



THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

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Date ....23<sup>rd</sup>..October...2020...

**Subject: Issuing a statement on the documents for the legality of timber in Myanmar**

1. Since it is hard to trace the geographical origin of the timber harvested before 2016-2017, more advance and simple mechanisms are being practiced to trace back to the stump of timber harvested in 2017-2018. To support the traceability of those timbers, QR Code System is also being tested as an information sharing mechanism.
2. Currently, we are planning to designate Certified Forests and Certified Plantations in accordance with the Forest Certification Scheme developed by the Myanmar Forest Certification Committee (MFCC). Moreover, verification and assessment on the legality of timber are being conducted by Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System (MTLAS) that was being revised to be stronger and more robust in line with ASEAN and international standards.
3. Besides, with the support of FAO-FLEGT Programme, we are preparing to translate laws, procedures and instructions related to the legality of timber into English so that we can provide transparency and information access to buyer countries in accordance with EUTR.
4. In regard to timber which is sold/exported, according to the existing laws of Myanmar, we will provide fourteen documents to each timber consignment in order for traceability of the timber back to the sources of origin. Hence, we kindly suggest EU operators to buy and import only the timbers from Myanmar which meet the EUTR requirements.

5. Accordingly, we now issue this **“Statement on the documents for the legality of timber in Myanmar”** in order for public visibility.



Kyaw Zaw (Mr.)

Deputy Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation



## Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

### The legality of timber in Myanmar

#### Statement on the documents

(23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020)

1. In Myanmar, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) is empowered by the State to manage forest resources in a sustainable manner. Under MONREC, the Forest Department is mainly responsible for the management of the forest resources while the Myanmar Timber Enterprise takes responsibility of timber extraction, milling and marketing in compliance with the existing laws, rules and regulations.
2. Private operators purchase legal timbers from the Myanmar Timber Enterprise, process and export them in accordance with the existing laws, rules and regulations.
3. In order for international timber trade, the Forest Department, the Myanmar Timber Enterprise, the Department of Trade and the Myanmar Customs Department provide the following fourteen documents to each timber consignment to verify the legality of timber extracted and exported in line with the existing laws, rules and regulations of Myanmar:

<b><u>No.</u></b>	<b><u>Document</u></b>	<b><u>Responsible Institution</u></b>
(a)	Receipt of logs at private log yard	Forest Department
(b)	Permit to process timber	Forest Department
(c)	Outturn percentage approval	Forest Department
(d)	Certificate of legality of timber products	Forest Department
(e)	Specification	Myanmar Timber Enterprise
(f)	Sale Contract	Myanmar Timber Enterprise
(g)	Commercial Invoice	Myanmar Timber Enterprise
(h)	Delivery Order	Myanmar Timber Enterprise
(i)	Advanced Information for Parcel Transfer	Myanmar Timber Enterprise



<b>No.</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Responsible Institution</b>
(j)	Reference for Parcel Transfer	Myanma Timber Enterprise
(k)	Purchase Confirmation Letter	Myanma Timber Enterprise
(l)	Certified Letter for Source of Origin	Myanma Timber Enterprise
(m)	Export License	Department of Trade
(n)	Export Declaration	Myanmar Customs Department

4. In 2018, “Myanmar Timber Chain of Custody: Process, Documents and Actors” had been published transparently for the public and international timber traders to realize the legal timber extraction, milling and marketing process of Myanmar.

5. For more detailed information, buyers can contact Joint Focal Group-JFG via [jfgtimbertrademm@gmail.com](mailto:jfgtimbertrademm@gmail.com) and can also visit the websites of the Forest Department, the Myanma Timber Enterprise, the Myanmar Timber Certification Committee, the Department of Trade and the Myanmar Customs Department.

6. Therefore, we hereby declare that the timbers exported from Myanmar are legal timbers if the fourteen documents mentioned in paragraph (3) can be exhibited.

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