

**The minute of the 2/2017 AHWG meeting on LD Field Testing
On July 19th, 2017 at Ruaypanya 2 meeting room,
Maruay Garden Hotel ,Bangkok**

Ad-Hoc Working Group

1. Mr.Chonlatit Surasawadi Director General, RFD
2. Ms.Pantalika Pongchababnapa Trade Technical Officer Professional Level, Foreign Trade Department
3. Pol.Col. Worasak Bandit Inspector Superintendent, Crime Suppression Division About Natural Resources and Environment
4. Mr. Warapoph Chuainukul Legal Officer, Professional Level, Agricultural Land Reform Office
5. Mr. Narongchai Chonlaphap Chief of Forest Research and Development Bureau, Forrest Industrial Organization
6. Ms. Chonlanet Prechacharuensri Forestry Technical Officer Professional Level, Forest Land Management Division, RFD
7. Mr. Niwat Luengborisut Chief of private forest plantation, Reforestation Promotion Division, RFD
8. Mr. Piya Kengpenkhae Legal Officer, Practitioner Level, Forestry Law Division, RFD
9. Mr. Montree Nuchanong Forestry Technical Officer Professional Level, Permission Division, RFD
10. Mr. Prateep Lisakulruk Forestry Technical Officer Professional Level, Forest-checkpoint Division, RFD
11. Mr. Rattana Thaingam Forestry Technical Officer Senior Professional Level Forest Research and Development Bureau, RFD
12. Mr. Trakul Sawangarom President of Community forest network in 5 province of eastern forest complex
13. Mr. Wichian Sattathara President of Mueng Ling Family Forest Network, Surin
14. Mr. Phongsa Choonam President of Tree Bank
15. Mrs. Yingluck Patiphanthewa President of Private Forest Plantation Cooperative Limited
16. Mr. Jirawat Tangkijngamwong President of Thai Timber Association
17. MS. Rungnapa Wattanavichian TFCC manager, The Federation of Thai Industries
18. Mr.Pingsun Wang Secretary of Thai Panel Product Industry Club
19. Asst.Prof. Ethipol Srisaowalak Legal expert
20. Mr. Poramet Payapsatan FLEGT-VPA Project Coordinator, RECOFTC
21. Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontorn Director of Forestry Certification Office, Permission Division, RFD

Absentees

1. Representative of the Department of Trade Negotiations
2. Representative of the Customs Department
3. Representative of Planning and Information Technology Bureau, RFD
4. Representative of Community Enterprise Network
5. Representative of Sustainable Development Foundation (SDF)
6. Representative of the Board of Trade of Thailand
7. Representative of the Sawmill Association
8. Representative of Forestry Faculty, Kasetsart University
9. Director, Permission Bureau

Attendees

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Mrs. Sutthiya Chantawarangul | Programme Officer, Delegation of the European Union to Thailand Cooperation |
| 2. | Dr. Somrudee Nicro | FLEGT Facilitator for Thailand, EFI |
| 3. | Ms. Erica J.Pohnan | Consultant FAO-FLEGT Programme Asia-Pacific, FAO |
| 4. | Mr. Jhongsathit Aungvitayatorn | Project assistant, FAO-FLEGT Programme Asia-Pacific, FAO |
| 5. | Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk | Thai-EU FLEGT Focal Point |
| 6. | Acting Sub Lt. Phummirat Nak-Udom | Forestry Technical Officer Practitional Level, Permission Division, RFD |
| 7. | Mr. Ronnarit Chumkhuntod | Forestry Officer, Professional Level, Forest Protection and Fire, RFD RFControl Bureau |
| 8. | Ms.Pavinee Chapanon | Trade Officer Practitioner Level, Department of Foreign Trade |
| 9. | Ms. Wasu Vipoosanapat | Project Officer, Information and Communication, RECOFTC |
| 10. | Ms. Yaowarin Srichainan | Private Forest Plantation Cooperative Limited |
| 11. | Ms. Pawinee Udommai | Legal Officer |
| 12. | Mr. Wiroat Kanaphongsa | Manager of Thai Panel Product Industry Club |
| 13. | Mr. Piyapong Tammpanya | TFCC |
| 14. | Mrs. Arunwan Petchsang | Manager of Thai Hevea Wood Association |
| 15. | Mr. Thanun Ounkomol | The Federation of Thai Industries |
| 16. | Mr. O-Phad Panthong | General Administration Bureau, RFD |
| 17. | Mr. Warakorn Kasempansakul | Forestry Technical Officer Professional Level, RFD |

