Basic information

2006/0263(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments Directive	Procedure completed
International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 **Subject** 3.10.11 Forestry policy 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity 3.70.20 Sustainable development 6.20.05 Multilateral and plurilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.40.13 Relations with/in the context of international organisations: UN, OSCE, OECD, Council of Europe, EBRD	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	MOREIRA Vital (S&D)	16/03/2011
	Shadow rapporteur FJELLNER Christofer (PPE)	

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	LUCAS Caroline (Verts/ALE)	09/10/2007

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
DEVE Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
DEVE Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

	Former committee for opinion on the legal basis	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	JURI Legal Affairs	PANAYOTOPOULOS-CASSIOTOU Marie (PPE-DE)	19/12/2007

Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meetings	Date
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	3122	2011-11-08
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2819	2007-09-26

European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner
	Development	PIEBALGS Andris

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
18/07/2007	Legislative proposal published	11964/2007	Summary
11/10/2007	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
15/07/2008	Vote in committee		Summary
17/07/2008	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0313/2008	
23/09/2008	Debate in Parliament		
24/09/2008	Decision by Parliament	T6-0453/2008	Summary
24/09/2008	Results of vote in Parliament		
02/12/2009	Additional information		Summary
14/02/2011	Amended legislative proposal for reconsultation published	05812/2011	Summary
02/03/2011	Formal reconsultation of Parliament		
13/07/2011	Vote in committee		Summary
18/07/2011	Committee report tabled for plenary, reconsultation	A7-0280/2011	
13/09/2011	Decision by Parliament	T7-0351/2011	Summary
13/09/2011	Results of vote in Parliament		
08/11/2011	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
08/11/2011	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/11/2011	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2006/0263(NLE)

Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 133 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p3-a1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2-a1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 175 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 192-p1
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/7/05490 INTA/6/54235

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE396.733	07/11/2007	
Specific opinion	JURI	PE398.712	20/12/2007	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE398.411	24/06/2008	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0313/2008	17/07/2008	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0453/2008	24/09/2008	Summary
Committee draft report		PE467.066	08/06/2011	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE469.731	30/06/2011	
Committee final report tabled for plenary, reconsultation		A7-0280/2011	18/07/2011	
Text adopted by Parliament after reconsultation		T7-0351/2011	13/09/2011	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	11964/2007	18/07/2007	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	12640/2007	25/09/2007	
Amended legislative proposal for reconsultation	05812/2011	14/02/2011	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2008)6073	17/10/2008	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 2011/0731 OJ L 294 12.11.2011, p. 0001	Summary

International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006

2006/0263(NLE) - 13/09/2011 - Text adopted by Parliament after reconsultation

The European Parliament adopted a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the 2006 International Tropical Timber Agreement.

It gave its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement and called on the Commission to provide, whenever requested by Parliament, any relevant information regarding the implementation of this Agreement, namely on action plans and programmes, as well as the decisions taken by the bodies established by the Agreement.

The Commission is also called upon to submit a review of the implementation of the Agreement to Parliament and the Council in the final year of application, before negotiations are opened on the renewal of the Agreement, in particular in relation to the Union's own forest law enforcement, governance and trade instruments.

International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006

2006/0263(NLE) - 24/09/2008 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted, by 606 votes to 8 with 13 abstentions, a legislative resolution making some amendments to the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion on behalf of the European Community of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, (ITTA) 2006. The report had been tabled for consideration in plenary by Caroline **LUCAS** (Greens/ALE, UK) on behalf of the Committee on International Trade.

- the legal bases are Articles 133 and 175 of the Treaty, read in conjunction with the first sentence of the first subparagraph of Article 300(2) and the second subparagraph of Article 300 (3) (rather than the first) subparagraph. Members argued that the agreement establishes a specific institutional framework by organising cooperation procedures;

- the objectives of the new Agreement should be consistent with both the common commercial policy and environmental and development policies.

The following new recitals are inserted into the text:

- the Commission should submit to the European Parliament and the Council an annual report with an analysis of the implementation of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 and of measures to minimise the negative impact of trade on tropical forests, including bilateral agreements concluded pursuant to the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) programme. Article 33 of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 provides for an evaluation of the implementation of this Agreement five years after its entry into force. In the light of this provision, the Commission should forward to the Parliament and the Council a review of the functioning of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 by the end of 2010;

- when drafting the negotiating mandate for the revision of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006, the Commission should propose that the current text be revised, placing the protection and sustainable management of tropical forests and the restoration of forest areas that have been degraded at the heart of the agreement, stressing the importance of education and information policy in the countries affected by the problem of deforestation in order to enhance public awareness of the negative consequences of exploiting timber resources in an abusive manner. Trade in tropical timber should only be encouraged to the extent compatible with these prior objectives.

In particular, this mandate for the revision of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 should propose a voting mechanism for the International Tropical Timber Council that clearly rewards the conservation and sustainable use of tropical forests;

- the Commission should by October 2008 at the latest:

(a) propose a comprehensive legislative proposal that prevents the placing of timber and timber products derived from illegal and destructive sources on the market;

(b) present a Communication determining the EU's involvement and support for current and future global funding mechanisms for promoting forest

protection and reducing emissions from deforestation under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)/Kyoto Protocol. The Communication should outline the EU's commitment to provide funds to help developing countries protect their forests, finance a network of protected areas and promote economic alternatives to forest destruction. In particular, in order to ensure real benefits for the climate, biodiversity and people, it should outline the minimum principles and criteria that these instruments should adhere to. It should also identify priority actions and priority areas which should receive immediate funding under these incentive mechanisms.

