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Australia hosts global forest products industry meeting

The Australian Forest Products Association (AFPA) is hosting the annual meeting of the International Council of Forest and Paper Associations (ICFPA) in Sydney on 4 July.

The ICFPA serves as a forum for global dialogue, coordination and cooperation among forest and paper associations, and functions as the industry's advocate at the international level. ICFPA members from across the world will gather to discuss key issues impacting the forest and paper products industry, such as the bio-economy, certification, recycling and innovation.

This year, ICFPA members will be joined by Australian government and forest product industry representatives, including: Greg McCormack, Chair of AFPA; Ross Hampton, CEO of AFPA; David Brand, CEO of New Forests; Dennis Nielson, CEO of DANA Ltd; and Paul Klymenko, CEO of Planet Ark.

AFPA's CEO Mr Ross Hampton said, "It is a feather in Australia's cap to be able to host a global meeting of this scale. It represents a great opportunity for international information sharing and to highlight the vital role our forest and paper products industries play in a low-carbon global economy, which is moving rapidly to greater use of renewable and recyclable products."

"Australian forest product industries are sustainable, renewable and managed to world-class standards. I'm looking forward to showcasing our industries on an international stage, and participating in the global discourse on sustainable forest product industries worldwide," Mr Hampton said.

The ICFPA meeting will be followed by the 57th Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries (ACSFI) meeting. The ACSFI is a FAO statutory body comprising private forest product industry representatives, that meets annually to provide guidance on the FAO Forestry Department activities.

The ICFPA represents 23 national and regional forest and paper associations worldwide. For more information about the sustainability of the global forest and paper industry, visit www.icfpa.org.

AFPA represents forest growers, harvesters, and manufacturers of timber and paper products.

Media Contact: Yelena Ramli
AFPA Communications and New Media Officer
(m) 0409 962 250 (e) yelena.ramli@ausfpa.com.au