

An Update on Lao-EU FLEGT VPA Process

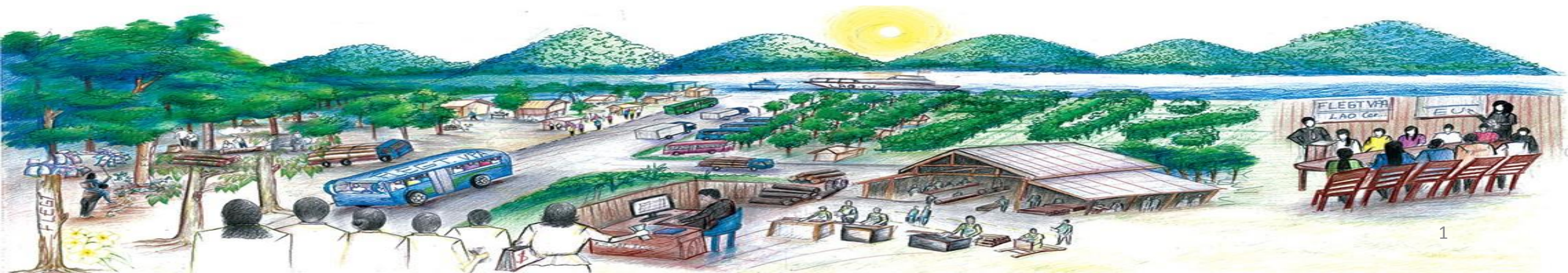
in Laos-FAO-EU FLEGT Networking Event

Mercure Hotel, 28 July 2017

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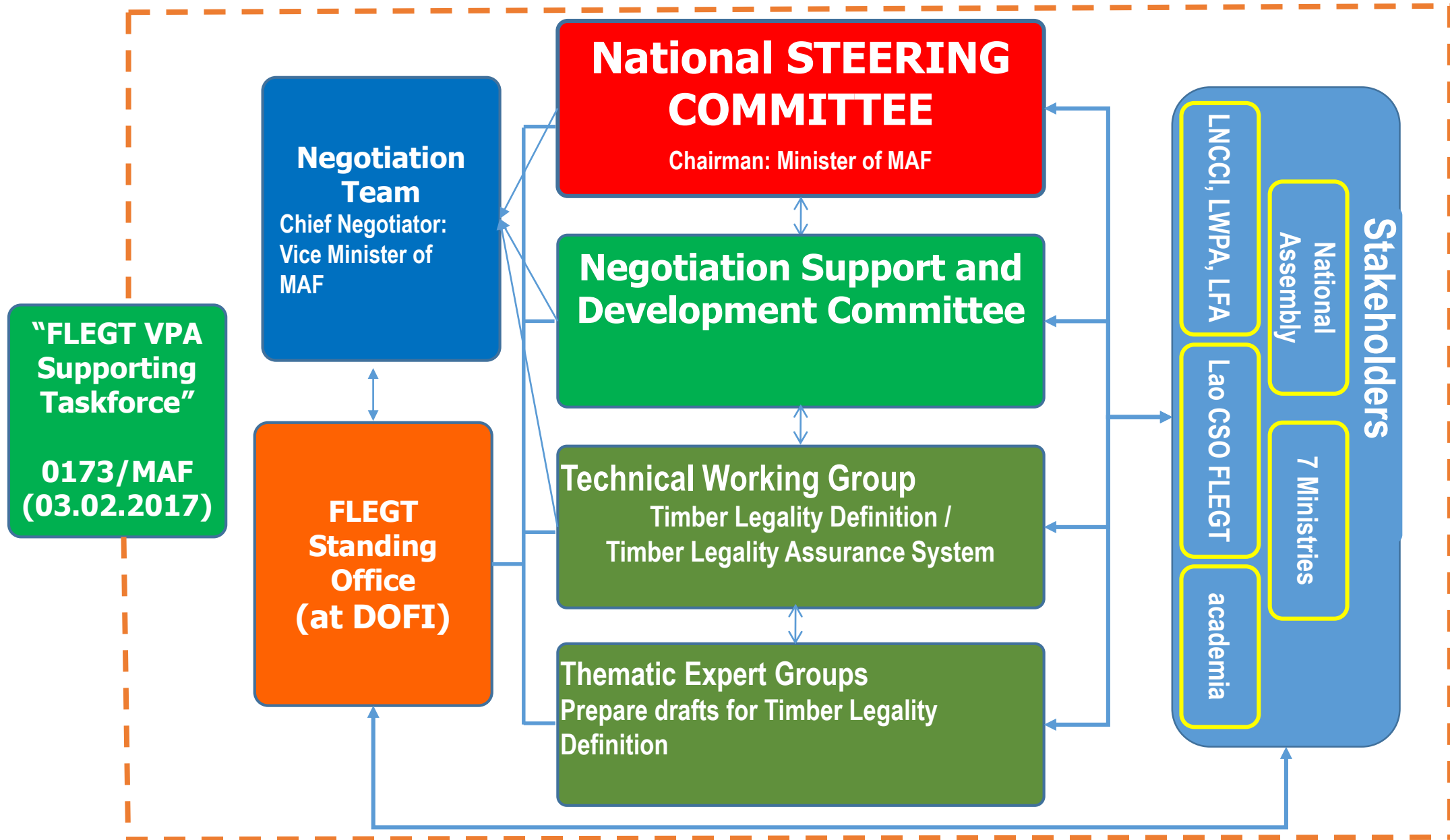
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1. History:

