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Remarks on the International Forum on
“Together Towards Global Green Supply Chains – A Forest Products Industry Initiative”
Mr. Chunyu Su, of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration: October 22, 2019 - Shanghai, China

Distinguished ministers, participants, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning!

On the occasion of the cool autumn wind and the sweet smell of flowers, I am very pleased to be invited to beautiful Shanghai and participate in the international forum on “Together Towards Global Green Supply Chains – A Forest Products Industry Initiative”. First of all, on behalf of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China, I would like to express my congratulations to the International
Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the China Timber and Wood Products Distribution Association (CTWPDA), Center for International Forest Products Trade of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China, and International Tropical Timber Technical Association (ATIBT) for your joint efforts to organize this forum! Also, please allow me express my warm welcome to ministers and representatives from governments, forestry industry and the media!

Ladies and gentlemen,

Currently, the world is facing a series of severe challenges, including climate warming, sharp decline in forests, species extinction, and land desertification. Green and sustainable development is an inevitable choice for all countries to jointly address these challenges. The Chinese government has integrated green development into all aspects of economic and social development, which has become an important driving force for the domestic economic transformation and an important principle in promoting related international cooperation such as the “Belt and Road” initiative.

As the world’s largest forest product production and trade country, the Chinese government fully recognizes the important role of the forestry industry in domestic economic development and the global forest product supply chain, and attaches great importance to the sustainable development of forestry industry and legal trade in forestry products. In recent years, regarding forest protection and sustainable use, we have 1) conducted relevant cooperation on forest certification, combating illegal timber logging and trade; 2) actively advocated overseas operating companies to abide by local regulations; 3) vigorously promoted green procurement, green finance and other measures; and 4) further regulated Chinese company’s overseas business conduct. Positive outcomes have been achieved. In June 2018, 12 leading Chinese forest product enterprises jointly initiated the establishment of a global green supply chain of forest products, marking the self-awakening of the Chinese forestry industry. Previous experience and practice has proved that changing the concept of enterprises, enhancing their awareness of social responsibility, adhering to the concept of green and sustainable development, transforming and upgrading, and improving the efficiency of resource utilization are the keys to building a green supply chain and ensuring the long-term development of enterprises. Of course, it is also extremely important that the industry, government departments, social organizations, scientific research institutions, and other relevant parties such as raw material suppliers, product processing companies and end consumers work together and closely to form incentive policies, entrepreneurship, social environment, and consumers’ awareness that are conducive to building a green supply chain.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The forum will focus on the role of enterprises in addressing climate change, promoting sustainable development, and timber legality and sustainability. I hope that participants will take advantage of this opportunity to engage in in-depth communication and brainstorming, reach consensus on specific actions and relevant standards for building a green supply chain for forest products, conduct on-ground activities to jointly build a global green supply chain for forest products, and contribute wisdom and strength to promote green and sustainable development!

In the end, I wish this forum a complete success. thank you!