

Forum: United Nations Environmental Programme

Question of: Restriction of tropical deforestation to conserve biodiversity

Submitted by: Iran



Co-submitted by: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Columbia, Cuba, Ecuador, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand

- 1 The United Nations Environmental Programme,
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- 3 *Taking note* of the fact that mankind is depending on an intact ecosystem,
- 4 *Noting with regret* that there are already 15 million km² out of the original 165 million km² cut and
- 5 therefore 132.000 km² of forest that are currently cut down annually,
- 6 *Deeply concerned* about the poverty and hardship among the local population being caused by
- 7 dispossession of the local population during the process of deforestation and cultivation of crops on
- 8 huge plantations,
- 9 *Fully aware* of the dependence of many economies on export of wood or various materials being won in
- 10 such areas resulting in deforestation,
- 11 *Fully alarmed* by the lacking sustainability of monocultures grown after deforestation and the climate
- 12 damage and erosion caused by animal breeding in such areas,
- 13 *Reminding* that due to the fact that we all are depending on the global climate and biodiversity it is our
- 14 duty to save the tropical rainforests,
- 15 *Observing* that many LEDCs are especially vulnerable because of dangers like desertification and
- 16 droughts
- 17 *Observing* that many LEDCs are depending on natural resources as their main source of income and
- 18 main contribution to economic growth,
- 19 *Noting with regret* that huge corporations are trying to influence local authorities to deforest the last
- 20 parts of intact tropical rainforests,
- 21 *Complementing* the previously taken measures also by various other organizations, but also
- 22 *Recognizing* that there is more to be undertaken to ensure an efficient protection of the remaining
- 23 tropical rainforest and to conserve biodiversity,
- 24 *Observing* the dependence of countless workers on the offered jobs at mining, cattle ranching and
- 25 wood chopping corporations, who would lose their jobs by limiting deforestation
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1. **Solemnly affirms** the establishment of the Tropical Rainforest Saving Commission (TRSC) which gives reports periodically on the current situation to the UNEP and the public, observing and controlling
 - a. The international trade of tropical wood,
 - b. The clearing of tropical rainforests,
 - c. Measures by huge corporations to become more sustainable,
 - d. Reforesting measures,
 - e. Other measures against deforestation
 2. **Encourages** all nations to provide existing knowledge to all nations struggling with tropical rainforest deforestation via the TRSC about
 - a. Efficient reforestation measures,
 - b. Sustainable use and trade of rainforest wood,
 - c. Restructuring of the economic sector into a sustainable and versatile one;
 3. **Encourages** all nations to initiate investigations for alternatives to the current methods of mining requiring a lot of toxic chemicals and cleared space in forested areas such as but not limited to:
 - a. Making a reforestation after mining more likely to be successful,
 - b. Improving the health conditions of the local population and workers,
 - c. Ensuring ground water quality to conserve biodiversity in the surrounding areas;
 4. **Suggests** the creation of a new financial fund as a substitution of TRSC which would
 - a. finance programmes aimed at reforesting areas where due to deforestation the flora and fauna has been wiped out,
 - b. support LEDCs in obtaining territory to engage in subsistence farming by modern methods which can fertilize areas which have become infertile, or desert-like due to deforestation,
 - c. be funded by those MEDCs which have caused the most harm to the biodiversity of the planet by profiting from the import of goods from LEDCs;
 5. **Urges** all nations to stop the import of wood from rainforests illegally cut down and to prevent illegal trade of such wood by measures such as but not limited to adopting a law that
 - a. Prohibits the import,
 - b. Prohibits the trade with illegally chopped wood,
 - c. Includes a label called “Fair Wood” that is compulsory for wood being imported to other nations,
 - d. Concludes further customs investigations of wood;
 6. **Also urges** all nations with rainforests to oblige the wood trading and chopping corporations to invest an appropriate percentage of their profit determined by the TRSC into measures such as but not limited to:
 - a. Reforestation
 - b. Building up infrastructure to enable the local people to export locally and sustainably produced food and other various goods from the intact rainforest,
 - c. Investing in technologies,
 - i. Not to clear huge areas but small circles surrounded by intact forest,

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- ii. To transport the chopped wood with a minimum of pathways cutting into the forest,
 - iii. To reduce the noise, resulting from the use of big machines and disturbing certain species of the forest, to become more sustainable while being under control of the TRSC having the right to punish corporations not fulfilling the above mentioned criteria by making them pay money into the fund;
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7. **Accepts** nations possessing tropical rainforests to cut down strictly limited areas as long as
- a. Reforestation is ensured,
 - b. The economy is strongly depending on this economic factor or on other resulting economic factors such as
 - i. Mining,
 - ii. Ranching if all wastelands suitable for this are already utilized,
 - iii. Cultivation farming on plantations,
 - c. They are being controlled by the TRSC;
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8. **Also affirms** the urgent need to
- a. Limit cattle ranching and cultivation of crops in deforested areas to prevent illegal and extensive deforestation,
 - b. Reforest adequate areas to compensate for newly deforested regions being used for infrastructure;
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9. **Recommends** all nations to support the creation of jobs in alternative economical sectors such as but not limited to:
- a. Small-scale food production without big machines and monocultures in the intact tropical rainforests,
 - b. Sustainable fishing in the intact rainforest,
 - c. Planting and collecting medical plants growing naturally in the tropical rainforest;
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10. **Strongly urges** all nations to totally protect biodiversity hotspots in tropical rainforests and to prohibit any economic use there;
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11. **Recommends** the creation of an international campaign aimed at popularizing the concept of modern silviculture , meaning that after every cut tree a new tree should be planted, as a sustainable method of logging throughout the world;
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12. **Requests** the development of projects to utilize wastelands for:
- a. Cattle ranching and cultivation of crops,
 - b. Reforestation;
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13. **Expresses** its hope that deforestation regulations will be taken in near future without weakening the economic situation of nations depending on the export of rainforest wood to ensure good living conditions and to conserve the tropical diversity in the future.