

**(c) Administering body****(1) In general**

Funds disbursed from the Americas Fund in each beneficiary country shall be administered by a body constituted under the laws of that country.

**(2) Composition**

The administering body shall consist of—

(A) one or more individuals appointed by the United States Government,

(B) one or more individuals appointed by the government of the beneficiary country, and

(C) individuals who represent a broad range of—

(i) environmental nongovernmental organizations of the beneficiary country,

(ii) child survival and child development nongovernmental organizations of the beneficiary country,

(iii) local community development nongovernmental organizations of the beneficiary country, and

(iv) scientific or academic organizations or institutions of the beneficiary country.

A majority of the members of the administering body shall be individuals described in subparagraph (C).

**(3) Responsibilities**

The administering body—

(A) shall receive proposals for grant assistance from eligible grant recipients (as determined under subsection (e) of this section) and make grants to eligible grant recipients in accordance with the priorities agreed upon in the Americas Framework Agreement, consistent with subsection (d) of this section;

(B) shall be responsible for the management of the program and oversight of grant activities funded from resources of the Americas Fund;

(C) shall be subject, on an annual basis, to an audit of financial statements conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by an independent auditor;

(D) shall be required to grant to representatives of the United States Government Accountability Office such access to books and records associated with operations of the Americas Fund as the Comptroller General of the United States may request;

(E) shall present an annual program for review each year by the Enterprise for the Americas Board; and

(F) shall submit a report each year on the activities that it undertook during the previous year to the Chair of the Enterprise for the Americas Board and to the government of the beneficiary country.

**(d) Eligible activities**

Grants from an Americas Fund shall be used for—

(1) activities that link the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources with local community development; and

(2) child survival and other child development activities.

**(e) Grant recipients**

Grants made from an Americas Fund shall be made to—

(1) nongovernmental environmental, conservation, child survival and child development, development, and indigenous peoples organizations of the beneficiary country;

(2) other appropriate local or regional entities; and

(3) in exceptional circumstances, the government of the beneficiary country.

**(f) Review of larger grants**

Any grant of more than \$100,000 from an Americas Fund shall be subject to veto by the Government of the United States or the government of the beneficiary country.

**(g) Eligibility criteria**

In the event that a country ceases to meet the eligibility requirements set forth in section 2430b(a) of this title, as determined by the President pursuant to section 2430b(b) of this title, then grants from the Americas Fund for that country may only be made to nongovernmental organizations until such time as the President determines that such country meets the eligibility requirements set forth in section 2430b(a) of this title.

(Pub. L. 87-195, pt. IV, §708, as added Pub. L. 102-549, title VI, §602(a), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3667; amended Pub. L. 108-271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 708 of Pub. L. 87-195, pt. IV, Sept. 4, 1961, 75 Stat. 464, amended sections 1041, 1112, 1136, 1148, and 1157 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 87-565, pt. IV, §401, Aug. 1, 1962, 76 Stat. 263, except insofar as section 708 affected sections 1041, 1112, 1136, 1148, and 1157.

## AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (c)(3)(D). Pub. L. 108-271 substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office”.

**§ 2430h. Enterprise for the Americas Board**

For purposes of this subchapter, the Enterprise for the Americas Board shall—

(1) advise the Secretary of State on the negotiations of Americas Framework Agreements;

(2) ensure, in consultation with—

(A) the government of the beneficiary country,

(B) nongovernmental organizations of the beneficiary country,

(C) nongovernmental organizations of the region (if appropriate),

(D) environmental, scientific, child survival and child development, and academic leaders of the beneficiary country, and

(E) environmental, scientific, child survival and child development, and academic leaders of the region (as appropriate),

that a suitable administering body is identified for each Americas Fund; and

(3) review the programs, operations, and fiscal audits of each administering body.

(Pub. L. 87-195, pt. IV, §709, as added Pub. L. 102-549, title VI, §602(a), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3668.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 709 of Pub. L. 87-195, pt. IV, Sept. 4, 1961, 75 Stat. 465, amended section 279a of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 87-565, pt. IV, §401, Aug. 1, 1962, 76 Stat. 263, except insofar as section 709 affected section 279a.

