



The Timber Trade Federation

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RMJ/AJ

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Simon Counsell,
Forests Campaigner,
Friends of the Earth,
26-28 Underwood Street,
London,
N1 2JQ.

Dear Simon

The Director General has passed me your letter dated 13 August 1993 and asked me to reply. Forgive me for not doing so sooner but I wished to await the conclusion of the TTF's discussions with AIMEX. As you know an interim agreement is now in place and I believe you have the details.

You seem to have deliberately misread Mr Harris's previous letter. The TTF does not "recognise that timber is being sourced illegally from Para" but we were aware of the allegations and customer concerns - hence the NRA/AIMEX agreement.

Whilst this agreement only covers Para, we are currently working with shippers in other states to find a similar resolution and we will announce the results once discussions are completed.

In the interim, I have read your CEDI document on Brazil and can only express my surprise that, if the evidence is as incontrovertible as you suggest, NDI or another similar group has not pursued these cases in Brazilian courts.

As you are aware the Courts are active. They have penalised two small logging companies and the injunction against three major companies has been reinstated. As a Federation we are content to abide by the law of Brazil perhaps Friends of the Earth would care to do the same?

Yours sincerely
Michael James

MICHAEL JAMES

CC. Director General, TTF