

Multilateral Co-operation Memorandum for the International Development of Wood and renewable material Usage for the Construction or Renovation of Zero-Carbon, Efficient and Resilient Buildings (“Memorandum”)

Research and innovation centers in Brazil, Canada, Finland, the French Republic, and the Swiss Confederation, collectively referred to as the “Signatories”:

Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment (CSTB) – France

The Scientific and Technical Center for Building, is responsible for guaranteeing the quality and safety of buildings and for supporting innovation from idea to market. The CSTB brings together multidisciplinary skills to develop and share the key scientific and technical knowledge and to provide the actors with the answers they expect in their professional practice. To this end, CSTB carries out four key activities: research and expertise, evaluation, certification and dissemination of knowledge. Its scope covers construction products, buildings and their integration into the neighborhood and the city, based at 84 avenue Jean Jaurès, Champs-sur-Marne, 77447 Marne-la-Vallée Cedex 2, represented by Etienne CREPON, President, Hereinafter called CSTB,

FPIinnovations – Canada

FPIinnovations is a not-for-profit world leader that specializes in the creation of innovative scientific solutions in support of the Canadian forest sector’s global competitiveness and responds to the priority needs of its industry members and government partners, based at Pointe-Claire, 570 Saint-Jean Blvd, Pointe-Claire, QC, Canada H9R 3J9 (head office), represented by Pierre LAPOINTE, CEO. Hereinafter called FPIinnovations,

Institut Technologique FCBA (Forêt, Cellulose, Bois-construction, Ameublement) – France

FCBA is an industrial technical center whose bylaws are governed by article L.521 and subsequent articles of the French Research Code, based at Champs-sur-Marne 10 Rue Galilée, N SIRET 775 680 903 00132, represented by its President Philippe GAUDRON, hereinafter called FCBA,

Instituto de Pesquisas Tecnológicas do Estado de São Paulo S.A.(IPT) – Brazil

Linked to the Economic Development, Science, Technology and Innovation Department of the São Paulo State Government (EDSTID-SP), based at Avenida Prof. Almeida Prado 532, Cidade Universitaria, Butanta, 05508-901, São Paulo/SP, represented by its Directors, Fulvio Vittorino and Lígia Ferrari Torella di Romagnano, hereinafter called IPT,

Lignum – Switzerland

Lignum, Swiss Wood Economy is the organization of the Swiss forest and wood economy. It brings together all the major associations and organizations of the sector, research and training institutes, public corporations and a large number of architects and engineers, based at Mühlebachstrasse 8, 8008 Zürich, represented by Claude HAEGI President of Lignum Geneva, hereinafter called Lignum,

VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland LTD (VTT) – Finland

VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd is a state owned and controlled non-profit limited liability company established by law and operating under the ownership steering of the Finnish Ministry of Employment and the Economy. VTT is an RTO whose activities are focused on three areas: Knowledge intensive products and services, Smart industry and energy systems, and Solutions for natural resources and environment. VTT is impact-driven and takes advantage from its wide multitechnological knowledge base to strengthen Finnish and European industrial competitiveness. VTT, based at Vuorimiehentie 3, 02044 VTT Finland, is represented by its Executive Vice President Jussi Manninen and Senior Advisor Anne-Christine Ritschkoff, hereinafter called VTT

- Willing to strengthen multilateral co-operation,
- Considering the decisive advance represented by the Paris agreement and decisions in the global commitment of countries to hold the increase of temperature below 2 °C and aim for carbon neutrality after 2050,
- Considering the focus put during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's COP 22 on the need to accelerate the long-term decarbonisation in buildings and on the role of the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction, Acknowledging the issue of the development of low-carbon materials in the fight against climate change; the carbon footprint of construction materials representing, according to the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction's roadmap, some 6% of yearly global greenhouse gas emissions,
- Acknowledging the necessity for the sustainable management of forest preserving biodiversity,
- Willing to facilitate the real estate and territorial low-carbon transition,
- Willing to develop wood and bio-sourced material usage in midrise and tall buildings at the heart of sustainable cities worldwide.

Section 1-Subject:

The Signatories are committed to, in compliance with their respective skills and priorities, co-operate in order to make wood a fully contributing element to the development of new solutions for low-carbon territories and buildings.

Section 2 – Co-operation Fields:

The general purpose of this Memorandum consists of implementing the co-operation fields considered by the Signatories. New fields can be added to this list upon written agreement by the Signatories.

Promote international synergy on this future-oriented theme, between research, development and innovation organizations in the wood sector, to accelerate the development of successful solutions from a technical, organizational, economic and user-friendliness point of view and benefiting from an outstanding environmental performance.

