



## Media Release

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### Forests a focus at Bonn climate change negotiations

Australian forest industry representatives from the National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI) are working to ensure international climate change talks currently underway in Bonn, Germany are focussed on achieving the best possible outcome for Australia's environment and economy.

"Australia's forest industry will play a key role in Australia meeting its targets under the proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) as well as any international agreements. Therefore, it is vital that the industry has a voice in these negotiations to ensure the treatment of forestry under any agreement achieves the best outcomes for the economy as well as the environment," said NAFI CEO Allan Hansard.

"These talks are part of the ongoing negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, and are a key point leading up to the Copenhagen talks in December where it's hoped an international climate deal can be agreed upon. It is critical that international arrangements to address climate change post-2012 recognise the role of sustainable forest management

"Any developments from this series of climate change negotiations will have a significant impact on Australia's CPRS. With the right regulatory framework, sustainably managed forests will deliver 81 million tonnes of CO2 sequestration by 2020 – that's 20 percent of Australia's current 2050 emission reduction target.

"The negotiations have accelerated since the last meeting held in Poznan in December and progress on forest and forestry issues has been significant. Progress is being made on important issues to the industry such as recognition of carbon stored in harvested wood products, as well as incentives to reduce emissions from degradation in developing countries in the Asia Pacific region. However, the negotiations are complex and significant forest carbon accounting changes are on the table.

"It's vital that the international rules for climate change recognise the role of Australia's sustainably managed production native and plantation forests in reducing Australia's carbon emissions. Lisa Marty, Deputy CEO of the Victorian Association of Forest Industries (VAFI) is representing NAFI, VAFI and the broader industry at the negotiations. Ms Marty was involved in the Poznan talks and is continuing to work with other international forestry and industry associations to monitor the negotiations and progress our industry's voice in these talks," Mr Hansard said.

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