

ILLEGAL HARVESTED TIMBER AND ILLEGAL TRADE

INTRODUCTION.

Due to increasing demand of timber and timber products worldwide, combined with shortages in institutional and governance in the forest sector in timber-producing countries, illegal logging and the associated trade concern internationally. The term "illegal logging" refers to situations where the cutting, processing, transport and export of produced timber in violation of national and international laws.

Illegal logging has a devastating impact in many parts of the world, where are some of the most valuable forests, both the environment and people and groups who depend on the resources they provide.

Environmental impacts include deforestation, loss of biodiversity and the emission of greenhouse gases. According to the EU Green Paper on Forest Protection, deforestation and other related land use changes, mainly in developing countries, account for about 12-15% of global CO₂ emissions. For his part, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), believes that deforestation is responsible for about 20% of global CO₂ emissions, thereby highlighting the fact that so far there are no mechanisms by means of which could stop this extreme climate change.

On human impacts, including conflicts, violation of the rights of local populations, corruption and poverty. In some cases, illegal logging still responsible for armed conflicts. As a result of the above, undermining the legitimacy of the forestry sector and the efforts of governments to implement sustainable forest management.

It is difficult to estimate the extent of illegal logging. The European Forest Institute (EFI - European Forest Institute) estimates that 20-40% of industrial timber produced internationally, totaling approximately US \$ 10 billion, comes from illegal sources while 20% of the timber ends up in the European Union. For its part, the World Bank estimates that governments worldwide lose 10 to 15 billion dollars annually as a result of illegal logging and notes that this money could be spent towards the economic development of countries.

In light of the serious environmental, economic and social consequences of illegal harvested timber and associated trade within the framework of support international efforts to tackle the problem, the European Union adopted in 2003 the Action Plan entitled "Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade".

FLEGT PLAN OF EU.

The European Union as a single market, is one of the largest timber consumers worldwide and behavior of European companies and governments that buy timber and timber products from suppliers in Africa, Asia and South America, has a significant impact on illegal logging and accompanied by this trade.

The EU Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT - Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade), down measures designed to prevent imports of illegal

timber in the EU, improving the provision of legal timber and increase in demand for wood from responsibly managed forests. The Action Plan measures focus on seven areas:

- Support for exporting countries to find solutions relating to illegal logging.
- Promoting trade for legally harvested timber, including the development and implementation of voluntary partnership agreements between the EU and wood exporting countries (FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements - VPAs).
- Promoting policies relating to public procurement in relation to the legality of timber.
- Supporting private sector initiatives to meet good practice in the forestry sector.
- Encourage banks and financial institutions to finance the forestry sector through securing investments.
- Use of existing laws or adapting them to support the Plan action and
- Address the competition problem in timber trade.

The two basic elements of the Action Plan is a voluntary partnership agreements (Voluntary Partnership Agreements - VPAs) and the EU Regulation on timber (EUTR).

Under the voluntary licensing scheme, certain timber products exported from a partner country and entering the EU at any customs point designated for release for free circulation, should be accompanied by a FLEGT license issued by the partner country stating that they have been produced from domestic legally harvested or timber that was legally imported into a partner country.

The domestic legal framework of the European Union for this scheme is governed by Regulation (EC) no. 2173/2005 adopted in December 2005 and the Implementation Regulation (EC) 1024/2008 of 2008. These Regulations were adopted in order to check the timber inlet and timber products into the EU from countries entering into voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) with the EU.

VOLUNTARY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS (VPAs)

Voluntary Partnership Agreements (Voluntary Partnership Agreements - VPAs) is the first key element of the EU Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade. The process of establishing the Voluntary Partnership Agreements on licensing and trade in legally harvested timber depends on the environment of each partner country and includes representatives of the private sector and the state sector.

Once agreed, the VPAs include commitments and action from both parties to halt trade in illegal timber, notably through a licensing system by which the legality of timber exported to the EU will be checked. The agreements also promote, better enforcement of forest legislation and an inclusive approach, both public and private sectors. The negotiations are between the EU and each country concerned separately and includes four stages (Figure 1). In the first stage and if there is interest from some exporting country, information is provided by the European Union and its partners and begin some pre-negotiations. In the second stage begin formal negotiations between the EU and the country concerned to reach an agreement. In the third stage and after the signing of the agreement is the development of the licensing system and the fourth and last

stage fully operational system by issuing FLEGT license for timber exported from this country to the EU.