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|--|
| 18. | Ms. Preeyanun Muengsan | Forestry Technical Officer Practitioner Level,
Reforestation Promotion Office |
| 19. | Ms. Nongnut Sae-Jia | Forestry Technical Officer Professional Level,
Permission Bureau, RFD |
| 20. | Ms.Pitchaya Wetchasa | Coordinator, Thai - EU FLEGT Secretariat Office |
| 21. | Ms. Chatdinee Konman | Coordinator, Thai - EU FLEGT Secretariat Office |
| 22. | Ms. Panjit Tansom | Technical Consultant, Thai - EU FLEGT Secretariat
Office (TEFSO) |
| 23. | Ms. Isiyanee Samrit | Database Officer, Thai - EU FLEGT Secretariat Office (TEFSO) |
| 24. | Ms. Kessara Sanmongkol | Operation Officer, Thai - EU FLEGT Secretariat
Office (TEFSO) |

The meeting started at 13.30 P.M.

Mr. Chonlatit Surasawadi, the Director General of RFD, is the chairman of the 2/2017 Ad-Hoc Working Group Meeting on LD Field Testing participated by 45 participants from government sector, Civil Society sector, and Private sector. The meeting proceeded according to the agenda as follows.

Agenda Item 1 Chairman's report
N/A

Agenda Item 2 Approval the minute of the 1/2017 Ad-Hoc Working Group Meeting on TLAS on April 25th, 2017
The meeting did not edit the minute.
Resolution The meeting adopted the minute.

Agenda Item 3 Accordance with the minute of the 1/2017 Ad-Hoc Working Group Meeting on TLAS on April 25th, 2017

According to the previous AHWG meeting, the meeting assigned TEFSO collect the output and commend from the meeting as a reference for LD Field test consultants in order to develop TLAS structure. TEFSO had accomplished the assignment.

Ms. Pantalika Pongchababnapa, a Trade Technical Officer, Professional Level, a representative from Foreign Trade Department, informed the meeting that FTD is in the process for considering Foreign Trade Department announcement/regulation on import and export timber/wood products. The meeting continuously confer with the relevant government agencies and is going to give authorize on issues log, transformed timber, sawn timber and transplanting tree exporting licensing to the Royal Forest Department. There will be another meeting to conclude the issue in this August. Before submitting the resolution to the cabinet, there should be public hearing process.

Resolution The meeting acknowledged.

Agenda Item 4 Notification

4.1 The outcome of JEM2 and The first FLEGT VPA Negotiation between Thai and EU, presented by RFD.

Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontorn, the Director of Forestry Certification Office (FCO), Permission Division, RFD reported the outcome of JEM2 and The first FLEGT VPA Negotiation between Thai and EU as following;

- Negotiation committee on FLEGT VPA agreed to take Bamboo pulp (HS Code 470630: fibre from pulp and paper or re-useable paperboard (un-useable fragments and parts) – others from bamboo out of Product scope annex since bamboo pulp is not specified in EUTR.
- The Negotiation committee agreed to take charcoal out of LD since it is not specified in EUTR.

Mr. Phongsa Choonam, the president of Tree Bank, proposed that the summary of NEG1 should be in detail and specified regulations, which have to be addressed in the summary as well.

Director of FCO informed the meeting that the minutes of JEM2 and NEG1 are on reviewing process by EU side. When the process is complete, TEFSO will circulate to all committee to review/edit and get the approval from both sides then TEFSO will translate them into Thai.

Resolution The meeting acknowledged that TEFSO will circulate the minutes of JEM2 and NEG1 to Thai committee later.

4.2 To inform the meeting on the lasted amended LD Matrix

Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontorn, the director of FCO informed the meeting that in LD matrix, operator 6: transportation was divided into operator 1-5 and operator 7 export operator becomes operator 6.

Resolution The meeting acknowledged.

4.3 LD Field Testing Methodology presented by Ms. Pawinee Udommai.

Ms. Pawinee Udommai, an LD Field Test consultant, presented the methodology and process on LD field-testing. The objectives of the project are;

- 1) To identify strength and weakness of lasted LD.
- 2) To identify the practicality of the LD as the basis of a system of legal verification
- 3) To establish the applicability and relevance of the requirements and the verifiers
- 4) To identify gaps, weakness or inconsistencies in the legality definition or circumstances where the LD is insufficient or inadequate to cover the situations found in the field
- 5) To establish the applicability and relevance of the requirements and the verifiers
- 6) To establish the practical and efficient requirements, indicators, and verifiers under field verification condition.

The LD field-testing project is implementing between July – September 2017. It is grouped into 3 teams to audit in 58 sites (Annex 1).

