



Lao People's Democratic Republic  
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity  
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## **Minutes of Meeting**

### **Consultation meeting of the Thematic Expert Group on Plantation regarding the Timber Legality Definition on Plantation, at Houypamom Forestry Training Center, on 12–15/07/ 2016**

In order to implement the action plan of the TEG on Plantation, in the morning of 13 July 2016, 8:30 A.M, the meeting of the TEG on Plantation was officially held at Houypamom Forestry Training Center, Hin Herb District, Vientiane Province. The meeting was led by Dr. Oupakone Alounsavath, the head of Village Forest and Non-Timber Forest Product Management Division and joined by participants from central level, Sayaboury Province, Lao Biodiversity Association, experts of ProFLEGT and private sector with 20 participants in total including 2 female, see the annex.

#### **1. Objectives**

- The result of previous plantation registration of Sayaboury Province is presented and discussed.
- The lessons from other countries on TLD development is learned/exchanged
- The first draft of TLD on plantation of Lao PDR is finalized

#### **2. Results**

The team from Sayaboury Province presented some problems encountered during the implementation as following:

- When compare the data on plantation area and plantation registration, only minority of the plantations have been registered.
- Local people are lacking of the understanding on the plantation registration policy.
- Different districts applied the different plantation registration forms.
- Clear manual on plantation registration is not available.
- The conditions of plantation registration are not appropriate such as the survival rate of the trees is 80% and over.
- There are too many documents on plantation registration and the proposal template for plantation registration is comprised of many steps.
- Definitions on different types of plantation are not available such as: industrial plantation, smallholder plantation and scattered plantation.
- Reporting system from district to province and province to central level is not systematic.
- Local people do not have clear documents on land tenure.

- PAFO and PONRE are lacking of communication on land management data.
- GPS application of the local staff is in need of specialization, as a result, the data collected is not clear.
- How to register the plantation that mixes with natural trees such as: rosewood, Dalbergia cochinchinensis etc.?

The encountered problems will provide good input for the improvement of the Decree No. 96/PM.

In addition, the participants in the meeting also learned and be able to understand the lessons on TLD development of other countries such as Indonesia and Vietnam which will be the basis for TLD development in Laos.

Afterward, the first draft of TLD was finalized, which consists of 5 principles such as:

- Principle 1 Forest land allocation
- Principle 2 Plantation development and management.
- Principle 3 Approval and timber harvest.
- Principle 4 Timber purchase - sale.
- Principle 5 Timber transport.

Additional details regarding the principles, indicators and verifiers are indicated in the draft TLD attached with this document.

### **3. Next steps**

- Share the ongoing draft of Decree No. 96/PM with the members of TEG on Plantation.
- Consult with PAFO on plantation registration test in Sayaboury Province and then, organize a meeting for exchanging lessons learned. This is because some points are not explicit. In addition, develop a report and submit to DOF.
- Plantation Promotion and Investment Division is to continue revise/improve the planation registration form and tree certificate. The meeting with the provincial staff is to be organized to discuss the remaining problems and develop the comprehensive forms, by proposing for the financial support from ProFLEGT.
- Provide hand out of the draft TLD to the participants jointed in the meeting to receive input to the draft and submit the draft to the Plantation Promotion and Investment Division for summarizing.
- Present the first draft of TLD on Plantation at the TWG meeting on 26 July 2016 for comments.
- ProFLEGT and the Plantation Promotion and Investment Division are to jointly prepare the next meeting on the development of second draft of TLD.

Therefore, this minutes is developed to be a reference for future implementation.

Houypamom, dated 18 July 2016

**Meeting Director**

**Minutes Taker**

Mr. Bounlieng Singvichit

Mr. Khamkhoun Phinsavanh