



**THE 21st MEETING OF
THE ASEAN WORKING GROUP ON FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT
(21st AWG-FPD)**

9-10 July 2018, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

INTRODUCTION

1. The Meeting was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 9-10 July 2018. The Meeting was attended by delegates from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam and the ASEAN Secretariat. The List of Delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

OPENING SESSION

2. Dr. Nyi Nyi Kyaw, Director General of Forest Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Myanmar warmly welcomed all delegates to Nay Pyi Taw to the 21st Meeting of the AWG-FPD. He underlined the vision for the ASEAN cooperation in forestry that *“Forest resources are sustainably managed at the landscape level to meet social needs, both socio-economically and culturally, of the present and future generations, and to contribute positively to sustainable development”*. He also highlighted several issues related to the importance of sustainability managed at the landscape to meet socio and cultural needs for future generation and contribute to SDGs. On the SPA for ASEAN Cooperation in Forestry (2016-2025), he encouraged AMS to continuously implement the action programme covering the area of sustainable forest management (SFM,) timber certification, timber legality, forest products development and herbal and medicinal plants. He hoped the delegates could have pleasant stay in Nay Pyi Taw and invited active participations during the meeting. The opening remarks appears as **ANNEX 2**.

Agenda Item 1: OPENING REMARKS BY OUTGOING CHAIR (Malaysia)

3. Mr. Mohd. Kheiruddin Mohd Rani, Director of Trade Development, Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB), Malaysia delivered his opening remarks. He warmly welcomed all delegates to the 21st Meeting of AWG-FPD to the beautiful city, Nay

Pyi Taw, of Myanmar. He thanked the host country for warm hospitality and excellent arrangement for the meeting. He also appreciated all AMS for the support during Malaysia's chairmanship. He encouraged that the POA for ASEAN cooperation in FPD (endorsed by the 20th ASOF Meeting) could timely be implemented to support the development of forest products in ASEAN. He expressed sincere thank to all AMS for the participation and extend his appreciation to ASEAN Secretariat for the support. He expected the AWG-FPD could contribute to the forestry cooperation in the region and encouraged AMS for active participation.

Agenda Item 2: ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON

4. Mr. Win Naing, General Manager Wood Based Industry Department, Myanmar and Dr. Romulo Aggangan, Director, Forest Products Research and Development Institute, Department of Science and Technology, Philippines, were elected as the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Meeting respectively.

Agenda Item 3: REMARKS BY THE INCOMING CHAIR

5. Mr. Win Naing, General Manager Wood Based Industry Department, Myanmar Timber Enterprise, warmly welcomed the delegates and informed that the forest products development plays a vital roles economically as well as ecologically. Forest products are facing key challenges on degradation of forest resources and the concern from the market for legal and sustainable timber. He underlined the need to give more attention on trade facilitation and conformity on international standards. It is indispensable to address and support green technology development and investment on related infrastructure to increase productivity while ensuring the sustainability. He expected that through working group, ASEAN could enhance cooperation and collaboration among AMS and international partners. He congratulated Malaysia as Outgoing Chair of the AWG-FPD who has been successfully leading the cooperation during its Chairmanship. He hoped the meeting could have productive and fruitful discussions. The remarks appears as **ANNEX 3.**

Agenda Item 4: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

6. The Meeting adopted the Agenda which appears as **ANNEX 4.**

Agenda Item 5: BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS

7. The 21st Meeting of the AWG-FPD was held in plenary.

Agenda Item 6: MATTERS ARISING FROM ASOF, SOM-AMAF, AMAF, AND RELEVANT ASEAN MEETINGS

6.1 Roadmap for an ASEAN Community

8. The Meeting noted the Information Paper on the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community which highlighted the recent development in ASEAN and the decisions of the ASEAN Leaders during the ASEAN Summits. At the 31st ASEAN Summit, the Leaders adopted amongst others i) ASEAN Declaration to Prevent and Combat Cybercrime; ii) ASEAN Declaration on Innovation; iii) ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Disaster Health Management; iv) ASEAN Declaration on the Gender-Responsive Implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and Sustainable Development Goals; v) ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to the 23rd Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP-23). The information paper appears as **ANNEX 5**.

