UPDATES ON TIMBER LEGALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Forest Management Bureau
7th Regional Training Workshop on Timber Legality Assurance
Jakarta, Indonesia 19-21 November 2019
BASIC FORESTRY DATA – Land Classification

Total Land Area - 29,987,008 ha

15,792,333 hectares (53%)
14,194,675 hectares (47%)

Source: NAMRIA as presented in the DENR Execom, 2014
Extent of Natural Forest Cover Loss in the last 100 years
ASEAN Economic Blueprint outlined the key criteria & indicators for SFM ensuring MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO VERIFY LEGAL ORIGIN OF TIMBER.

ASEAN developed & approved 6 Elements of the ASEAN Criteria and Indicators for Legality of Timber within the Phased-Approach to Forest Certification

1. Compliance with all relevant forestry laws & regulations
2. Payment of statutory charges
3. CITES compliance
4. Implementation of a system that allows tracking of logs to the forest of origin (back-to-the-stump)
5. Timber harvested by parties who have legal rights
6. Comply with social & environmental aspects laws
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASEAN TIMBER LEGALITY ASSURANCE CRITERIA</th>
<th>PHILIPPINE LEGAL COMPLIANCE (documentary compliance)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Compliance with all relevant forestry laws &amp; regulations</td>
<td>All entities that harvest timber are in possession of valid permit or license issued by appropriate authorities (Presidential Decree No. 705 - Basic Forestry Law in the Philippines.)</td>
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<td>2. Payment of statutory fees &amp; charges</td>
<td>DENR Administrative Order No. 2000-21 (Payment of forest charges for natural grown trees); DAO 1999-53 (Government share); DAO 2004-16 (Administrative fees; etc); Republic Act No. 7161 (re Forest charges) DAO 2004-30 (Annual Rental Fee)</td>
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<td>3. CITES compliance</td>
<td>DENR Administrative Order No. 2007-01 (list of threatened species), Except specific provisions of the agreement or licenses. Bans cutting of Agathis Philippinensis, all mangrove species, etc</td>
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<td>5. Timber harvested by parties who have legal rights to carry out the logging at designated forest based on an approved plans</td>
<td>Based on approved Comprehensive Development Management Plans, Five-Year Indicative Operations Plan, Indicative Plans, Community Resource Management Framework (pursuant to numerous existing guidelines on the matter)</td>
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<td>6. Party who harvest the timber shall comply with the laws governing social and environmental aspects.</td>
<td>Presidential Decree 1586 (Philippine Environmental Impact Assessment System), Republic Act 8371 (Indigenous Peoples Rights Act Law for Free &amp; Prior Informed Consent or FPIC)</td>
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INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN IN PREPARATION FOR TIMBER LEGALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM
1. Formulation of a national guideline on national certification scheme
   -in-progress

   -- Review of the Phil. Criteria & Indicators for SFM
   -- Aligned it with international Certification standards for accreditation purposes
   -- Includes forest certification for FMUs & Chain-of-Custody for wood traders
2. Development and Testing of a National Forest Stock Monitoring System (NFSMS) with Improved Governance Capabilities at All Levels of Forest Governance
3. Formulated & implemented the Five-Year National Forest Protection Program of the country

-- Use & application of state of the-art technology in forest protection & law enforcement
-- Provision of logistical support by the government for effective FLE
-- Neutralize identified illegal logging hotspots by 2016
-- Equip & capacitate forest officers for improved FLE works
4. Promoting Tree Plantation Development and Liberalizing Harvesting and Transport of Planted Trees

--there shall be a Forest Certifier accredited by DENR FMB to certify veracity and correctness of harvested and transported logs and derivatives
THANK YOU

SALAMAT PO

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