The European Parliament also adopted a joint resolution concerning the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) 2006 and proposed by the Committee on International Trade (refer to RSP/2008/2579).

International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006

2006/0263(NLE) - 18/07/2007 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the EC, the “International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006.”

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

BACKGROUND: in 1994 the EC became a party to the “International Tropical Timber Agreement”, which was renegotiated in January 2006 under the aegis of UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development). The newly negotiated Agreement replaces the 1994 Agreement, which will remain in force until the entry into force of the 2006 Agreement.

CONTENT: the purpose of this proposal is to conclude, on behalf of the EC, the 2006 International Tropical Timber Agreement.

The objective of the Agreement, amongst others, is:

- to provide an effective framework for consultation, international cooperation and policy development regarding the world timber economy;
- to provide a consultation forum in order to promote non-discriminatory timer practices;
- to contribute to sustainable development and to poverty alleviation;
- to enhance members’ capacity to export tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources;
- to promote improved understanding of long term trends in the tropical timber market;
- to improve forest management and wood utilisation research;
- to improve market transparency;
- to encourage tropical timber reforestation and restoration of degraded forest land (taking the needs of local communities into account);
- to improve the collection of timber statistics;
- to encourage the development of national policies that seek to conserve timber producing forests and that maintain an ecological balance;
- to strengthen forest law enforcement, governance; and
- to address the problem of illegal logging of tropical timber.

The Agreement also details the organisation and administration of the International Tropical Timber Organisation; its membership, voting rights, powers and functions as well as its composition.

International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006

2006/0263(NLE) - 14/02/2011 - Amended legislative proposal for reconsultation

PURPOSE: to conclude the 2006 International Tropical Timber Agreement on behalf of the EU.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision. .

BACKGROUND: on 27 January 2006 the negotiating conference established under the aegis of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) approved the text of the 2006 International Tropical Timber Agreement ("the 2006 Agreement"). The 2006 Agreement has been open for signature since 3 April 2006 and will remain so until one month after its final entry into force.

The objectives of the 2006 Agreement are consistent with both the common commercial policy and the environmental policy.

The Community signed the 2006 Agreement on 2 November 2007. All Member States have expressed their intention to ratify it.

The 2006 Agreement should now be approved on behalf of the EU and particularly following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty on 1 November 2009.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was undertaken.

LEGAL BASIS: Articles 192 and 207 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) read in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) thereof.

CONTENT: this Decision provides that the 2006 International Tropical Timber Agreement is approved on behalf of the Union. For the content of the 2006 Agreement, please see the summary of the initial proposal dated 8/07/2007.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS: as the compulsory contributions by the consumer members of the International Tropical Timber Organisation are assessed primarily in terms of the volume of tropical timber they import, the Union will contribute to the Administrative Account of the International

Tropical Timber Organisation, once the 2006 Agreement enters into force, while Member States, as well as the Union, will be able to make voluntary financial contributions to the planned actions via the voluntary contribution accounts of the Organisation.

International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006

2006/0263(NLE) - 26/09/2007

The Council adopted a Decision on the signing and provisional application by the European Community of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006.

The aims of this Agreement are to promote the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests and to promote the sustainable management of tropical timber-producing forests.

International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006

2006/0263(NLE) - 08/11/2011 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the EC, the "International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006."

NON LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision 2011/731/EU on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the 2006 International Tropical Timber Agreement.

BACKGROUND: on 27 January 2006, the negotiating conference established under the aegis of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) approved the text of the 2006 International Tropical Timber Agreement. This Agreement was negotiated to replace the International Tropical Timber Agreement of 1994 as extended, which will remain in force until the entry into force of the 2006 Agreement.

The Community signed the 2006 Agreement on 2 November 2007. All the Member States have expressed their intention to ratify it.

It is now necessary to approve the 2006 Agreement.

CONTENT: with this Decision, the 2006 International Tropical Timber Agreement is hereby approved on behalf of the Union. The objectives of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 are to promote the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainable managed and legally harvested forests and to promote the sustainable management of tropical timber producing forests.

More specific objectives of the Agreement are, *inter alia*:

- to provide an effective framework for consultation, international cooperation and policy development regarding the world timber economy;
- to provide a consultation forum in order to promote non-discriminatory timer practices;
- to contribute to sustainable development and to poverty alleviation;
- to enhance members' capacity to export tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources;
- to promote improved understanding of long term trends in the tropical timber market;
- to improve forest management and wood utilisation research;
- to improve market transparency;
- to encourage tropical timber reforestation and restoration of degraded forest land (taking the needs of local communities into account);
- to improve the collection of timber statistics;
- to encourage the development of national policies that seek to conserve timber producing forests and that maintain an ecological balance;
- to strengthen forest law enforcement, governance; and
- to address the problem of illegal logging of tropical timber.

As the **compulsory contributions** by the consumer members of the International Tropical Timber Organisation are assessed primarily in terms of the volume of tropical timber they import, the Union will contribute to the Administrative Account of the International Tropical Timber Organisation, once the 2006 Agreement enters into force, while the Member States, as well as the Union, will be able to make voluntary financial contributions to the planned actions via the voluntary contribution accounts of the Organisation.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: the Agreement will enter into force as soon as the necessary procedures have been completed.