

## Indonesia, the first country to issue FLEGT Licences



30 September 2019

Dear colleague,

We would like to update you about our progress in implementing the Indonesia-EU FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) to combat illegal logging and foster good forest governance.

We are pleased to confirm that, on 15 November 2016, Indonesia will become the first country in the world to issue FLEGT licences. The first FLEGT-licensed products from Indonesia will therefore reach the EU market this year.

EU Timber Regulation prohibits operators in the EU from placing illegally harvested timber and products derived from illegal timber on the EU market. Indonesia's FLEGT-licensed timber products will automatically meet the due diligence requirements of the EUTR.

Any Indonesian timber products listed in the VPA's amended annex on product scope, and shipped to the EU after 15 November, will not be permitted to enter the EU market unless they are FLEGT-licensed.

The EU has already completed internal procedures to recognise FLEGT licences from Indonesia.

The Indonesia-EU Joint Implementation Committee (JIC) set the date for FLEGT licensing to begin when it met in Yogyakarta on 15 September 2016.

The JIC also agreed on joint activities until the end of 2017 through which the EU and Indonesia will oversee the continual implementation and improvement of Indonesia's timber legality assurance system, and the monitoring the impacts of the VPA.

A report on the JIC meeting will be published on the websites of the [Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry](#) and the [EU Delegation to Indonesia](#), the [EU FLEGT Facility](#) and the [Multistakeholder Forestry Programme](#).

Best regards,

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**Mr. Vincent Guérend**

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