Mr. Phongsa Choonam, the president of Tree Bank, suggested that the number of sampling site should not be considered priority but the auditors should focus on every issues is thoroughly audited. He also suggested that the project should audit the operators who have plantation permit and the operators who are still in the submitting registration process waiting to be permitted. The project consultant explained that the testing is under the LD. The procedure that Mr. Phongsa mentioned is not in the objectives of the project. However there is the transparency part that can be placed the mentioned issue as an indicator of the testing.

Mr.Phongsa reiterated that the owner can verify legality of component-part timber by themselves follow the Civil and Commercial Code 154 mentioned that standing timber is the component-part of land. However, herbaceous plant or paddy which can be harvested one or more time per year is not belong under component-part of land.

Mr. Poramet Payapsatan, a FLEGT-VPA Project Coordinator, RECOFTC, proposed to identify pros and cons of the current national certification system; for example FSC, TFCC, E-tree, and NSW to establish the linkage among those system and FLEGT.

Moreover, Mr.Poramet also proposed the relevant agencies to check the current status of Sor Tor Kor site (National Forest Land allotment) on the renewal of Land use rights. However it should be cut off from LD since it is no longer exist in addition to review the agreement of the harvesting on national land policy project (Kor Tor Chor site) which the land of reserve forest has been allocated to people by government agency. It should be added to LD in case the contents are related.

Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontorn, the director of FCO clarified the meeting that Thai TLAS is the only verification system of Thailand, which exported goods will only go through this channel. For e-tree, it was designed to complete the gap of unregistered-plantation timber and verification under T.I.S.4061, PEFC, and FSC are option to top up the competing ability in the international market.

Mr. Narongchai Chonlaphap, Chief of Forest Research and Development Bureau, Forrest Industrial Organization, questioned the consultant which method or tool will be used to analyze data after the field test. The consultant explained that all data will be collected following the designed checklist including commends, and other information collected from field-testing in order to develop LD.

Mrs. Sutthiya Chantawarangul, a programme Officer, Delegation of the European Union to Thailand Cooperation, added that the main objectives of the project is to test whether LD's verifiers is practical? EU is welcomed to fund co-participants and experts. However the auditor team at least 2 teams must continue the implement to sustain the LD auditing process in the future. It is also welcome the observer to join the field test.

Thai Hevea Wood Association request to send observers to join the project and Mrs. Arunwan Petchsang, a manager of Thai Hevea Wood Association, offer herself to coordinate with Rubber Authority Organization of Thailand to seek for those observers.

Resolution The meeting acknowledged the methodology of LD field-testing.

Agenda Item 5: Discussion

Ms. Pawinee Udommai, an LD Field Test consultant, discussed with the meeting on the process and appropriated field test sites including gathering co-participants list who respond as a main coordinator in every site. (Annex 2)

Resolution The meeting agreed with the consultant on field test sites.

Agenda Item 6 Other matters

- The presentation on funding process of FAO-EU FLEGT programme by FAO officer.

Ms. Erica J.Pohnan, a consultant FAO-FLEGT Programme Asia-Pacific, FAO, presented a new call for proposal in Thailand. In this year, the context framework of the proposal must related and support FLEGT VPA process including the negotiation, building understanding and knowledge on FLEGT VPA all over Thailand, participation, discussion on import/export timber among border countries, stakeholders participation on researching, problem solving testing methodology, and other related capacity building on FLEGT VPA process related issues. The adopted proposal will get the fund maximum 4 million THB. The duration of each proposal is 12 -15 months. For more information please access at <http://www.fao.org/>.

Resolution The meeting acknowledged.

Agenda Item 7 Date and Venue of next meeting

The next 3/2017 AHWG meeting will be hold on August 29th, 2017. The main objective is to discuss on importing timber verification, DDS, unrestricted species verification, and product scope especially the furniture timeline. Beside Mr. Phongsa also proposed to discuss gap/issue paper progress in the next meeting as well.

If there are other matters to discuss, please inform TEFSO before the next meeting in order to arrange the efficient agenda and make the best outcome as expected.

Resolution The meeting acknowledged.

Next step

- 1) The consultant will send the summary the number of sites and considering select sites to cover as planned to TEFSO to circulate the document via email in order to fill the needed information such as co-participants name and sites which cannot be concluded at the meeting to AHWG.
- 2) TEFSO collected all data to coordinate and set up the schedule then circulate to AHWG.
- 3) TEFSO will circulate the draft minutes of JEM2 and NEG1 to Thai committee.

The meeting finished at 16.30 hr.

Ms. Isiyanee Samrit
Minute Taker

Ms.Kessara Sanmongkol
Minute Translator

Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontorn
Minute verifier