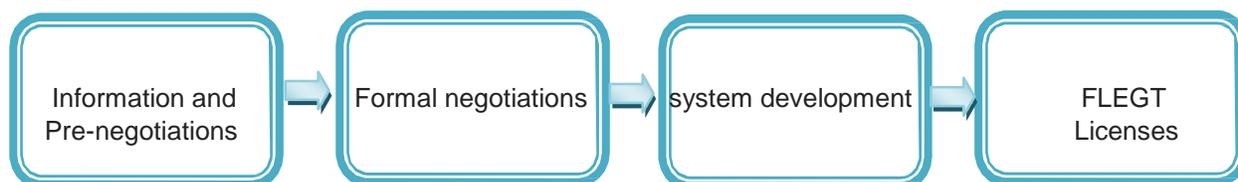
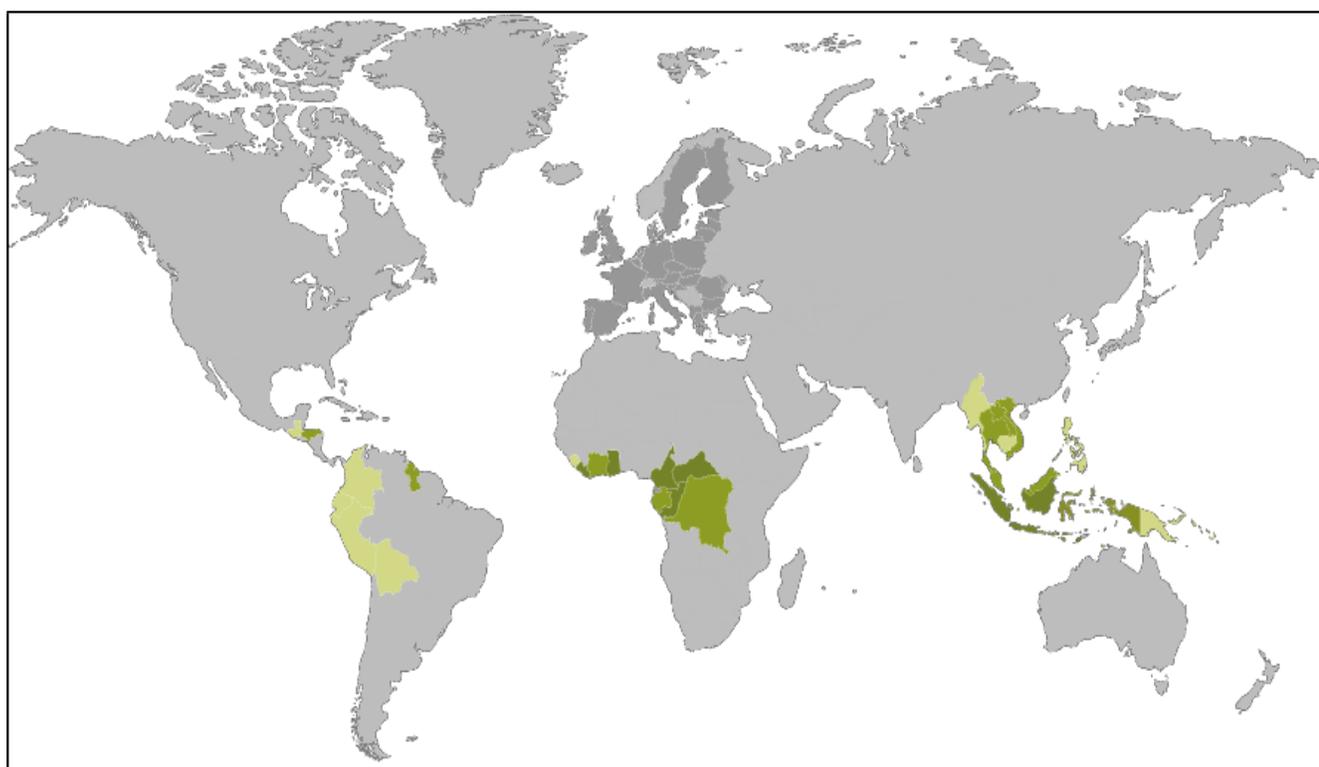


