



“Forest management as a tool for cooperation and rural development in Central Africa”

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International Technical Association for Tropical Timber (ATIBT)

WWF seminar, Madrid, 17th November 2011,



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Forest management and timber sector in Congo Basin, Private sector progress and perspectives

International Technical Association for Tropical Timber (ATIBT)



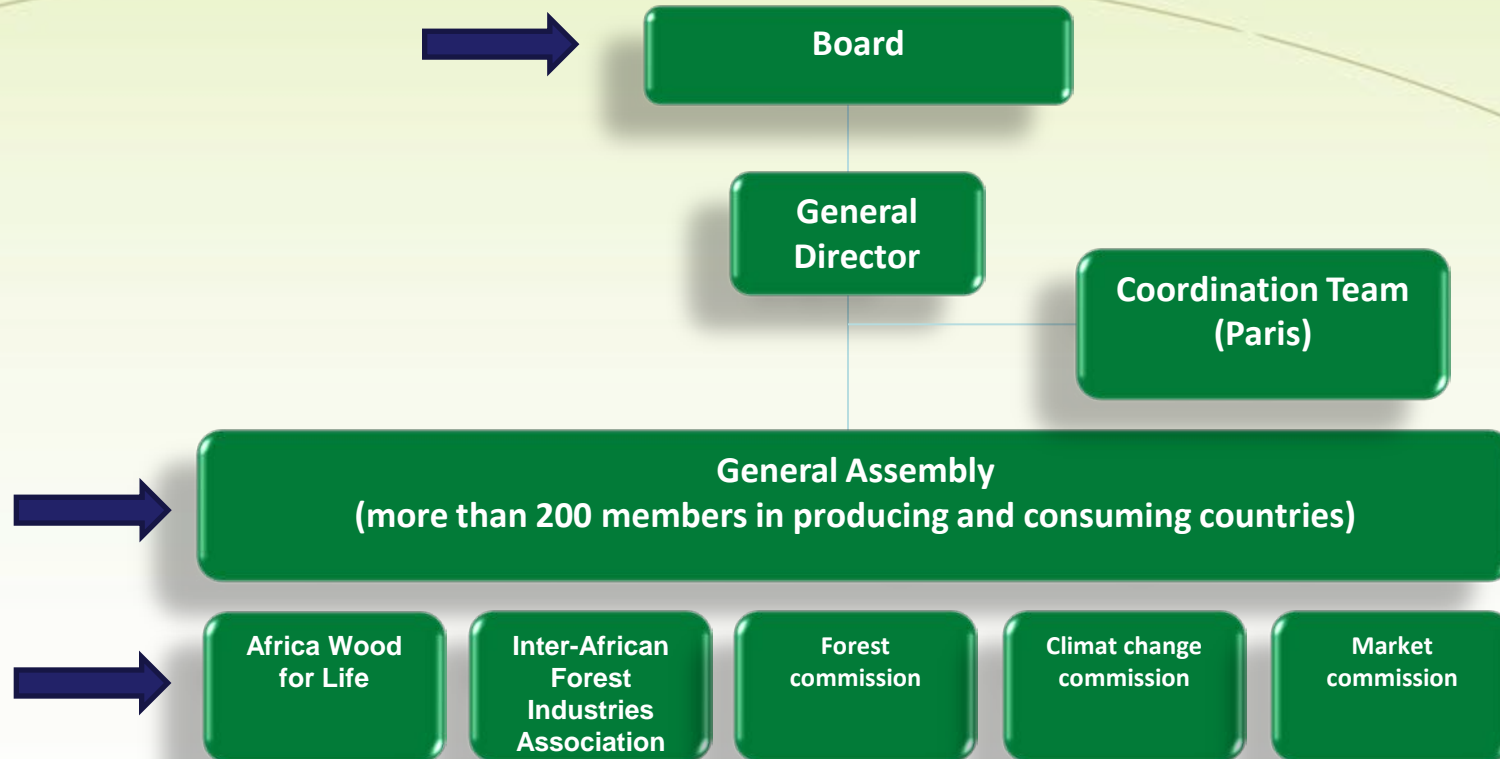
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The International Technical Tropical Timber Association (ATIBT)

→ Created in 1951



Working for the African timber market development (1)

- Following Racewood 2010 (march, Douala, project supported by Pro€invest a European Commission pgm)
 - All the stakeholders agreed on the need for Congo Basin to **develop wood processing** and its **local + inter-regional markets**
 - ATIBT/IFIA has joined ITTO and FAO for creating a **public-private dialogue** (administratives and private sector) to focus on African timber market & wood processing development
- Organization of **workshops**: Yaounde (21-22 September 2010), Brazzaville (22-23 March 2011) and Kinshasa (19-20 May 2011), Libreville (14-15 June 2011)



Working for the African timber market development (2)

- Workshops stressed on:
 - tricky and cumbersome custom regulations imposed to formal trade;
 - bad infrastructures, bad energy supply
 - illegality is also a hindering factor;
 - fiscality
 - For more information : www.atibt.com
- The « **white book** of the regional timber market & wood processing in the Congo Basin countries» agreed by all the stakeholders (finalization in 2012)
- Racewood 2011 in Pointe Noire (September, 4th meeting) : African timber sector new challenges:
 - African wood processing, local and regional markets development
 - Meeting markets requirements: FLEGT, FSC, Lacey Act
 - Forest ecoservices conservation, social impacts, IFL, REDD+











Forest management in CB : meeting the legal requirements

- Regional framework:
 - Legal origin of timber and traceability (Voluntary Partnership Agreement negotiation/implementation FLEGT, Legal certifications – OLB, TLTV, etc.)
- International framework:
 - European Union TR entry in force: March 2013 (FLEGT)
 - Lacey Act (USA)



FLEGT/VPA process progress in Central and West Africa

Targeted country	Government letter of intent	Negotiations	VPA initiated	Agreement signature	Agreement ratification	Licenses issued
 Cameroun	✓	✓	6/5/2010	6/9/2010	?	2012
 Congo	✓	✓	9/5/2009	17/5/2010	?	2012
 Côte d'Ivoire	✓					
 Gabon	✓	✓				
 Ghana	✓	✓	4/9/2008		20/11/2009	2011
 Libéria	✓	✓	09/05/2011			2014
 RCA	✓	✓	21/12/2010	?		2014
 RDC	✓	✓				



Forest management in CB and **certification**

Forest management certification:

– FSC:

- Development of the FSC regional standard for Congo Basin
- Requirements becoming higher
- Involvement in FSC/PEFC international standards revision

– PEFC:

- Gabon PAFC standard ready to use

→ Important implication and feedback from the private stakeholders

→ Double certification development?



Forest management in CB and **climate change**

- REDD+ perspectives:

- Improving assessment of forest cover and forest resources degradation
- Developing environmental and social impacts monitoring tools

→ Challenges for the forest private sector:

- Mitigation of logging activities environmental impact (carbon footprint, water, soil)
- reinforcing capacities to make data available and get involved in pilot projects



Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?



Association Technique Internationale
des Bois Tropicaux

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