

FORMATION OF ISTF CHAPTERS

- A. Policy: The officers of ISTF encourage the formation of ISTF Chapters in regions, countries or local areas.
- B. Chapter: A request to form a chapter shall be sent to the President of ISTF for approval. It shall include a draft of proposed bylaws, the names of at least ten (10) members, and concurrence by the Country Vice President (where applicable).
- C. Bylaws: To assist individuals in forming chapters a set of suggested bylaws is attached. There shall be nothing in chapter bylaws which conflict with the By-Laws of the International Society of Tropical Foresters, Inc. There may, however, be additional articles in the chapter bylaws.
- D. Guidelines: The following guidelines have been prepared to assist in preparing a charter for an ISTF chapter.*
- 1) The specific geographic area to be covered by a chapter may be a region including several countries, a country, or an area with common interests, (i.e., the Amazon, the Caribbean, Central Africa, Southeast Asia, Nigeria, Taiwan, or University such as Yale; New York State College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry).
 - 2) Chapters shall have at least ten (10) members.
 - 3) The By-laws shall include as a minimum, the six articles in the suggested bylaws. Additional articles may be included as necessary. The proposed bylaws shall not conflict with the By-Laws of the International organization.
 - 4) Chapter activities may be organized to fit the desires and talents of individual members. Some suggestions are:
 - (a) preparation of articles for ISTF NEWS,
 - (b) providing information on forestry activities for chapter members,
 - (c) encouragement of improved forestry practices,
 - (d) visits to demonstration areas and discussions of results,
 - (e) recruitment of new members.
 - (f) general education programs, etc.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT BE SPONSORED BY A CHAPTER.
 - (5) When deemed advisable, a chapter may sponsor studies relating to tropical forestry problems.
 - (6) Cooperation with other organizations to improve forestry conservation shall be given major emphasis in chapter activities.
 - (7) Chapters may collect dues to cover local expenses. Such dues shall be in addition to the general dues for ISTF membership and they shall not be considered income to the Parent organization.
 - (8) Facilitate collection of dues for the international society by arranging for group conversion of local currency to U.S. dollars and/or other activity to assist members in paying dues for the international organization.

* Charter design to be determined locally

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF TROPICAL FORESTERS, INC.
SUGGESTED BYLAWS FOR CHAPTERS

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be _____ Chapter of the International Society of Tropical Foresters, Inc., (ISTF).

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of a chapter shall be to further the objectives of ISTF as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation of the parent organization including:

- a) Providing a forum for the exchange of information concerning tropical forestry.
- b) Distributing forestry publications.
- c) Sending relevant news and articles to the editor of the ISTF NEWS. d) Cooperating locally with forestry organizations.
- e) Arrange meetings and work sessions to exchange information and materials relevant to tropical forestry.
- f) Encourage activities to strengthen forestry organizations.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Any current member of ISTF shall be eligible for membership in a chapter.

ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION

- A. Officers: The members of a chapter shall elect a Chairman and Secretary for a term of three (3) years from its membership.
- B. Executive Committee: A Chapter shall have an executive committee consisting of the chairman, secretary, and a member-at-large elected from the membership. The Country Vice President (CVP) for the region shall serve on the executive committee as an ex-officio member. The executive committee shall exercise full control of all funds and property of a chapter. It shall provide full direction and management of its affairs, provided however, that the funds and property shall be used exclusively for the objectives set forth in Article II. A meeting of the executive committee may be called by the chairman.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

A meeting of the chapter members shall be held at least once every two (2) years, or more often as the officers determine.

ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS

The executive committee of a chapter may change the bylaws at any meeting providing changes are not in conflict with the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of ISTF.

We the members of the executive committee of the _____
Chapter of the International Society of Tropical Foresters, Inc., (ISTF) hereunto sign our names for the
purpose to giving effect to these bylaws on this day of 20____

Secretary _____

Chairman _____

Member _____