6.2 Matters Arising from the ASOF, SOM-AMAF, AMAF MEETINGS

9. The Meeting was informed on the outcomes of the 20th Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF), and related meetings on issues relevant to Forestry Sectors. The excerpt of the reports appears as **ANNEX 6**. The Meeting noted two key deliverables of ASEAN Cooperation in Forestry for adoption by 40th AMAF namely (i) Manual for Assessing Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) implementation in ASEAN, (ii) ASEAN Guidelines on Agro-Forestry.

10. The Meeting was informed on the ASEAN-EU POA (2018-2022) adopted by Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) +1 Session with the EU on 6 August 2017 in Manila, Philippines. Two relevant measures in the ASEAN EU POA (2018-2022) under the ASEAN Cooperation in Forestry includes i) promote cooperation on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and FLEG; ii) promote cooperation in addressing illicit trafficking of wildlife and timber in accordance with relevant convention including CITES.

AGENDA ITEM 7: COOPERATION IN TIMBER CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE

7.1 Country progress reports: Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for legality of timber, forest management certification and the implementation of timber certification and legality assurance systems and ASEAN Chain of Custody (CoC) Guidelines

Brunei Darussalam

11. Brunei Darussalam informed the Meeting that it is in the process of developing its own National C & I which is in line with the criteria set in the ASEAN C & I for legality of timber. Brunei Darussalam informed that internal audit is in the pipeline in order for Brunei Darussalam to proceed with the ASEAN C & I. On the

ASEAN CoC guidelines, Brunei Darussalam has developed its internal administrative procedures which are in line with the CoC guidelines. All logging activities are strictly monitored and supervised by the Forestry Department. Brunei Darussalam also informed that as a pilot project for CoC certification, it has started the initiative for CoC certification through one of its timber companies and it is expected for it to be certified by the end of October 2018.

Cambodia

12. The Meeting noted the update on timber legality in Cambodia. The presentation highlighted legal framework, capacity building activities of timber legality and its participation in the FLEGT initiatives. Cambodia has collaborated with the EU FLEGT initiative including VPA and TLAS since 2011. The Meeting was informed that Cambodia is in the process of developing national timber certification system in collaboration with the PEFC. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 7.**

Indonesia

13. The Meeting noted the presentation on progress of SFM implementation, forest certification and timber legality certification in Indonesia. The presentation highlighted the timber legality verification system (SVLK) that aims to ensure all timber traded from Indonesia comes from legal sources and comply with the Indonesian laws. Indonesia has aligned the national C&I for timber legality in forest management enterprise with the ASEAN guidelines for timber legality. The national C&I has been developed beyond the ASEAN C&I to fulfill the market requirements. The Meeting noted that Indonesia has developed Indonesia Timber Exchange as an integrated platform to link buyers and suppliers to export and imports of the timber products. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 8.**

Lao PDR

14. Lao PDR informed the Meeting on the forest contribution and the national target of forest coverage by 2020. Lao PDR also informed the Meeting on various national laws and policies on forest management in the country in the effort of increasing their forest coverage. The Meeting also noted the forest certification status in Lao PDR and also noted the plan to increase 70% of the forest coverage by 2020 including the plan to rehabilitate the forest. The presentation from Lao PDR appears as **ANNEX 9.**

Malaysia

15. The Meeting was informed on the forest management and CoC certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS). The presentation highlighted the background, standard for forest management and CoC certification,

and conformity with the ASEAN C&I. Currently, the Forest Management Certification (FMC) covered both standards for Natural Forest and Forest Plantations in which the standards have encompassed and exceeded the requirements of the ASEAN C&I for legality of timber. The Meeting was informed that the MTCS has been endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). Under this scheme, 4.38 Million ha forests have been certified with the overlapping of 127,120 ha with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification which has certified the total area of 755,584 ha. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 10.**

