

## **Report of the Special Session of the International Poplar Commission**

### ***OPENING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Item 1)***

1. The Special Session of the International Poplar Commission was held on 6 February, at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy.
2. The session was attended by Member Countries as presented in Annex II.
3. Mr Martin Weih, Chairperson of the Commission, opened the session. Ms Mette Wilkie, Director, Forestry Policy and Resources Division, welcomed participants.
4. The Agenda (Annex I) was adopted.

### ***VOTE ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE IPC CONVENTION (Item 2)***

5. The Chairperson called for a roll call to ascertain if there was the required quorum for a vote.
6. At the conclusion of the roll call, it was determined that 28 Member Nations were present, sufficient for a vote as the IPC Convention requires a two-thirds majority to take decision on amendments to the IPC Convention.
7. The vote was called by roll call.
8. At the conclusion of the vote, 26 were in favour, 1 opposed, and 1 abstained (Annex III). The proposed amendments to the IPC Convention were adopted.
9. The Chairperson noted that amendments shall become effective only with the concurrence of the Conference of the Organization and as from the date of such concurrence. Therefore, with this endorsement of the reform by the IPC Member Nations, the amendments to the Convention will be brought to the Forty-first Session of the FAO Conference for endorsement.
10. Member Nations requested that the IPC continue its reform efforts after the FAO Conference considers endorsing the new text of the IPC (Annex IV), and recommended that suggestions received during the comment period on Proposed Amendments to the IPC Convention be made available to Member States to assist in the continued reform.
11. The Chairperson thanked all Member Nations for their guidance and support throughout the process and welcomed continued engagement with the IPC as it now considers how best to fulfil its new scope.
12. The Chairperson noted that the IPC will have its next session in 2020.
13. The report was adopted as presented.