
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

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**

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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,

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,*

(b) **Option 1:** “*Sustainable forest management*”: Forest management has been defined as the formal or informal process of planning and implementing practices aimed

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 sustainablentific values) providn9seET0 1D0 Tc0.0J-.0.0ASEAN, BRA,

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.)

(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*

instruments in order to facilitate enhanced cooperation, synergies and effective

(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

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)

- 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)

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*

XIII. Means of implementation

A. Finance (AG, COL, CHE)

36. **Countries** participating in this Instrument/Understanding/Code are

(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)

1.1(c-0)(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

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*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.)

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

*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 esta



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-*

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.