- a. Create a working group called “ Woodrise Alliance ” composed of representatives of the Signatories and extend it for any country wishing to join the group,
- b. Broaden the ecosystem by associating key institutional and socio-economic stakeholders,
- c. Reinforce existing partnerships between those countries by integrating an axis on wood construction

Continue good practice identification for the development of wood usage at every step of a project (from the forest to the building user, to the end of its life cycle), in order to contribute to the discussion at the feed the low-carbon material section in the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction Exchange available quantitative and qualitative data about evolution in wood usage in construction worldwide:

Section 3 – Implementation

- The Signatories work in close co-operation to promote the successful implementation of the objectives of this Memorandum.
- The activities specific to Section 2 are subject to separate written agreement after discussion by the Signatories through a work program.
- The work program may be modified by the Signatories in writing.
- To ensure the follow up of the Memorandum’s implementation, the Signatories will create a technical working group composed of representatives from the Signatories.
- This Memorandum does not include any financial commitment of Signatories.
- The Signatories will cover their own costs under this Memorandum, as per their respective financial and budgetary procedures, contingent to availability of funds. No Signatory shall be responsible for costs or expenses of other Signatories, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Section 4 - FocalPoints,Woodrise Alliance Representatives

The Signatories will name the individuals in charge of the Memorandum’s operational implementation within their respective organization:

list of the 6 research institutes that are part of this Memorandum:

- Centre Scientifique et Techniqiue du Bâtiment: France
- FPInnovations: Canada
- Institut Technologique FCBA: France
- Instituto de Pesquisas Tecnológicas do Estado de São Paulo S.A.(IPT): Brazil
- Lignum: Swiss Confederation
- VTT: Finland

The Signatories will keep each other informed of projects, advances and innovations about dedicated co-operation activities, and regularly assess progress in implementing the Memorandum considering that all projects development shall be subject to separate written contracts and agreements, which shall address the issues of confidentiality and financing, as well as the division of costs and revenues, project management, intellectual property, marketing, dissemination or publication of products and content created, developed or improved within the scope of the collaboration.

Focal points: To facilitate the implementation of the actions described In the purpose of this instrument, all correspondence should be addressed to the following managers and assistants:

- Anne-Christine Ritschkoff, VTT,
- Sylvain Gagnon, FPInnovations,
- Stéphane Hameury, CSTB,
- Andréas Kleinschmit von Lengefeld, FCBA
- Claude Haegi, Lignum Switzerland,
- Gisele SayuriHashida, IPT,
- Lígia Ferrari Torella di Romagnano, IPT,
- Fulvio Vittorino, IPT;

Section 5 – General Items

- The Memorandum will not interfere with the performance of obligations from bilateral or multilateral agreements which the Signatories have entered.
- This Memorandum is not binding and does not create any legal or binding obligations to any Signatory in terms of national or international law. For the avoidance of doubt, this Memorandum does not create any obligations for any Signatory to enter into any subsequent co-operation or agreements or to perform any specific projects or actions, and the Signatories may discontinue their participation in the activities under this Memorandum at any time.

- The Memorandum comes into effect at the date of signature by all Signatories and remains effective for 3 years. It can be modified or cancelled only upon mutual written consent from all Signatories. It can be renewed through an amendment detailing the mutual, written consent from all Signatories.
- For the sake of clarity, no Signatory is allowed to make public statements based on this Memorandum, unless separately agreed upon in writing with the other Signatories.

Section 6 – Work Program

Presentation of the Memorandum at the Woodrise Congress in Bordeaux on September 14th, 2017.

Scheduling the first virtual working group meeting in October 2017 to start designing a draft workplan.

Section 7 – Governing law and Dispute Resolution

This Memorandum shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of Belgium without regard to choice of law provisions. All disputes arising out of or in connection with this Memorandum shall be finally settled under the Rules of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce by one or more arbitrators appointed in accordance with the said Rules. The arbitration shall be held in Brussels, Belgium.

The language of the arbitration shall be English.

In Bordeaux, on September 14, 2017, in seven original copies in English

FOR CSTB CENTRE SCIENTIFIQUE ET TECHNQUE DU BATIMENT - FRANCE	FOR FPINNOVATIONS - CANADA
Etienne CREPON President 	Pierre LAPOINTE President 
FOR INSTITUT TECHNOLOGIQUE FCBA - FRANCE	FOR INSTITUTO DE PESQUISAS TECNOLÓGICAS DO ESTADO DE SÃO PAULO S.A. (IPT)
Philippe GAUDRON President 	Lígia FERRARI TORELLA di ROMAGNANO / Fúlvio VITTORINO  
FOR LIGNUM - SWITZERLAND	FOR VTT TECHNICAL RESEARCH CENTRE OF FINLAND LTD - FINLAND
Claude HAEGI President Lignum Geneva 	Anne-Christine RITSCHKOFF 