I. **Proposal of the African Group**

Elements of a voluntary code/guidelines/international understanding

1. Enhanced capacity-building mechanisms.

2. Recognition of the global importance of forests.

3. Must facilitate or attract strong political support.

4. Must build on strengthening subregional initiatives.

5. Must provide for technological transfer as a means for achievement of sustainable forest management.

6. Must address the three elements (social, environmental and economic) of sustainable forest management.

7. Should include reference to the role of Major Groups.

8. Should accommodate regional nuances and variations.

9. Should have appropriate institutional arrangements for implementation, including strengthening the role of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

10. Clear funding mechanisms to ensure that implementation is facilitated in developing countries.

11. Effective institutional arrangements and working modalities.

12. Enhanced international cooperation and assistance.