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Information on an intergovernmental organization

Note by the Director General

The present document provides information on the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR), which has expressed the wish to enter into an appropriate relationship agreement with UNIDO.

1. Pursuant to paragraph 8 of the guidelines issued by the General Conference in its decision GC.1/Dec.41 regarding relationship agreements, the present document provides in an annex, information on the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR), which has expressed the wish to enter into an appropriate relationship agreement with UNIDO.

Action required from the Board

2. The Board may wish to authorize the Director General, in accordance with General Conference decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex, paragraph 9, to conclude an appropriate relationship agreement with INBAR, based on the information contained in the annex to the present document.

For reasons of sustainability, this document has not been printed. Delegates are kindly requested to refer to electronic versions of all documents.



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Annex

International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR)

Historical background

The International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) was established in 1997 as an intergovernmental organization that promotes environmentally sustainable development using bamboo and rattan.

Purpose

The mission of INBAR is to improve the well-being of producers and users of bamboo and rattan within the context of a sustainable bamboo and rattan resource base by consolidating, coordinating and supporting strategic and adaptive research and development.

Guided by its 2015–2030 Strategy, INBAR's priority is to work with countries to focus the use of bamboo and rattan as strategic resources that support sustainable development and their green economy action plans. Its strategy and performance contribute directly to at least six sustainable development goals (SDGs), including SDGs 1,7, 11, 12, 13 and 15.

INBAR's priorities, defined under the 2015–2030 Strategy, are to promote the potential of bamboo and rattan as practical and sustainable solutions to the producers and users of these plants. As such, INBAR targets its support to countries in four priority areas:

- Policy shaping: to promote the inclusion of bamboo and rattan in socioeconomic and environmental development policies;
- Representation and advocacy: to coordinate inputs on bamboo and rattan from a growing global network of its member States and partners, and to represent its member States' needs in the global policy arena;
- Knowledge-sharing and learning: to exchange and communicate lessons learned widely, providing training and raising awareness of the relevance of bamboo and rattan as strategic resources and commodities that directly support a number of the Sustainable Development Goals, Aichi Targets, REDD+ and other global, regional or national frameworks;
- Action research and country support: to promote adaptive research and on-the-ground innovation by promoting pilot best-practice case studies, and supporting the upscaling of best practices and innovations across INBAR member States and with others.

Membership

INBAR currently has 47 members: Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

Organizational structure

INBAR's supreme governing body is its Council of representatives of its member States, which meets biennially. The Board of Trustees, consisting of appointed experts from relevant fields from many countries, is the second tier of governance, and ensures that the objectives, programmes and plans of INBAR are consistent with its mission and purpose at its annual meetings. The Director General is a member of the Board of Trustees and is responsible for day-to-day running of the organization. INBAR is managed by its Executive Management team, which comprises:

- Director General;
- Deputy Director General;
- Treasurer;
- Directors of Administration;
- Communications and Outreach;
- Membership Affairs, and Global Programme.

Financing

INBAR on average receives \$9 million per annum for its operation and projects. INBAR receives both restricted and unrestricted funds. The restricted funds are provided by multilateral and bilateral donors (IFAD, EC, World Bank, CFC, China and the Netherlands and other development partners) for implementing development projects and programmes in INBAR member States. The unrestricted funds are contributions from the host country (China) and membership contributions by member States. Restricted and unrestricted funds constitute 50 per cent each.

Cooperation with UNIDO

Within the scope of their respective areas of competence, INBAR and UNIDO may develop cooperation activities in the following areas:

- Agribusiness and rural entrepreneurship development focusing on youth and women;
- Investment and value-chain development in bamboo and rattan product industry;
- Promote circular economy, green economy and sustainable enterprises;
- Develop micro, small and medium industry clusters;
- Develop standards and certification mechanism and compliance;
- Affordable and clean energy;
- South-South technology, knowledge transfer and strengthening of institutions.

Relationship with other intergovernmental and governmental organizations

INBAR has permanent observer status with the General Assembly of the United Nations and the three United Nations Rio Conventions (UNFCCC, UNCCD, UNCBD). INBAR also cooperates with these agencies of the United Nations system: International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat); as well as other intergovernmental organizations including: Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF).

INBAR also works with international development agencies such as the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECID), China International Development and Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

Address of headquarters

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