**§ 2430i. Annual reports to Congress**

The annual reports submitted pursuant to section 1738m of title 7 shall include a description of each Americas Framework Agreement and a description of any grants that have been extended by administering bodies pursuant to an Americas Framework Agreement.

(Pub. L. 87-195, pt. IV, §710, as added Pub. L. 102-549, title VI, §602(a), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 3669; amended Pub. L. 110-246, title III, §3001(b)(1)(A), (2)(Q), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1820.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 710 of Pub. L. 87-195, pt. IV, Sept. 4, 1961, 75 Stat. 465, amended section 276 of this title and enacted provisions set out as a note under section 276 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 87-565, pt. IV, §401, Aug. 1, 1962, 76 Stat. 263, except insofar as section 710 affected section 276.

## AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-246 made technical amendment to reference in original act which appears in text as reference to section 1738m of title 7.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, see section 4(b) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

## SUBCHAPTER IV—DEBT REDUCTION FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITH TROPICAL FORESTS

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior subchapter IV, Indochina Postwar Reconstruction, consisted of sections 2431 to 2435, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 94-329, title IV, §413(a), June 30, 1976, 90 Stat. 761.

**§ 2431. Findings and purposes****(a) Findings**

The Congress finds the following:

(1) It is the established policy of the United States to support and seek protection of tropical forests around the world.

(2) Tropical forests provide a wide range of benefits to humankind by—

(A) harboring a major share of the Earth's biological and terrestrial resources, which are the basis for developing pharmaceutical products and revitalizing agricultural crops;

(B) playing a critical role as carbon sinks in reducing greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, thus moderating potential global climate change; and

(C) regulating hydrological cycles on which far-flung agricultural and coastal resources depend.

(3) International negotiations and assistance programs to conserve forest resources have proliferated over the past decade, but the

rapid rate of tropical deforestation continues unabated.

(4) Developing countries with urgent needs for investment and capital for development have allocated a significant amount of their forests to logging concessions.

(5) Poverty and economic pressures on the populations of developing countries have, over time, resulted in clearing of vast areas of forest for conversion to agriculture, which is often unsustainable in the poor soils underlying tropical forests.

(6) Debt reduction can reduce economic pressures on developing countries and result in increased protection for tropical forests.

(7) Finding economic benefits to local communities from sustainable uses of tropical forests is critical to the protection of tropical forests.

**(b) Purposes**

The purposes of this subchapter are—

(1) to recognize the values received by United States citizens from protection of tropical forests;

(2) to facilitate greater protection of tropical forests (and to give priority to protecting tropical forests with the highest levels of biodiversity and under the most severe threat) by providing for the alleviation of debt in countries where tropical forests are located, thus allowing the use of additional resources to protect these critical resources and reduce economic pressures that have led to deforestation;

(3) to ensure that resources freed from debt in such countries are targeted to protection of tropical forests and their associated values; and

(4) to rechannel existing resources to facilitate the protection of tropical forests.

(Pub. L. 87-195, pt. V, §802, as added Pub. L. 105-214, §1, July 29, 1998, 112 Stat. 885.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2431, Pub. L. 87-195, pt. V, §801, as added Pub. L. 93-189, §24, Dec. 17, 1973, 87 Stat. 728, authorized the President to furnish assistance for relief and reconstruction of South Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 94-329, title IV, §413(a), June 30, 1976, 90 Stat. 761.

A prior section 802 of Pub. L. 87-195, pt. V, was classified to section 2432 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 94-329.

## SHORT TITLE

For short title of this subchapter as the “Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998”, see section 801 of Pub. L. 87-195, set out as a note under section 2151 of this title.

**§ 2431a. Definitions**

As used in this subchapter:

**(1) Administering body**

The term “administering body” means the entity provided for in section 2431g(c) of this title.

**(2) Appropriate congressional committees**

The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on International Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and