

VI. Proposal of the United States of America

Structure and elements for a Voluntary [?] for Sustainable Forest Management

(Codex Sylvanus)

The subscribing States/Members of the General Assembly of the United Nations:

1. Preamble

- Emphasize the multiple benefits provided by forests
- Emphasize the contribution of sustainable forest management to sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
- Recall the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Forest Principles, the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests, the establishment of the International Arrangement on Forests
- Welcome the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests
- Recognize the importance of forest governance and public-private partnerships
- Recognize the importance of international cooperation
- Recognize the importance of political commitment at all levels

2. Adoption/endorsement of a Codex Sylvanus

3. Principles

- National sovereignty over forests
- National responsibility for forests
- Role of international cooperation in supporting national efforts
- International obligations
- Contribution of the private sector, communities and other stakeholders
- Importance of cross-sectoral coordination at all levels
- Seven thematic elements of sustainable forest management

4. Global goals or strategic objectives

- Reversing forest cover loss
- Promoting forest benefits through sustainable forest management and legally harvested forest products
- Increasing effectively managed protected forest areas
- Mobilizing financial resources — domestic, foreign, public and private

5. National policies/actions

- Identify policies and measures for country action
- Strengthen public-private partnerships
- Identify/implement measures to improve cross-sectoral coordination
- Support regional cooperation efforts
- Include forests in national poverty reduction and development strategies
- Promote mutually supportive forest-related programmes of the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

6. Cooperation and means of implementation

- Better coordinate existing programmes and processes
- Initiate or strengthen public-private partnerships
- Promote research and development and technology transfer
- Promote international cooperation
- Strengthen regional processes
- Catalyse financial resources
- Facilitate international support, especially through the Collaborative Partnership on Forests
- Forest priorities of the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are mutually supportive

7. Report and review

- Report progress on implementation to the United Nations Forum on Forests and the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests
- Assess progress/review of effectiveness in 2015