



Records of Discussion

JOINT IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Jakarta, 8 July 2015

Introduction

The Meeting was co-chaired by Dr Putera Parthama representing the Government of Indonesia and Mr Colin Crooks representing the European Union. The co-chairs gave opening remarks emphasising the need to have a significant decision towards the full implementation of FLEGT licensing during this 3rd Joint Implementation Committee (JIC).

The Meeting was attended by more than 30 participants including representatives from Ministries of Environment and Forestry, Finance, Foreign Affairs, Trade, Industry, and civil society, private sector the EU delegation, EU Member states, MFP3, and EFI.

Agenda 1. Endorsement of the updated Joint Action Plan

Indonesia and the EU endorsed the updated joint Action Plan, including all follow up actions listed. The Meeting also agreed to issue a public summary of the updated Action Plan for stakeholders to review.

Agenda 2. Update on Independent Monitoring

The Independent Monitoring (IM) representative reported progress towards data availability while acknowledging remaining challenges on timing and format of requested data. The IM also reported on good progress and favourable discussions on security and options for sustainable funding to independent monitors. The EU welcomed the progress on the issue and noted that there is an evident will from both the Independent Monitors and the Ministry to address and resolve remaining issues.

Agenda 3. Update on the revision of the SVLK regulation

The Meeting took note of the amendment on SVLK regulation and the recommendations from the technical team. The meeting agreed that the next JEM will consider and agree on recorded changes and provide them as inputs to a necessary future VPA Annex revision.

Agenda 4. Formal decision on revised VPA Annexes, RoP, and RoA

The meeting agreed to give its formal approval to the revised VPA Annexes, the Rules of Procedure and the Rules of Arbitration.

Agenda 5. Endorsement of Annual Report

The JIC Secretariat reported on the status of the report writing which is now about final with inputs from both sides. Translations of the report will be done in Bahasa Indonesia, French and Spanish.

Both sides expressed their appreciation for the work of the JIC Secretariat to prepare the Annual Report. The Meeting agreed to endorse this first JIC Annual Report.

Agenda 6. Recommendation on FLEGT licensing

Both parties agreed the following 3rd JIC recommendation:

"On the basis of the report of the Joint Working Group, including through a recent field visit by resource persons from the EU and Indonesia, the two Parties welcomed the significant progress in the implementation of the Joint Action Plan on the Advancement of VPA Implementation. In particular, the JIC took note that the SVLK roll-out has significantly progressed over the past six months, while noting remaining ongoing data collection as well as remaining challenges in key areas, particularly progress towards compliance with all VPA provisions, certification of new timber utilization permits (IPK) including on conversion areas, access to information needed for independent monitoring of the SVLK, entry into force of the import regulation and well documented progress towards roll-out of the SVLK to all segments of the timber industry in Indonesia. The JIC expressed confidence that the prospect of FLEGT licensing would give Indonesia's products an advantage on the EU market and other markets and further accelerate the integration of all stakeholders into the system.

The JIC took note that completion of the joint action plan is expected by end 2015 and recommended that the Parties initiate their respective internal adoption procedures in order to enable the prompt start of FLEGT licensing as soon as the actions in the aforementioned joint action plan have been addressed.

The JIC welcomed this decisive step towards FLEGT licensing and agreed to reconvene at a later date to verify progress and agree on the date from which the FLEGT licensing scheme will start operating."

Agenda 7. Other Matters

a. Joint press release and joint friendly email

The Meeting adopted the joint press release and friendly email and agreed to issue these documents to media and direct stakeholders.

b. Communicating about FLEGT licensed timber

The Head of Communications of the EU FLEGT Facility provided a presentation to help the JIC consider communications options around the preparations and start of issuing FLEGT licensed timber.

c. Next JWG and JEM

Both sides agreed to have the next JWG meeting on Friday, 18 September. The next JEM will take place on Tuesday, 22 September.

d. EU e-Licensing initiative

EFI mentioned that the developers of EU e-licensing initiative are interested to work with the Indonesian side, which was welcomed.

Closing

The Co-chairs delivered their closing remarks.