Myanmar

16. The Meeting was informed on the progress of timber legality verification in Myanmar. The presentation highlighted forest figures, third party assessment and relevant initiatives in the country. The MFCC has developed voluntary national forest certification scheme in 2013. The development of national accreditation body and certification bodies are on-going. Myanmar also has developed Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System (MTLAS), a mechanism for the issuance of export licenses for timber products from Myanmar. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 11.**

Philippines

17. The Meeting noted the country report from Philippines on the progress in the establishment of national forest certification system and related initiatives. The establishment of timber certification includes the draft bill on Sustainable Forest Management that will serve as an enabling condition to implement SFM which include the establishment and implementation of a national certification system in the country. To support the process, the Interim National Governing Board (INGB) has been established in 2016 to conduct capacity building and to draft the road map for the establishment of forest certification system. The Meeting was informed that the Philippines C & I developed in 2007 is currently under review vis-a vis the recently adopted ASEAN C & I in 2017. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 12.**

Thailand

18. The Meeting noted the presentation on Sustainable Forest Management practices in Thailand. The presentation highlighted forest figures, national standard, ASEAN six elements of legality and FLEG initiatives in the country. Thailand informed that on the implementation of forest certification, six forest laws have been enacted and the activities are managed by five different institutions namely Royal Forest Department (RFD), Forest Industry Organization (FIO), Provincial Natural Resources and Environment Offices, Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP), and Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR). The presentation appears as **ANNEX 13.**

Viet Nam

19. The Meeting was informed on the progress on sustainable management and forest certification in Viet Nam. About 234,870 ha of forest (87,966 ha nature forest; 146,904 ha plantation) was certified by FSC in 17 provinces. Viet Nam Assembly has just approved new forestry law in November 2017, and regulations are being developed to implement the Law. Viet Nam has yet set up national forest certification system. However, national standards are being developed taking into account the ASEAN C&I for SFM, timber legality and CoC. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 14**.

7.2 Progress on the FLEG Work Plan (2016-2025)

7.2.1 EU-EFI initiative to support Trade Facilitation and Market Access

20. The Meeting was informed that ASEAN Secretariat received confirmation from the EU-FLEGT facility on their regret for not be able to join the Meeting due to conflicting schedule with their internal meeting held in Brussels, Belgium. The Meeting noted that EU-FLEGT facility reaffirmed their commitment to support the FLEG Work Plan (2016-2025) in particular on the area of capacity building, development of voluntary code of conduct, study on mutual recognition arrangement for legality timber.

Agenda Item 8: COOPERATION IN HERBAL AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

8.1 Country progress report on Herbal and Medicinal Plants

Brunei Darussalam

21. The Meeting took note on the presentation by Brunei Darussalam on the progress of Cooperation in Herbal and Medicinal Plants. Brunei Darussalam highlighted the Research and Development (R & D) projects conducted by one of its higher educational institutions, Universiti of Brunei Darussalam. The projects include development of the herbal garden as an ex-situ conservation; identification and validation of potential herbs for pharmacological/ biological activities as well as identification and validation of potential herbs that have antioxidant or antimicrobial properties. Brunei Darussalam also informed that Universiti of Brunei Darussalam has collaborated with local companies as well as local communities in R&D of herbal medicinal plants. The Meeting was also informed that Brunei Darussalam has recently opened a research centre namely UBD Botanical Research Centre that consists of over 100 tree species and 200 herbal plants. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 15**.