Figure 1: Process of establishing partnership agreements (VPAs)

To date six (6) countries have signed the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPAs) with the EU, and proceeded to develop the systems needed for monitoring, verification and legal timber license, while other nine (9) countries are negotiations with the EU. in addition, eleven (11) other countries in Africa, Asia and Central and South America have expressed interest in entering into a Voluntary Partnership Agreement and the required information is provided (chart 1).



Map 1: Countries that have signed or are in the process of concluding VPA with the EU

Application: Ghana, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Liberia, Indonesia.

Negotiations: Gabon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malaysia, Vietnam, Honduras, Guyana, Ivory Coast, Laos, Thailand.

Information: Central and South America: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru.
Asia- Pacific: Cambodia, Philippines, Myanmar / Burma, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands.
Africa: Sierra Leone.

European Union:

The following table (Table 1) shows the countries either have signed the partnership agreement (VPAs) with the EU, or are under negotiation.

COUNTRY	START NEGOTIATIONS	AGREEMENT	SIGNATURE AGREEMENT	VALIDATION AGREEMENT	START
GHANA	12/2006	4/9/2008	20/11/2009	19/3/2010	
CAMEROON	11/2007	9/5/2009	6/10/2010	-	
REPUBLIC OF CONGO	6/2008	9/5/2009	17/5/2010	19/2/2013	
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	10/2009	21/12/2010	28/11/2011	-	
INDONESIA	3/2007	4/5/2011	30/9/2013	-	
LIBERIA	3/2009	9/5/2011	26/7/2011	-	
MALAYSIA	1/2007	-	-	-	
GABON	9/2010	-	-	-	
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	10/2010	-	-	-	
VIETNAM	11/2010	-	-	-	
HONDURAS	4/2012	-	-	-	
LAOS	4/2012	-	-	-	
GUYANA	5/2012	-	-	-	
IVORY COAST	2/2013	-	-	-	
THAILAND	9/2013	-	-	-	

Table 1: Step negotiations between the EU and third countries for Partnership Agreements (VPAs)

The first shipments of timber from the signatory countries to the EU will be accompanied by a FLEGT license, expected in 2016.

In addition to the above, the bilateral coordination mechanism in place with China, which is an important factor in the global timber trade and the largest timber importer in Asia. This mechanism provides for the exchange of information and the identification of joint activities to reduce illegal logging and related trade in the two sides level and globally. For this reason, in November 2011 opened the first office EU FLEGT Asia in Beijing. The dialogue between China - EU forestry sector is considered particularly important due to the growing trade in timber and timber products between the two sides. According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the 2010 figures, China exported timber products in the European Union totaling 7.81 billion USD (\$), which is 21.5% of total forest products exported from the country.

To search for cooperation opportunities in related areas of FLEGT, the EU also consult with India where, given the continuing economic growth, aims to increase and enhance the exports of timber products to third countries, including EU Member States.

Finally, Russia, which according to the International Fund for Nature, produces a significant quantity of illegal timber that reaches the European market, a commitment to the EU to develop its own system to reduce illegal logging and related trade which can comply with European Regulation for Wood (OJ No. 995/2010).

REGULATION (EC) NO. 2173/2005

According to Regulation (EC) no. 2173/2005 establishes Community rules for the import of certain timber products for the implementation of the FLEGT licensing scheme through partnership agreements with timber producing countries. Timber products to which apply the FLEGT licensing scheme irrespective of the partner country as lumber, sleepers, sawn or planed, sheets for veneering (chipboard, OSB, etc.), plywood etc. plywood, referred to in Annex II of this Regulation .

The FLEGT licensing scheme shall apply only to imports from partner countries. The import into the EU of timber products from partner countries unless the shipment is accompanied by a FLEGT license. Excluding timber products of species referred to in Regulation (EC) 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora (CITES).

