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## A3P & New Zealand Forest Owners' Association Inc. contribute to the international forestry industry



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A3P, the peak body for Australia's plantation products and paper industry, and the New Zealand Forest Owners' Association (NZFOA) were today invited to address the 49<sup>TH</sup> meeting of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Advisory Committee on Paper and Wood Products outside Johannesburg, South Africa.

A3P and NZFOA tabled, at the annual meeting of the International Council of Forest and Paper Association (ICFPA) held in conjunction with the 49<sup>th</sup> meeting of the FAO, a joint proposal for the organisations consideration in the development of a formal position for climate change policy post Kyoto (CP2).

The ICFPA will now use the A3P and NZFOA proposal as the basis for developing a position paper for ICFPA which will be written by 30 June 2008 and will be circulated to its member countries in a series of international meetings aimed at being completed in time for the upcoming Conference of the Parties (COP).

A3P CEO Mr Neil Fisher said, "A3P and NZFOA have demonstrated that by working together and using well researched data the Australian and New Zealand Forest Industry can achieve great things."

A3P and NZFOA worked constructively together for the past 3 months to identify 6 key issues the ICFPA and its 37 member countries need to address in international fora and when working with their respective national government.

NZFOA CEO Mr David Rhodes said, "When comparing the size of the Australian and New Zealand forestry industry to that of the big 5(Canada, United States, Europe, Brazil and Russia), it is very impressive to know that we can make a meaningful contribution to international policy."

The joint proposal identifies the following 6 key issues:

- Separation, of forestry from agriculture, and of components of forestry
- Harvesting and wood products
- Flexible land use (reforestation/deforestation)
- Length of commitment period
- Credits and future liabilities
- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation

The ICFPA represents national industry organisations whose members produce paper and wood products. ICFPA members are committed to sustainable forest management, sustainable use of resources and sustainable production of forest products to meet the growing needs of society.

- ENDS -

### Further information

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