Cambodia

22. Cambodia informed the Meeting on the research and development activities including the National Center of Traditional Medicines (NCTM) under the Ministry of Health, the collection of the herbal and medicinal plants specimen and publish the compilation of medicinal plants. The Meeting was also informed the activities of the medicinal plants working group that was established in 2014, i) collection of specimens, ii) compilation and publication of medicinal plants. Conservation initiatives established 2 gardens in the country (Kirirom National Park and Phnom Penh). The total garden is 5 hectare with more than 500 species. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 16.**

Indonesia

23. The Meeting noted the presentation from Indonesia on HMP. The presentation highlighted conservation initiatives on HMP (ex-situ and in-situ). Currently, the National Agency of Drug and Food Control of the Republic of Indonesia (BPOM RI) had established the Garden of Medicinal Plants in various places in Indonesia, one of them in Bogor has more than 420 species. On the production and marketing and information on R&D can be downloaded on the ARKN-FPD website (country progress report). The presentation appears as **ANNEX 17.**

Malaysia

24. The Meeting noted the presentation from Malaysia on their research and development in herbal medicinal plants, the production and marketing of herbal medicinal plants, the private sector involvement in herbal medicinal plants and the conservation of herbal medicinal plants. Malaysia also informed the Meeting that an inter-ministry program on comprehensive and systematic documentation of traditional knowledge (vis a vis medicinal plants usage) by the Malays and Orang Asli in Peninsular Malaysia. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 18.**

Myanmar

25. Myanmar informed the Meeting on their research and development, the production and marketing, the private sector involvement and the conservation of herbal and medicinal plants. The Meeting was also informed that Myanmar had established 9 herbal gardens in different locations throughout the country. Myanmar informed the Meeting on their achievement to be certified as an organic farming for their herbal and medicinal products. The presentation from Myanmar appears as **ANNEX 19.**

Philippines

26. The Meeting noted the presentation from the Philippines on the development of Research and Development Roadmap of genetic resources which is led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through the office of Undersecretary for Policy and Planning. The Meeting also noted that the Philippines had published several publication on herbal and medicinal plants. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 20**.

Thailand

27. Thailand informed the Meeting on the research and development of *Zingiber montanum* that is rich in antioxidant and many benefits, which is planted in forest plantation. Thailand also informed the Meeting on the increasing demand of herbal and medicinal plants both in domestic and international. As their conservation initiative, Thailand had established the Medicinal Plants Garden in 2017, which is home to more than 200 medicinal plants. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 21**.

Viet Nam

28. The Meeting noted the presentation from Viet Nam on herbal and medicinal plants. Viet Nam informed the Meeting that 13 training course of technical skill on herbal species for extension staff had been organized on 2015 – 2017 and the technical guidelines for some of the NTFP and herbal plants had been produced. Viet Nam also informed the Meeting on their government regulation and policies for the usage and development of herbal and medicinal plants. The presentation from Viet Nam appears as **ANNEX 22**.

8.2 Exchange of Database on ASEAN Herbal and Medicinal Plants

29. The Meeting noted the progress on exchange database on herbal and medicinal plants in ASEAN. The Meeting was informed that the Volume II of ASEAN HMP has been published and will be circulated to ASOF Leaders during 21st ASOF Meeting.

30. In preparation of the compilation for the Volume III, Malaysia has developed a template for AMS to fill up. The Meeting agreed on the proposed template and took note on the timeline for submission of the data and information in **April 2019** to Malaysia for compilation. The template appears as **ANNEX 23**.

Action by : Malaysia, AMS

8.3 ASEAN Documentation of R&D Information/Directory

31. The Meeting noted the update on ASEAN Documentation of R&D Information/Directory. Currently the updated information have been received from Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia. The Meeting encouraged active participation from AMS and agreed to submit the information on R&D Information/Directory regularly to Ms. Ratih Damayanti (ratih_turmuzi@yahoo.com) for compilation. The format of directory appears as **ANNEX 24**. The Meeting agreed to nominate national administrator for ARKN-FPD website (<http://arkn-fpd.org>) and inform Indonesia accordingly if there is changes in national administrator.

