



Media Release

19 October 2010

Step towards Tasmanian forest agreement

Australia's national forest industry body today announced that it has signed a Statement of Principles for the establishment of a longer-term agreement for the Tasmanian forest industry, as presented to the Premier of Tasmania today.

NAFI has been involved in talks between the Tasmanian forest industry, ENGOs, union and timber communities which resulted in a "Tasmanian Forests Statement of Principles to Lead to an Agreement" which was signed in Launceston last week.

NAFI supports the agreement but stresses that the process reflects the unique forest industry structure and market situation in Tasmania, and any final outcomes that may arise from this process are independent from other states or regions in Australia.

The document will set a framework for the State Government in the next stage of the process, which NAFI believes should be consistent with the legislative requirements and intent of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (RFA).

NAFI Chief Executive Officer, Allan Hansard said the negotiating process was challenging but welcomed the Statement of Principles as an important first step towards long-term certainty for the Tasmanian forest industry.

"NAFI looks forward to the role of Government in further facilitating a robust and long-term outcome," Mr Hansard said.

"We also appreciate the considerable amount of work and good will displayed by all parties involved in the negotiations," he said.

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