



National Association of
Forest Industries



Media Release

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Sustainable forest management key to climate at Copenhagen

A delegation representing the Australian forestry industry will be attending the COP 15 Climate Change negotiations in Copenhagen, and will be calling for the recognition of the vital role sustainably managed forests have in combating climate change. The delegation includes NAFI CEO Allan Hansard, CFMEU, Forestry and Furnishing Products Division National Secretary, Michael O'Connor, NAFI's Lisa Marty, and Industry Forestry Expert, Bob Smith. The delegation is assisted via logistical and material support by ForestWorks.

Sustainable forest management, wood production and bioenergy from wood waste are part of the global climate change solution. Sustainable forest management recognises the carbon sequestered in the forest as well as the carbon that is stored in the products sustainably harvested from the forest. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), stated in its fourth Assessment Report that, "In the long term, a sustainable forest management strategy aimed at maintaining or increasing forest carbon stocks, while producing an annual sustained yield of timber, fibre or energy from the forest, will generate the largest sustained mitigation benefit."^[1]

"The delegation will be urging for the development of international rules for forest management which recognise the carbon stored in sustainably managed forests and in wood products, as well as the potential for wood waste to be better harnessed for renewable energy," said NAFI CEO Allan Hansard, one of the forest industry leaders amongst the delegation.

"Industry knows the Australian Government understands the benefits of sustainable forest management in climate change, and we look forward to supporting them at Copenhagen", said Mr Hansard.

NAFI, CFMEU and ForestWorks will host an exhibit at Forest Day at Copenhagen on Sunday 13 December that will focus on sustainable forestry for climate change, employment and the community. The group will also, in conjunction with representatives from international forestry associations, host a 'side event' on LULUCF, sustainable forest management and treatment of forestry in emissions trading schemes at Copenhagen on Thursday 17 December.

"ForestWorks is proud to support the industry delegation as part of our role in skill development and employment advisor to the industry and government. ForestWorks strives to ensure that industry leadership is able to position the industry for growth leading to higher skilled employment opportunities for Australians. A growing forest industry sector is good for jobs, the economy and the environment and ForestWorks will continue to support and promote these outcomes for industry and government." said ForestWorks CEO Michael Hartman

A key outcome sought from the Copenhagen negotiations will be the anticipated agreement of LULUCF rules (Land use, land use change and forestry), as well as REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation). The Australian forest industry delegation, as well as international forestry delegations will be lobbying for appropriate treatment for forestry and wood production as part of these agreements.

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