

ANNEX 13

The North American Initiative on Lumber

1. The Parties seek through the SLA 2006 to promote increased cooperation between the U.S. and Canadian softwood lumber industries and to strengthen and expand the market for Softwood Lumber Products in both countries.
2. To this end, the Parties shall encourage interested Persons in Canada and the United States to establish before the Effective Date a binational industry council, which shall receive \$US 50 million pursuant to Annex 2C.
3. The objectives of the council shall include:
 - (a) strengthening the North American lumber industry by increasing the market for its products; and
 - (b) building stronger cross-border partnerships and trust at all levels of the industry.
4. The council shall consider initiatives to benefit the North American softwood lumber market, including:
 - (a) expanding the market for wood products in the non-residential construction market;
 - (b) developing new methods and markets for using wood in raised wood-floor systems;
 - (c) promoting the use of wood in existing residential markets;
 - (d) educating consumers on the sustainability of wood products to demonstrate their desirability as an environmentally preferable building and finishing material; and
 - (e) promoting the use of wood in Green Building Standards.