Article 7
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council shall exercise all such powers and perform or arrange for the performance of all such functions as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Agreement. In particular, it shall:

(a) By special vote in accordance with article 12, adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Agreement and as are consistent therewith, including its own rules of procedure and the financial rules and staff regulations of the Organization. Such financial rules and regulations shall, inter alia, govern the receipt and expenditure of funds under the accounts established in article 18. The Council may, in its rules of procedure, provide for a procedure whereby it may, without meeting, decide specific questions;

(b) Take such decisions as are necessary to ensure the effective and efficient functioning and operation of the Organization; and

(c) Keep such records as are required for the performance of its functions under this Agreement.

Article 8
CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

1. The Council shall elect for each calendar year a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, whose salaries shall not be paid by the Organization.

2. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall be elected, one from among the representatives of producer members and the other from among the representatives of consumer members.

3. These offices shall alternate each year between the two categories of members, provided, however, that this shall not prohibit the re-election of either or both, under exceptional circumstances.

4. In the temporary absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall assume the functions of the Chairman. In the temporary absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, or in the absence of one or both of them for the rest of the term for which they were elected, the Council may elect new officers from among the representatives of the producer members and/or from among the representatives of the consumer members, as the case may be, on a temporary basis or for the rest of the term for which the predecessor or predecessors were elected.

Article 9
SESSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

1. As a general rule, the Council shall hold at least one regular session a year.

2. The Council shall meet in special session whenever it so decides or at the request of any member or the Executive Director, in agreement with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, and:

(a) A majority of producer members or a majority of consumer members; or

(b) A majority of members.

3. Sessions of the Council shall be held at the headquarters of the Organization unless the Council, by special vote in accordance with article 12, decides otherwise. In this regard, the Council shall seek to convene alternate sessions of the Council outside headquarters, preferably in a producer country.

4. In considering the frequency and location of its sessions, the Council shall seek to ensure the availability of sufficient funds.

5. Notice of any sessions and the agenda for such sessions shall be communicated to members by the Executive Director at least six weeks in advance, except in cases of emergency, when notice shall be communicated at least seven days in advance.

Article 10
DISTRIBUTION OF VOTES

1. The producer members shall together hold 1,000 votes and the consumer members shall together hold 1,000 votes.

2. The votes of the producer members shall be distributed as follows:

(a) Four hundred votes shall be distributed equally among the three producing regions of Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. The votes thus allocated to each of these regions shall then be distributed equally among the producer members of that region;

(b) Three hundred votes shall be distributed among the producer members in accordance with their respective shares of the total tropical forest resources of all producer members; and