



# ANNEX VII- PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

## **Negotiation Support and Development Committee (NSCD) Meeting**

Date: 7 – 8 /04/2022

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# 1. Introduction

## Need for Annex VII:

- The VPA Parties are committed to ensuring that agreed forestry-related information is made available to the public

## Objectives:

- Makes available the forestry-related information to the public;
- Determines the bodies responsible for making that information available; and
- Determines the mechanisms for disclose the information

## Results:

- Operations of JIC during the implementation of VPA are transparent and understood;
- The Parties and stakeholders have good access key forestry-related information
- The Lao-TLAS functions effectively with timely available information for independent monitoring
- The broad objectives of the VPA are achieved.

## 2. Information to be published by Lao PDR

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Legal Information</li><li>2. Information on Land</li><li>3. Information on Forest Land</li><li>4. Information on Forest Management</li><li>5. Information on Domestic Timber Production</li><li>6. Information on Timber Movements/ Supply Chain.</li><li>7. Information on Wood Processing Operations</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>8. Information on Trade</li><li>9. Information on Environment and Social Impact Management</li><li>10. Information on Workers, Workers' Rights, including Occupational Health and Safety</li><li>11. Information on Revenue, Royalty and Tax Payments</li><li>12. Information on Enforcement</li><li>13. Information on the LAO-TLAS</li></ol> |
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### 3. Information to be published by the Union

1. The text of this Agreement, its Annexes and any amendments.
2. Lao PDR Country Report by the Independent Market Monitoring (IMM).
3. List and contact details and address of the competent authorities (CAs) of the Member States of the Union responsible for FLEGT and Union timber regulation
4. Annual report by the EU CAs, in particular information
5. Information on Union regulations related to timber trade, and financial and technical supports related to the implementation of this Agreement in Lao PDR.
6. Information on market opportunities and its requirement of timbers and derived timber products in the Member States of the Union under the FLEGT licensing scheme.

## 4. Information to be published by JIC

1. Information of relevance to the implementation and functioning of Agreement.
  - The text of this Agreement, its Annexes and any amendments
  - Procedures guiding the functioning of the JIC
  - Overview of activities undertaken to implement this Agreement;
  - Information on authorities
2. Minutes of meetings of the JIC and summaries of decisions
3. Annual reports produced by the JIC,
4. Information on the periodic evaluation
  - Terms of Reference of the periodic evaluation;
  - Documented procedures of the Evaluator for carrying out evaluations;
  - Public summary reports of the periodic evaluation

## 5. Mechanism and means to access information

1. Complies with related legislation of Lao PDR
2. Eligible means:
  - On newspaper, T.V, radio, websites, portals or media publications such as leaflets, newsletters, magazine, annual reports and others produced by both Parties;
  - Made available through FSO and the Union Delegation in Lao PDR;
  - Through press conferences of both Parties;
  - Request the competent agencies representing the Government of Lao PDR, the Union and JIC;
  - Concerned departments under MAF, MOIC, MoNRE, MoF, MLSW, MoJ,
3. specific procedures/ guidelines/ instruction on information management system will be developed separately.

## 6. Implementation of Public Disclosure Provisions

As part of the implementation of this Annex, the Parties will assess:

- The need for institutional support on the internet-based, electronic information management system in Lao PDR to make information available from local to and from central authorities;
- The need for capacity-building on the use of public information for independent observation;
- The need to raise public sector and stakeholder awareness of the public disclosure provisions contained in this Agreement.

**FLEGT**

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ແຜນງານ Lao-EU FLEGT VPA  
ການຄ້າໄມ້ ທີ່ຖືກຕ້ອງຕາມກົດໝາຍ

**THANK YOU**