Action by : Indonesia, AMS

Agenda Item 9: COOPERATION IN FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT

9.1 Update on the Identification, Support of Project Proposals and Accelerate Possible Areas of Cooperation for Forest Products Development and Trade

32. The Meeting recalled the proposal on Equivalent Timber Names in ASEAN presented by Malaysia during the 20th Meeting of AWG-FPD that aims to collate and develop a listing of equivalent timber names among ASEAN member countries. The main activities of the project include (1) two workshops for the participants from AMS to agree on a harmonised data format and verify the equivalent timber listing, (2) compilation of timber listing from the participating ASEAN member countries, and (3) publication of a book/document on the Equivalent Timber Names in ASEAN.

33. The Meeting was informed that the project had been approved and funded by Japan ASEAN Integrated Fund (JAIF). The fund had been received by FRIM in May 2018 and the first workshop preparation is on-going. The Meeting noted that the first workshop that is planned to be held on 24 July 2018 in Malaysia been postponed and the new date of the workshop will be informed to AMS accordingly.

Action by : Malaysia and AMS

9.1.1 Update on Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Development and Trade

34. The Meeting noted the update of proposal on "Study on Trade of Selected NTFPs in ASEAN" as presented by Lao PDR. The proposal is aimed to pursue the development of NTFPs marketing system in Southeast Asia region. The objectives of the proposal are to study the situations on social, economic, policy and possible impacts of NTFPs trading in ASEAN Member States, to assess market value chain of NTFPs trading in AMS and to analyse and synthesis study for future recommendations and disseminate research results.

35. The Meeting noted that the recommendation from the 20th AWG-FPD Meeting has been accommodated into the revised proposal including to cover all AMS instead of only focus in sub-Mekong region. The Meeting supported the project proposal and agreed to submit it to the 21st ASOF Meeting for consideration. The revised project proposal appears as **ANNEX 25.**

36. The Meeting viewed on the need to identify priority NTFP species in the study that is common in most AMS such as bamboo, rattans, agar wood (plantation), resin, etc. Lao PDR noted the suggestion to focus on the common NTFP species in ASEAN in the project implementation.

Action by: Lao PDR

9.2 Update on the Establishment of Networking among ASEAN Research and Trade Promotion Institutions to Facilitate Exchange of Information, Transfer of Technology, and Sharing of Expertise in Forest Products Development and Trade

9.2.1 Update of Regional Knowledge Network on Forest Products Development (Lead Country: Indonesia)

37. The Meeting noted the update on ARKN-FPD website (<http://arkn-fpd.org/index.php/>) development from Indonesia. The website has accommodated suggestion to add pages for sharing and information on herbal and medicinal plants in ASEAN under HMP Directory menu. The Meeting noted that Philippines has been very active regularly to update the information on the ARKN-FPD website. The Meeting requested other AMS to use the website as a media to disseminate data and information, knowledge and best practices among AMS on forest products development, herbal and medicinal plants and timber certification initiatives in ASEAN. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 26.**

38. The Meeting congratulated and thanked Indonesia to maintain the website as a tool for sharing information and knowledge. The Meeting agreed for the country reports presented at the AWG-FPD Meeting to be uploaded in the website.

Action by: Indonesia, AMS

9.2.2 Strengthen Trade Promotions (Lead Country: Malaysia)

39. The Meeting was informed on the initiative on trade promotions for timber products in Malaysia. Several initiatives that will be organised in 2018 include Korea International Furniture and Interior Fair 2018 (KOFURN 2018) that will be held from 29 August to 2 September 2018 in Seoul and World Bamboo Day that will be held on 18 September 2018 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Meeting was also informed that

Malaysia will organise the workshop on guidelines on timber legality to assist customs officers to deal with timber legality products funded by FAO.

40. The Meeting was informed that ASEAN Forest Products Industrial Club (AFPIC) will organise a workshop on the regional voluntary code of conduct on imports for forest and timber companies in ASEAN which will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on September 2018, with the support from the EU-EFI FLEGT Facility.