FLEGT licenses can be based on existing systems which ensure the legality and reliable tracking of timber products exported from partner countries.

In addition, Regulation (EC) no. 2173/2005, among others, provides the following:

- The competent authorities shall authorize the Commission or persons or bodies designated by the Commission, access to relevant documents and data.
- If in doubt as to the validity of the license, the competent authorities may request the authorities of the permit, further verification and additional details.
- Member States may collect fees to cover the costs arising from the acts of the competent authority for control purposes.
- The customs authorities may or detain timber products where they suspected that the license is invalid. The costs to complete the verification shall be borne by the importer.
- Each Member State lays down penalties for infringement of provisions of this Regulation;
- If imports of timber from partner countries without FLEGT license the national legislation applies;
- The Commission shall provide all competent authorities of the Member States, the names and contact details of the licensing authorities designated by partner countries and authenticated specimens of stamps and signatures attesting that the legal issue of the license.
- Member States shall submit by 30 April an annual report covering the previous calendar year, containing the following:
 1. Quantities of timber products imported per heading and per partner country,
 2. The number of FLEGT licenses received by heading and partner country,
 3. the number of cases and quantities of timber products were not required FLEGT license and implementation of the existing national legislation.

REGULATION (EC) NO. 1024/2008

The detailed rules implementing the FLEGT licensing scheme, mainly as regards Member States, regulated in Commission Regulation 1024/2008, which entered into force in October 2008.

Given the competitiveness of the international timber trade, it must ensure that in the implementation of the FLEGT licensing scheme will be no undue delays in importation procedures.

The Commission and Member States should provide efficient, effective and interoperable information and communication systems for the exchange of information between public administrations and Community citizens (in accordance with Decision 2004/387 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council).

In addition, Regulation (EC) no. 1024/2008, among others, provides the following:

- The FLEGT license may be paper or electronic;
- The competent authorities or the customs authorities of a Member State in which the shipment is declared for release into the circulation may require a translation of the authorization into the official language. The costs borne by the importer;
- Authorization shall be deemed void if the date is after the end date indicated in the license;-- -
- License lodged before the arrival of the shipment that it covers, may be accepted if all the information required is correct and does not need further verification;
- Deletions, modifications, or extension of the license, only accepted after confirmation by the licensing authority. Duplicate or replacement license only accepted if they are issued and validated by the licensing authority;
- In case of doubt whether it can be accepted license, a duplicate or replacement license, the competent authorities may require additional information from the licensing authority of the partner country;
- When the volume or weight of the timber which includes the shipment presented for release for free circulation does not deviate by more than 10% from the volume or weight indicated in the corresponding license, it is considered that the shipment conforms to the information provided in the license.

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION SYSTEM FLEGT LICENCES IN CYPRUS

The Republic of Cyprus In compliance with the Regulations (EC) 2173/2005 and (EC) 1024/2008, proceeded with the enactment of Law 125 (I) 2010 "The Law on Implementation of the FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the 2010 European Union Law".

Among other things, the Law 125 (I) 2010, provides as follows:

- The Forestry Department identified as the competent authority for the implementation of this Law and Regulations 2173/2005 and 1024/2008;
 - For surveillance purposes, inspection, Regulations on control and enforcement 2173/2005 and 1024/2008 and national legislation, the Director of the Department is authorized to designate the Forestry Department officers as inspectors FLEGT.
- Determining the length of the FLEGT license audit process by the competent authority, which should be completed within three (3) working days after submission, unless you need further verification;
- If they need additional information for verification, shipment bound by the Customs Authorities to complete the required verification. The verification of the FLEGT license is completed by the competent authority within twenty-one (21) days, plus three (3) days if the license filed Friday;
- The competent authority rejects a FLEGT license when the licensing authority of the partner country does not submit additional information at any request of the competent authority within

the time frame indicated above, or if submitted additional information and the competent authority finds that a FLEGT license do not correspond to the shipment.

-If FLEGT license rejected by the competent authority, or if shipment is not accompanied by a FLEGT license, the consignment seized by the Customs Department and customs legislation are applied;

-Person who does not comply with the provisions of Regulation (EC) 2173/2005 (articles 4 and 5), and submit to his knowledge false or misleading FLEGT license, providing knowingly false information for verification of the FLEGT license, or willfully obstructs Inspector FLEGT, subject to imprisonment not exceeding two (2) years, to a fine not exceeding forty thousand euro (€ 40.000), or both penalties.

