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Regional and Sub-Regional Inputs to UNFF10

Regional/ Sub-regional Organization: Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization

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Introduction:

The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) is an intergovernmental body which comprises eight countries from the Amazon Basin: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela. The Permanent Secretariat of OTCA (PS/ACTO) was established at the end of 2002 to provide a platform for the political dialogue and regional cooperation base on the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (TCA), signed in 1978.

The Member Countries of ACTO, at the 10th Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers held in the city of Lima in November 2010, approved the new Strategic Agenda for Amazon Cooperation, which thematic content is the result of an important effort of dialogue and regional coordination, including a

- a. *Regional Project “Monitoring of Deforestation, Forest Use and of Changes in the Use of Land in the Pan Amazon Forests”*. The objective of the Project is to give support to the Member; (iii) the development and application of monitoring systems of deforestation and national monitoring plans of the forest cover, with focus and consideration of a common regional methodology, and of follow up of changes in the use of land. The results achieved after 20 months from the implementation are: (i) building of an institutional structure at the regional and national level responsible for the implementation of the project in each Member Country, (ii) more than 45 experts qualified in the use of monitoring systems developed by the National Institute of Space Research (INPE); (iii) installation, equipping and operation of 7 national observation rooms in the Member Countries;(iv) dialogue forums and continuous advisory carried out between the institutions responsible for the Project in the countries. On the other hand, it is expected that until the first quarter of 2013 the 7 national monitoring plans of deforestation are elaborated.

This Project was launched and officially presented at a side event during the 9th Session of FNUB and has the financial support from ITTO and the cooperation of the Governments of Germany (BMZ) and The Netherlands (DGIS). For the 10th session of the Forum, the Project expects to present a concrete result at the regional level, the product of the work of the national observation rooms of the Member Countries of ACTO.

- b. *“Elements to operationalize the negotiation of an a*

Netherlands (DGIS) and Germany (BMZ), channeled through the Agency of International Cooperation for Development (GIZ); from the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), from German Bank of Development (KfW), the Bank of Inter American Development (IDB), the United Nations Program for the Environment (UNEP), the Fund for the World Environment (GEF) of the International Organization of Tropical Timbers (ITTO) and the United Nations Organization for Agriculture and Food (FAO). The cooperation relations are guided by the Guidelines for International Cooperation regarding, principles adopted by the countries of ACTO, in addition to taking into account relevant aspects of the guidelines for the Official Development Assistance of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) expressed in Paris and Accra Declarations. The fields of cooperation are defined by the Amazon Cooperation Strategic Agenda of ACTO.

2. Please provide additional information specific to your region/subregion on progress towards the achievement of the GOFs.

See Statement from Ministries of the Environment of the Member Countries of ACTO: (www.otca.info)

C. Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

1. Please describe studies or initiatives in your region that capture the contribution of forests to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs?

- a. The ACTO initiatives that contribute directly to the achievement of Goal No. 1 of Objective 7 of MDG are: (i) *Regional Project "Monitoring of afforestation, forest use and changes in the use of soil at the pan Amazon forest"*; (ii) *the initiative of negotiation of an agreement for the cooperation in the combat of borderline forest fires between the Member Countries of ACTO; both described in item (B.1.GOF1. a and b) of this report..*
- b. The ACTO initiatives that contribute directly to the achievement of Goal No. 2 of Objective 7 of MDG are: (i) *Regional project "Granting of Electronic Permissions CITES in the Member Countries of ACTO"*; (ii) *Pilot project "Support to the tri nation conservation program and sustainable development of the corridor of natural areas protected La Paya, Guëppí and Cuyabeno (Colombia, Peru and Ecuador); both described in items (A.3 and B.1.GOF3.b) respectively.*
- c. What indicators have been, or could be, used to assess the contribution of forests to the MDGs?

In the "*Tarapoto Process*" on *Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of the Amazon Forest* a set of indicators was defined prioritized by the Member Countries of ACTO. These indicators, a product of a wide process of consultation and validation, may assist in evaluating the contribution of forests to MDG.

The 15 Prioritized Tarapoto indicators are:

1. Policies and legal milestone for the environment ordering through the ecological and economic zoning .
2. Extension of the areas by type of forests in the categories of conservation areas, in relation to the total area of forests.
3. Conservation rate of the forest cover for other purposes.
4. Quantity and quality of technologies adequate to the handling of sustainable production.
5. Investment in research, education and technology transfer.
6. Quantity and quality of projects of research and sustainable development in progress.
7. Plan for forest handling approved by the competent authority;
8. Periodicity of the evaluation of the fulfillment of the handling plan and average percentage of fulfillment.
9. Level of use of environmentally healthy technologies.
10. Proportion of areas of environmental protection compared to the areas of permanent production.
11. Measures for the protection of the water beds for forestry activity.
12. Number of direct and indirect jobs and level of income.
13. Contribution to the conservation of biological diversity.

Forests of the Amazon": it is a project that counts with the collaboration of CDB and ITTO. (see description in item A.5 of the present report).

- d. Jointly with GEF and UNEP, ACTO implements the regional Project *"Integrated and sustainable handling of Borderline Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin, Considering the Climate Feasibility and the Climate Changes"*,

It is under the consultation stage of the Member Countries of ACTO memoranda of understanding for the cooperation and coordinated Works with FAO and UICN.

5. Please provide additional information specific to your region/subregion on successful cooperation and partnerships, including those with the private sector and other civil society organizations (also known as major groups).

In the following already described Projects work has been done or is being done with the civie hesefyanthepri.