9.3 Update and Information Sharing on Common Non-Tariff Barriers by Importing Countries

9.3.1 Compilation and Exchange of Information on Common Barriers to Trade in Forest Products, Particularly in US, EU, and Japan Markets (Lead Country: Malaysia)

41. The Meeting was informed on compilation of NTBs highlighted potential trade barriers that has been and will be imposed by importing countries such as China, India (Goods and Services Tax), South-Korea, EU (new ecolabel criteria for wood flooring) and South Korea (anti-dumping duties). The information paper appears as **ANNEX 27**.

42. Indonesia appreciated Malaysia on the compilation of the NTB. Indonesia informed on California Air Resources Board (CARB) regulation on formaldehyde emission imposed by State of California Authority for hardwood plywood and particle boards. This requirement has been adopted by the US-EPA. Indonesia requested AMS to exchange experience in dealing with this issue.

9.4 Update on Exchange of Information and Harmonise Technical Regulations to Facilitate Trade (Lead Country: Indonesia)

9.4.1 Update on the FLEGT VPA negotiation

43. The Meeting noted the presentation on FLEGT VPA negotiation of AMS which appears as **ANNEX 28**. Indonesia has been fully implementing FLEGT license since November 2016. The Meeting was informed that seven AMS have been engaged with the EU-VPA process namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam. The export value from Indonesia to the EU is increasing after the implementation of Indonesia-EU FLEGT VPA. The Meeting noted the benefits in implementing the FLEGT-VPA amongst other i) no barriers in trade, ii) support the efforts to combat illegal logging through verification of timber products to enter supply chain of legal timber trade, iii) significant export value increases of certified wood products, iv) improvement on forest governance, strengthening multi stake-holder process, v) transformation from stigma as a country

with rampant illegal logging to become the one in the frontline to combat illegal logging and vi) promote trade of legal timber.

44. Lao PDR informed several FLEG initiatives including hosted the regional workshop on finalisation of the Manual for Assessing FLEG Implementation in AMS in May 2018. Lao PDR is still in the process of negotiation on the EU-FLEGT VPA.

45. The Meeting was informed that Malaysia has started the negotiation with the EU since 2006 and it has not been completed.

46. Myanmar informed on the ongoing engagement with the EU-FLEGT VPA starting with capacity building activities including multi-stakeholders formation.

47. The Meeting was informed that Thailand is still in negotiation stage with the EU. The second negotiation will be held in July 2018.

48. Viet Nam already completed the negotiaton with the EU and preparing for the EU FLEGT VPA ratification by the end of 2018.

9.5 Update on Support Aligning National Standards and Testing Protocols in line with Existing Internationally Recognised Standards (Indonesia)

9.5.1 Development of National Standards among others through the Adoption or Modification of ISO Standard

49. The Meeting noted the information from Indonesia on the status of harmonization of wood based products which appears as **ANNEX 29.** Indonesia briefed the Meeting on the progress and submission made by AMS on the harmonisation of standards for wood-based sector in ASEAN. The Meeting noted the outcomes, the list of prioritization for harmonization of wood-based standards, as the result of the Meeting of Task Force on Wood Based Products (TFWBP) as follows:

- Twelve (12) standards out of total fifty-seven (57) standards were identified as NEQ (not equivalent with the international standards) and will be removed from the list of harmonisation;
- Thirty (30) standards out of total fifty-seven (57) standards were identified as MOD (modified adoption of the international standard);
- Fifteen (15) standards out of total fifty-seven (57) standards were identified as IDT (identical adoption of the international standard) and DIR (direct use without adoption of the international standard).

Action by: Indonesia

9.5.2 Exchange of Information on the Latest Edition of ISO and IEC Standards for Harmonisation/Alignment

50. Indonesia informed the revision of the nomenclature of ISO 8375-2009: Timber structures-glued laminated timber-test method for determination of physical and mechanical properties. ISO has finalized (FDIS) ISO 2426-4:2017 Plywood-Classification by Surface Appearance – Part 4: Oil Palm Plywood. The information note appears as **ANNEX 30**.

