



1st Monthly Progress Report of Thailand-EU FLEGT VPA Secretariat Office (TEFSO)
for May 2014

In May 2014, TEFSO has performed the following tasks:

Translations of the Meeting and FLEGT VPA Related Documents

(For more details please visit www.forest.go.th/th_flegt)

- Translated minute of the 1st Thailand-EU Joint Expert Meeting (JEM) from English into Thai
- Translated the Letter of Agreement (LoA) between FAO and Forest Certification Office under the EU FAO FLEGT project from English into Thai
- Translated the handbook for general public in applying for certificate of wood, wood products, and charcoal to export out of the country from Thai into English, to be guidelines for the public in preparation for the AEC in the end of year 2015
- Translated the presentation on “Development of the Thai Legality Definition” presented by Dr. Alexander Hinrichs in the FLEGT Follow-up and Operational Planning Meeting on 12 May 2014 from English into Thai for publication

FLEGT VPA Related Meeting

- Organized the FLEGT Follow-up and Operational Planning Meeting on 12 May 2014 at the Royal Forest Department between the Royal Forest Department, EU, FAO, private sector, and civil society. The key points and summary are as follows:

- Two Administrative Assistants have started working in this May. The Royal Forest Department has rented the venue on the 3rd floor of Kasetsart University Alumni Association to tentatively be the temporary office. The permanent office will be settled in the Royal Forest Department
- The Meeting agreed that all parties will participate in the process of drafting legality definition and scheduled the meeting for drafting the LD to be on 16 June

2014. The Royal Forest Department in collaboration with Mr. Jirawat Tangkitngamwong, President of Thai Timber Association, will draft the modules to use as a model of the LD and forward to all parties involved for comments and suggestions.

- The Meeting agreed to postpone drafting the LoA 2 and focus on finishing a draft legality definition. First, the responsibilities of the Working Group are needed to be specified more clearly. Ms. Somying Suntornwong from RECOFTC will prepare concept note to assist the Royal Forest Department to scope the work method of the Working Group.

- Prepare for the Meeting of Ad-hoc Working Group on Legality Definition on 16 June 2014, which will focus on drafting the legality definition in accordance with the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) process. The draft legality definition is to be used for the 1st negotiation with the EU.

Recruitment of Technical Consultant

- The Royal Forest Department published “Vacancy Announcement for Technical Consultant position under the project of Strengthening National Capacity of Thailand to Implement FLEGT” dated 6 May 2014, defining the applicants to submit their resumes and relevant documents to TEFISO within 26 May 2014 at 16:00 hrs. After the deadline, there are 4 qualified applicants for the position. The interview session will be held in 5 June 2014 at 09:30-16:30 hrs at the Royal Forest Department.
