



28th Monthly Report on Working Progress of TEFSO in Jun 2016

In Jun 2016, TEFSO has performed the following tasks:

1. THE 15TH MEETING OF THE ASEAN WORKING GROUP ON A PAN ASEAN TIMBER CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE (15th WG-PATCI)

The Fifteenth Meeting of the Working Group on a Pan ASEAN Timber Certification Initiative (15th WG-PATCI) was held on 2-3 June 2016 in Thai Elephant Conservation Center, Lampang Province, THAILAND. The Meeting was attended by delegates from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam and the representatives from ASEAN Secretariat. The European Union Forest Law Enforcement and Governance and Trade (EU-FLEGT) Facility, FAO-FLEGT Programme and Responsible Asia Forestry and Trade – The Nature Conservancy (RAFT-TNC) were also present at the Meeting.

The representative from ASEAN Secretariat reported the output and matters arising from the 18th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF), and presented roadmap for ASEAN member state during 2016-2015, The meeting also exchanged the information and experiences on country preparation for negotiation with the EU on a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA). The next meeting of 16th WG-PATCI will be arranged at Viet Nam.

2. The meeting between Chinese representatives and RFD officers on traceability of timber

Mr. Xu Xinjian, Director, Division of Development Planning and Fund Management, China's State Forestry Administration (SFA) visited Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontron, Director of Thai-EU Secretariat Office and Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk Director of International Forestry Cooperation Office and RFD officers. The meeting aimed to support in exchanging and collaboration on timber trade between the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Thailand. By the way, the representatives of PRC are interested in FLEGT process and Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) in Thailand. They also asked some questions on exporting and relevant documents, classification of illegal timber and required RFD officers to update new regulation and law for more understanding.



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3. FLEGT VPA Ad-Hoc Working group meeting on LD and Gap paper discussion no.3/2016

On Monday, 13 Jun 2016, TEFSO arranged FLEGT VPA Ad-Hoc WG meeting on LD and Gap paper discussion no.3/2016. Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk, Director of International Forestry Cooperation Office was assigned by Mr.Pralong Damrongthai, RFD DDG to be the chairman of the meeting, This meeting continued from FLEGT VPA Ad-Hoc WG meeting no.2/2016 on 26 May 2016, Ad-Hoc Working group discussed on Gap issue paper which the comments was collected from consultation process in the regionals by LD consultants, Mr.Rod Nixon and Ms.Pawinee Udommai. The meeting revised text and contents in Gap paper appropriately. However the final version of Gap paper will be presented to permanent secretariat to solve the problems in high level.

4. Recruitment for Coordinator Assistance

Thai – EU FLEGT Secretariat Office recruited TOR officer for Coordinator assistance position, there are 3 officers, Ms. Piraya Buddhasri, Ms. Pajaree Yimsuan and Ms.Thanaporn Chotemanee has passed paper test and oral interview for this position. However, the new officers will perform at TEFSO on the 1st of Jun 2016.

5. TEFSO 4 progress report

In June 2016, Thai – EU FLEGT Secretariat Office submitted report on “Strengthening the TEFSO to support FLEGT VPA negotiations” phase 3 From 1 April to 30 June 2016 which was supported by EU – FAO FLEGT program.