

Records of Discussion IDN-EU FLEGT VPA Joint Expert Meeting

Jakarta, 2 February 2016

Opening

The Joint Expert Meeting (JEM) was co-chaired by Dr. Agus Sarsito (Indonesia/IDN) and Mr. Mr. Charles-Michel Geurts (European Union/EU). Both parties noted 2016 as the key year for implementing FLEGT VPA and impressed by the commitment of various stakeholders in moving towards its full implementation.

Agenda 1: Report on the Action Plan Closure Report and Outstanding Actions by Joint Working Group

- The working group presented a table of outcome from the Joint Working Group (JWG) assessment in November 2015. The table includes the list actions to be closed after the last JWG meeting on 27 January 2016. A draft of closure report have been developed to cover the progress and update. The meeting endorsed the public summary of the closure report and it will be published through the JIC communication channel.
- The Ministry of Trade (MoT) will conduct a multistakeholder consultation to review the regulations. Both parties welcomed to the open and transparent discussion lead by the MoT. The EU is looking forward to have the proposed solution from Indonesia.

Agenda 2: Technical Preparation for FLEGT Licensing

The Indonesia team updated that discussions are in place relevant to the technical preparation for FLEGT Licensing, including relevant forms and letters. The EU responded that these documents need to be checked with the EU custom and the respond will be informed soon.

Agenda 3: Progress on EUTR and FLEGT VPA

- The EU reported that there are clear penalties and different level of law enforcement applies for infringement of EUTR, includes fines, imprisonment, and numbers of legal procedures.
- The EFI team presented quick update on VPA processes from Honduras, Guyana, Liberia, China, Ghana, Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, and Vietnam.

Agenda 4: Progress on National Procurement Policy

Indonesia updated that the LKPP (National Procurement Policy) has agreed to include SVLK among its requirements for procurement. The SVLK certified products will be included in the e-catalogue of the government procurement. This catalogue is available in the LKPP's website.

Agenda 5: Joint Communication

The EFI team presented the communicating about FLEGT licensed timber to follow up the draft of global communication strategy for FLEGT licensing presented in July 2015. The global strategy includes plans for preparing markets for FLEGT licensed timber so that both parties are ready to communicate well when the time come. The meeting endorsed that this communication strategy needs to be taken forward.

Agenda 6: Publication of Documents

The meeting agreed that the next Annual Report of Indonesia EU FLEGT VPA should cover the period from May 2015 – December 2016. The secretariat will prepare short brief update on the information available in the first report to cover the period from May 2015 – December 2015.