvicultural techniques for regeneration of logged rain forest in East Kalimantan (STREK) project.
- Development of vegetative propagation methods for dipterocarps species. In cooperation with TROPEBOS.
- Development of a model for the participation of local people in the management and utilization of public production forest in West Kalimantan in cooperation with GTZ of Germany.
- Documentation of the traditional use of forests plants in Irian Jaya, in cooperation with the international conservation program. The state minister of Environment and the Indonesian Science Institute (LIPI).
- Development of a forest data base through the national forest inventory project funded by the world bank.

\textsuperscript{47} Ibid.
• Development of a mangrove strategic plan in foundation which was funded by the Asian development Bank (ADB), and the development of sustainable mangrove management, in cooperation with JICA.48

• World Wildlife Fund (WWF) working since 1977.

• Cooperation with the government of Thailand in developing Elephant training centers.

• World bank: in developing national park.


• The howletts and part Lymph. Foundation the United Kingdom, in Sumatra rhinoceros breeding program.


• The International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) – the United Kingdom in preserving Bali Mynah/starling.

• International Council for bird preservation (ICBP) – ingress delam Pelestarian Jalak Bali.

• The American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria (AAZPA)49

In spite of all these international programmes, strategies, financial aid mechanism and co-ordination with individual countries the destruction of tropical forest continues. Thus, in the interest of achieving maximum effectiveness of these programme for protecting tropical forest, the important thing can not be merely to increased the number of Institutions and to expend the field of activity of the Nemours existing institutions without performing structural changes. Instead, it could be much more promising to streamline responsibilities and concentration on personnel and financial resources in order to strengthen the ability of the International organization to take action.

48 Ibid.
49 The Indonesian Tropical Rain Forest Conservation Areas By: Min of Forestry Indonesia, WWF India-DC. (Jakarta, March 1990).
PLATE: 25. Teak Plus Tree as a Square of Superior Seeds

PLATE: 26. Teak Centre CEPU, Central Java