Action by: Indonesia

9.6 Update on Strengthening Cooperation in Human Resources Development in Forest Products Development

9.6.1 Identification of Capacity Building Needs and Conduct of Capacity Building Activities for the AMS (Lead Country: Philippines)

51. The Meeting was informed on the development of proposal on “Training on wood and plant identification using several techniques”. The project aims to enhance capacity of ASEAN researchers on DNA marker and other techniques as tool for plant and wood identification. The proposal has been developed in collaboration with Indonesia as suggested by the 20th AWG-FPD Meeting.

52. The main activities include training on plant and wood DNA barcoding and finger printing, training on plant and wood identification by using NIR and computer vision, and workshop on developing xylarium networking among ASEAN Member States. The revised proposal appears as **ANNEX 31**. Indonesia is expected that the proposal could be funded by the Japan ASEAN Integrated Fund (JAIF) taking into account the availability of the relevant experts from Japan. The Meeting appreciated the joint initiative developed by Philippines and Indonesia. The Meeting supported the project proposal and agreed to submit it to 21st ASOF Meeting for consideration.

Action by: Philippines, Indonesia, ASEAN Secretariat

Agenda Item 10: PLAN OF ACTION (PoA) FOR ASEAN COOPERATION IN FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT

53. The Meeting noted that the PoA for ASEAN Cooperation in Forest Products Development (2016-2020) had been endorsed by the 20th ASOF Meeting. The PoA will be updated based on the country progress report from AMS and achievements of the specific programs/projects. In monitoring the progress, an additional “Status of Implementation” column was added on the matrix of the PoA. The updated PoA appears as **ANNEX 32**. The Meeting agreed to provide necessary update of the PoA to ASEAN Secretariat for consolidation prior to the next meeting.

Agenda Item 11: JOINT CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE AWG-FPD AND ACCSQ WORKING GROUP ON STANDARDS AND MRA

54. The Meeting took note of the reports on standards and Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) from Task Force on Wood-Based Products (TFWBP) and ACCSQ meetings, which appears as **ANNEX 33**. The Meeting shared views on the nature of the work and function between FPD and TFWBP which is complementary in particular in regard to the standard of wood-based products.

Action Line: AMS and ASEAN Secretariat

Agenda Item 12: OTHER MATTERS

12.1. Presentation from the EU-FLEGT Facility

55. The Meeting was informed the initiative to develop Regional Voluntary Code of Conduct for Forest and Timber Companies in ASEAN. The Meeting noted that the initiative is one of the agreed activities under the Work Plan for FLEG Implementation in ASEAN (2016-2025). A regional workshop for development of regional voluntary code of conduct will be held in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia. The Meeting requested AMS to nominate focal point of the AFPIC to participate at the workshop. The concept note appears as **ANNEX 34**.

56. The Meeting supported the initiative and requested AMS to nominate/update focal point of AFPIC to be invited at the regional workshop. The Meeting agreed to recommend ASOF to consider the Regional Code of Conduct for Forest and Timber Companies in ASEAN as one of key deliverables of the ASEAN Cooperation in Forestry for year 2019.

Action by: EU-FLEGT Facility, Malaysia, ASEAN Secretariat

Agenda Item 13: DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

57. The Meeting noted that the 22nd Meeting of the AWG-FPD would be held back-to-back with the 22nd ASOF Meeting tentatively in 2019 in Manila, Philippines. The exact date and venue for the Meeting will be informed to the ASEAN Secretariat and the AMS in due course.

Action by: Philippines, ASEAN Secretariat

Agenda Item 14: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

58. The Meeting adopted the Report of the 21st AWG-FPD Meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

59. The Delegations from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government and the People of Myanmar for the warm hospitality accorded to them and the excellent arrangements made for the Meeting. The AMS also expressed their appreciation to ASEAN Secretariat for the assistance rendered.

60. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN cooperation and cordiality.
