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Plantations to play positive role in emissions trading

Representatives from the Australian and New Zealand plantation forest industry met yesterday to discuss the positive contribution a growing and sustainable plantation forest industry can make to Australia's emissions trading scheme.

CEO of industry body A3P, Mr Neil Fisher said, "The plantation forest industry can make a positive contribution to meeting Australia's climate change objectives provided our emissions trading scheme is developed appropriately.

"Australia's emissions trading scheme must be structured to encourage further plantation forestry developments and the use of plantation based wood and paper products.

"Growing plantations absorbs carbon which is stored in the trees and in the wood products harvested from the plantations.

"Australia's emissions trading scheme should also consider linking to international schemes and attendee's at yesterday's meeting heard first hand about the New Zealand forest industry's experience with a national emissions trading scheme.

"A3P will use the feedback from the meeting to develop a range of robust options for Government on how best to incorporate the plantation forest industry into Australia's emissions trading scheme", he said.

Mr Fisher acknowledged the support of AFG and TIMA in working towards a unified position for the plantation forest industry.

"Ensuring a positive contribution to emissions trading will require consistent, unified and robust input from the plantation forest industry. Today was a key step in achieving this", he said.

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Further information

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