



## Media Release

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### Forestry industry supports Copenhagen One Billion Trees proposal

The National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI) supports the proposal by State and regional government leaders from around the world to collectively plant a billion trees by 2015 to tackle climate change.

The One Billion Trees proposal, announced by South Australia's Premier Mike Rann at the Copenhagen climate change negotiations, demonstrates action we can take now to remove hundreds of millions of tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through the growing of trees.

"This is just the tip of the tree in terms of what forestry can do to address climate change and help in the transition of the world economy to a more renewable and lower emissions future", said NAFI CEO Allan Hansard, who attended the Copenhagen negotiations as part of the Australian forestry industry delegation.

"Australia's plantation forest industry has already planted over 800 million trees since 1990 and these trees already contribute around 20 million tonnes of carbon abatement toward Australia's Kyoto Target.

"With the right policy settings, including the equitable treatment of forestry within land use and water policies, the Australian forest sector could contribute up to 80 million tonnes of emissions abatement per year by 2020.

"The emissions abatement benefits from forestry include the growth from an expanding plantation estate (50 million tonnes), the sustainable management of native forests (23 million tonnes), the carbon stored in harvested wood products (5 million tonnes) and the wood waste that can be used for green bio-energy (3 million tonnes).

"It is important for international and domestic rules for climate change policy to recognise the full range of benefits from forestry in order to maximise the opportunities for carbon sequestration and the substitution of carbon positive wood based products for fossil fuel based high emission products, energy and fuels.

"Industry and government understand the benefits of forestry in tackling climate change. In addition to addressing land use change and deforestation issues, we need to be encouraging and recognising sustainable forestry practices being undertaken in developed and developing countries from around the world.

The One Billion Trees proposal is a tangible example of the positive contribution that tree planting and related forestry activities can make.

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