

ADMISSION CONDITIONS FOR THE ASSOCIATION

Founded at the request of the FAO and the OECD in 1951, aiming to organize and streamline the tropical timber trade, ATIBT is a French association under 1901 law. Since then, ATIBT has been the privileged representative for all professionals connected to the tropical timber business.

It is:

- An international association, dedicated to the promotion and protection of tropical timber resources;
- The preferred partner for professionals and the facilitator for the tropical timber sector (mainly African);
- The technical and scientific reference regarding the natural resources, as well as tropical wood material products.

The mission of ATIBT is to ensure the promotion and development of a sustainable, ethical and legal tropical timber sector, in order to have a renewable and essential source of raw material for the socio-economic development of producing countries.

The strength of the Association lies in the variety of competencies of its members, who are international, regional and national institutions, research institutes, schools and universities, consultants, experts, companies in the private forestry sector, exporters, importers, as well as sovereign African countries.

Having associations and federations as members, ATIBT represents a network of several thousands of professionals.

MEMBER CATEGORIES

1. FSC certified, Foresters with or without processing facilities

This category includes producers who have obtained FSC certification, with or without industrial processing facilities.

2. Foresters and Foresters with processing facilities

This category includes producers with or without industrial processing facilities, certified against a verification of legal origin by an independent third party, or producers engaged into a legality certification process.

3. Manufacturers, importers, agents, services companies, suppliers, professional unions, research centers, NGOs, etc.

This category includes all other organizations, legal entities and businesses in the tropical timber sector.

4. Individual members

This category includes any person, who wishes to benefit from the services provided by ATIBT. For every individual member, ATIBT shall not disclose the name of the entity (business, organization...) which the member represents, especially in the ATIBT directory.

5. Country members, Donors, International Organizations

This category includes all countries having signed an agreement with ATIBT, and the donors or international organizations financing or able to finance the projects.

6. Honorary members

This category includes former Presidents of ATIBT.

WHY BECOME A MEMBER?

ATIBT provides information, training, technical and scientific support, encouraging the best practices in all the timber industry sectors, especially for the purpose of ensuring economic viability, social fairness and conservation of forestry ecosystems. It is a platform for professionals in the tropical timber industry to gather and to exchange experiences.

ATIBT offers its members a wide range of benefits and services:

- **Participation in the general meeting** of ATIBT
- **Listing** in the ATIBT directory
- **Participation in events** organized by ATIBT (Forums, workshops, technical meetings, etc.)
- **Receiving the ATIBT newsletter**, monitoring the sector
- **Possibility to present their own activities**, or events affecting their business, with the help of ATIBT's communication tools
- **Participation in projects** developed by the Association
- **Advice and technical support** (technical, commercial, legal information)
- **Reduction in workshops fees** related to technical expertise
- **Access to a large number of books** and documentation related to the entire tropical timber industry
- **Representation and defense of common interests** during major international forums and in all events, workshops, seminars, related to the timber sector
- **Representation and defense of members' interests** in all national or international normative organizations
- **Support in case of inappropriate or misleading publicity**

MEMBERS DUTIES

ATIBT members are required to be informed and to respect the articles of association, which are transmitted to them contained within the application form.

ATIBT members must give an exemplary image regarding these articles to ensure:

- Sustainable forest management practices, legal harvesting practices and legality for all products placed on the market
- Traceability of the production and commercial / marketing chain
- Compliance with classification and measurement rules.

MEMBERSHIP FEES BY MEMBER CATEGORIES

Membership fees are based on the membership category:

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| - FSC certified, or equivalent, Foresters and Foresters with processing facilities | |
| ▪ per country (capped at 2 per group) | €15,250 |
| - Foresters and Foresters with processing facilities (not FSC certified) | |
| ▪ per country (capped at 2 per group) | €5,000 |
| - Manufacturers, importers, agents, services companies, suppliers, professional unions, research centers, NGOs, etc. | €1,500 |
| - Individual Members | €350 |
| - Country Members, Donors | €0 |

HOW DO I BECOME A MEMBER?

Each applicant must complete an application form (see Appendix) which is reviewed by the Executive Committee and presented to the Board of Directors of the Association for its approval. A reply is given by the President, or by his representative, within a maximum period of 15 days. The admission refusal need not have a reason. When the application is approved, an invoice is sent and must be paid within 30 days of receipt. Payment may be processed by check or bank transfer.

A probationary period may be set in the case of an evolving commitment.

Corporative members appoint a contact person to ensure their permanent representation in the various sections of the Association to which they have access. This representative shall ensure any correspondence with ATIBT.

MEMBERSHIP FEE PROCEDURE

Membership fees are due by calendar year. The first fee of a new member will be charged per covered quarter, depending on the date of membership. For the annual renewal, the fee is due for the full year without the possibility for reimbursement, in case of leaving the association.

Requests to pay membership fees are sent to members during the month of January of the current year. If the fee is not paid by March 31st, a letter is sent as a reminder. Failure to pay wholly or partly the annual contribution by a member before May 1st justifies the suspension of all or part of the rights of the member. In case of recurrent failure to pay annual contribution, the exclusion from the association may be pronounced under the discretion of the Board of Directors.

At the beginning of every year, the members must inform ATIBT of any changes (business name, reference person, address, email, telephone, fax, website...) in order to communicate updated information to the other members.

MEMBER EXCLUSION PROCEDURE

Exclusion may be decided by the Board of Directors, for any of the following reasons:

- violation of the articles of association, especially non-compliance with Article 7 "Liability of Members of the ATIBT"
- serious reasons harming the moral and material interests of the Association
- failure to pay all or part of the annual contribution

If an action (transaction or communication) of a member adversely affects the image of ATIBT, the Board of Directors reserves the right to consider the seriousness of the situation. The board may propose to take no action, to request the member to correct the situation or exclude the member from the Association.

CONTACTS

For all requests of additional information, please do not hesitate to consult the ATIBT website: www.atibt.org or contact secretariat@atibt.org