- 2010** • TWO Ministers of MAF and MOIC submitted Letter of intention on FLEGT VPA to EU.
- 2011** • Baseline study on “Timber Flow Study” in Laos completed.
- 2012** • Vice Ministers of MAF, MOIC and MONRE submitted Letter of Intention to prepare FLEGT VPA Negotiation.
- 2013** • GIZ “Project to Support the Lao-EU FLEGT Process, (ProFLEGT)” established.
 - FLEGT VPA Standing Office established under Department of Forest Inspection, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
- 2014** • The 1st and 2nd Video Conference between Lao PDR and EU.
 - Three (3) pilot provinces of FLEGT were approved (Sayaboury, Khammoune, Attapeu Province).
- 2015** • Lao-EU FLEGT VPA Process approved (Notification No.986/PMO; Decision 65/PM; 2598/MAF; 1868/MAF; **0173/MAF, 2017**).

2. Organizational Structure:



3. Achievement/work done:

- 2015**
 - The first (1st) National Steering Committee (NSC) Meeting was held in October 2015, in Luang Prabang Province.
- 2016**
 - Chief of Negotiation Team from Laos and EU met in April 2016 on preparing for the 1st face-to-face Negotiation on FLEGT VPA.
 - The second (2nd) National Steering Committee (NSC) Meeting was held in July 2016, in Luang Prabang Province.
 - Head of FLEGT VPA Standing Office appointed in July 2016.
 - The 3rd Video conference between Lao PDR and EU.
 - 5 draft TLDs and Product Scope submitted to EU for the first Negotiation.

3. Achievement/work done:

- 2017**
- FLEGT Team and EFI met on preparation for first negotiation (EFI mission).
 - FLEGT VPA Supporting Taskforce established, 0173/MAF, dated 03/2/2017.
 - 2017 FLEGT VPA Annual Workplan Workshop held in Attapeu Province.
 - The first (1st) Joint Expert Meeting (JEM1) held on 24-25 April 2017.
 - The first (1st) Negotiation Meeting or Technical Working Group (TWG1) held on 27-28 April 2017.
 - Workplan with core team for TLD revision established in May 2017.
 - TLD on (1) Production Forest; (2) Conversion Area; (3) Plantation; (4) Labour obligations in Forestry and Wood Processing; and (5) Wood Processing and Timber Trade revised May-July 2017.
 - EFI mission and TEG Meeting on:
 1. TLD on Production Forest on 25 July 2017.
 2. TLD on Conversion Area on 26 July 2017.
 3. TLD on Wood Processing and Timber Trade on 27 July 2017.

4. Roadmap:

Joint EU – Lao PDR Roadmap for FLEGT VPA Negotiation

Draft prepared at JEM 1 and agreed at TWG 1 on 27/04/2017

No.	Date	Action/element
1	05/05/2017	Lao share draft product coverage annex (version presented in JEM1) together with list of products not allowed for export according to Lao regulation
2	15/06/2017	All suggestions on Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 (version 31.12.2016) answered in the agreed table and forwarded to EU
3	08/07/2017	EU send feedback on answers regarding Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8
4	15/07/2017	Lao share draft Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 revised according agreed comments from EU during JEM 1/TWG1, the EU's written feedback of 08/07/2017 and contributions of national stakeholders
5	17/07/2017	Start of EFI Technical Mission to Laos in order to support further development of TLD's and product scope and joint assessments
6	07/08/2017	Lao share draft Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 revised according agreed comments from EU (including clarifications provided during EFI mission) and contribution of national stakeholders

4. Roadmap:

Joint EU – Lao PDR Roadmap for FLEGT VPA Negotiation

Draft prepared at JEM 1 and agreed at TWG 1 on 27/04/2017

No.	Date	Action/element
9	Beginning of September	VC#4 to review progress on TLDs and product scope and agree on date for JEM2/TWG2
10	05/10/2017	Start of EFI Technical Mission to Laos in order to support further development of TLDs, product scope and joint assessments
11	16/10/2017	Lao share Document package for JEM2/TWG2 including drafts of Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and first draft of TLAS annex on supply chain controls and verification
12	10/11/2107	EU send feedback on Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and TLAS annexes
13	End of November 2017	Second Joint Expert Meeting (JEM2) and TWG2 in Laos (#3 Brussels)
14	31/12/2017	Advanced versions of all TLDs available

THANK YOU

