

12/06/2008 – for immediate release

A3P supports international industry leadership

A3P, the peak body for Australia's plantation products and paper industry, congratulates the International Council of Forest and Paper Associations (ICFPA) for developing and formally endorsing the ICFPA fact sheets on Sustainable Forest Management, Certification (forest), Illegal Logging and Plantations.

A3P CEO Mr Neil Fisher, attended the ICFPA annual meeting held this week in Bakubung South Africa, and said, "A3P congratulates ICFPA for formally endorsing the fact sheets on Sustainable Forest Management, Certification (forest), Illegal Logging and Plantations."

The four fact sheets provide a background on each issue, identify global challenges and opportunities industry faces today and define ICFPA's policy position. For example ICFPA strongly opposes the practice of illegal logging, which contributes to deforestation and undermines the viability of legally harvested and traded wood products world-wide.

Mr Fisher said "A3P has policies which complement the ICFPA position and demonstrate that the Australian plantation products and paper industry is part of the international commitment to achieving sustainable use of forests for the good of the environment and society."

The Australian industry supports the ICFPA policy positions through documents such as A3P's Illegal Logging Guidelines, which aim to stop the supply of illegally logged forest products to Australia, and A3P's Sustainability Action Plan, which is a comprehensive forward looking document that is designed to keep the industry focussed on all the sustainability issues it currently faces.

Mr Fisher said, "A3P fully supports the endorsement of these fact sheets."

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.

The four fact sheets will be available via a link from the A3P website www.a3p.asn.au For further information on A3P's policy positions please visit <http://www.a3p.asn.au/A3P%20Library/index.html>

- ENDS -

Further information

Neil Fisher, CEO A3P - 0412 637 550

Lisa Dogan, Communications Officer A3P – 0414 552 225



29 Torrens Street
Braddon ACT 2612

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