

Date: Friday 12th October 2007 – For Immediate Release

A3P to develop Forestry & Climate Change Action Plan

A3P welcomes Australian Government funding of \$250,000 for two projects aimed at helping the Australian plantation products and paper industry manage the challenges of climate change.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Peter McGauran, announced the funding this week under the Australian Government's National Agriculture & Climate Change Action Plan.

A3P received \$200,000 to develop a Forestry & Climate Change Action Plan and \$50,000 for a scoping study into managing plantations for timber and carbon.

CEO Mr Neil Fisher said, "A3P welcomes the Australian Government's commitment to help Australia's plantation products and paper industry manage the challenges of climate change.

"The Forestry & Climate Change Action Plan will provide a national strategic framework for industry decision-making and business planning in the area of climate change management.

"The Action Plan will help the plantation products and paper industry to adapt to a change in climate and develop mitigation strategies to reduce or offset greenhouse gas emissions. Research and development strategies to enhance the industry's capacity to respond to climate change will be examined.

"A3P will also undertake a scoping study to develop economically viable plantation management regimes that increases the total carbon with little or no impact on timber production capacity.

"The Australian Government recognises that A3P is uniquely positioned to drive this process because of its diverse membership base which includes plantation growers, solid wood processors and pulp and paper manufacturers. We welcome the Australian Government's support to continue our leading role in proactively addressing climate change issues", he said.

Over 60 representatives from A3P member companies, the Australian plantation products and paper industry and state and federal governments, met in Sydney this week to discuss emissions trading issues at A3P's emissions trading workshop in Sydney.

Further information

Neil Fisher, CEO A3P - 0412 637 550

Miles Prosser, Manager Pulp & Paper A3P – 0429 923 605

Jess Wurf, Communications Officer A3P – 0448 808 366



LEVEL 3
TOURISM HOUSE
40 BLACKALL STREET
BARTON ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

T +61 2 6273 8111
F +61 2 6273 8011
W www.a3p.asn.au