

RACEWOOD –Pointe Noire - Congo– 29-30 September 2011

RACEWOOD 2011 will take place in Pointe Noire, in September 2011. The RACEWOOD meetings promote partnerships between European timber importers and African producers of tropical wood. This is the major event for the timber industry in Africa.

RACEWOOD 2011, the 4th edition after Gabon, Ghana and Cameroon in 2011, you can visit **the exhibition of wooden houses** sponsored by the Ministry of the Environment, the Forest Economy and the Sustainable development of the Republic of Congo. You can admire **the magnificent wooden house awarded by the big Jury of architects'** competition realized with the support of the Foundation Chirac and the ATIBT. Finally, at the conclusion of RACEWOOD, on October 1st, you will spend **an unforgettable day of discovery of the South Congo.**

The choice of Congo

With more 5,3 million hectares under FSC certification, the Congo Basin has become the world's largest surface area of certified natural forests. Three important companies have so far been certified in Congo: Rougier Mokabi- CIB/Olam and IFO (Danzer).

The forest of Congo is about 22,5 Mha (FAO on 2010) and count some 300 known species. Approximately about ten species are exploited among which the sipo, the sapelli, the ayous, the bossé etc. Companies make more elaborated products. Around thirty industrial forest companies produce sawing, veneers, plywoods and finished products. Thus Congo has a wood sector with great potential. Within the framework of FLEGT, Congo signed in May, 2010 a voluntary APV partnership agreement to fight against the Illegal wood. The first license Flegt will be submitt from 2013.

An attractive program in only 2 days

In Europe, in Asia as in Africa, the competition and the research for new markets become intensified. RACEWOOD is the unique opportunity for all the professionals of this economic sector to make business in a friendly atmosphere.

This is also the occasion to discuss on **the future of the forest concession**, to get ready for **the new rules FLEGT** on the European market, to take advantage of opportunities connected to **the development of the wood-processing in Africa**. In only two days, all the professionals of the tropical wood sector will be informed about the last novelties, the trends which will mark the sector in the years to come, around a program of conferences made by the best experts.

The new RACEWOOD website will be online (registration forms, practical & touristic information, accommodation and flights) as from May 2009 on www.racewood.com

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