REGULATION (EU) NO. 995/2010

Additionally FLEGT license based on the conclusion of voluntary partnership agreements (VPAs), the European Parliament and the Council of Europe proceeded to the adoption of Regulation (EU) no. 995/2010, according to which the placing for the first time in internal market of illegally harvested timber or timber products.

The Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 referred to as the EU Regulation on Wood (EUTR), is the second element of the FLEGT Action Plan and addresses the trade in illegally harvested timber and timber products with the imposition of three basic obligations:

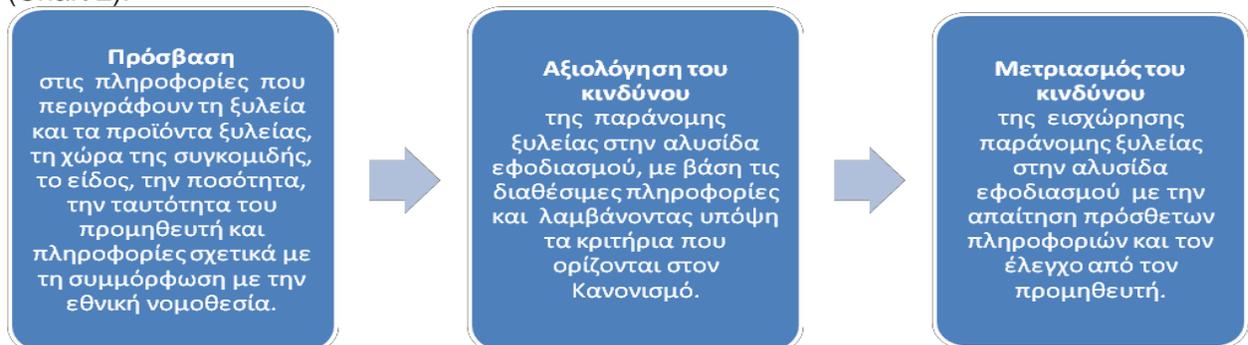
-The placing illegally harvested timber and products derived from such timber for the first time on the EU market

-Operators (legal or natural persons) who are those place timber or timber products for the first time on the EU market, they must exercise "due diligence» • and

-Traders who are those operating trading timber or timber products already on the market must keep records of suppliers and customers.

Timber and timber products covered by this Regulation, as listed in its Annex, includes: Firewood, raw wood, sawn timber, for coated sheets, laminates, panels and particle board (chipboard, MDF, OSB), pulp and paper, wood furniture, prefabricated buildings etc. .. Excluding the used timber and used timber products that have completed their life cycle.

According to the Regulation, operators must ensure through a set of procedures (due diligence), to minimize the risk of placing illegally harvested timber and timber products on the internal market (whether imported from other EU Member States and third countries or produced domestic). The due diligence system includes three elements: Access to information, risk assessment and measures for risk mitigation (Chart 2).



The due diligence system should provide access to information about the sources and suppliers of the timber available for the first time on the internal market, including information such as compliance with applicable legislation, the country of harvest, species, quantity and the region and harvesting license if required. Based on this information, operators should carry out a risk assessment and, where a risk is identified to be efforts to mitigate. The detailed rules on the evaluation of risks and their mitigation measures, which are part of the due diligence system referred to in Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 607/2012.

It is important to remember that the EU Regulation on Wood (EUTR), not a border measure, and the loads will not be checked at EU borders. Moreover, the Regulation would apply in the context of commercial activities only and therefore does not impose any requirements on non-commercial consumers.

In order to facilitate the implementation of the Rules and which can, if (EU) no. 995/2010 and to promote the development of good practices, organizations which have developed due diligence systems (Monitoring Organizations should be recognized) recognized by the Commission to resort operators. Operators who are using systems or procedures which comply with the requirements of this Regulation do not need to institutionalize new. The details of the procedural rules for the recognition and withdrawal of recognition of monitoring organizations, are regulated by the Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 363/2012 of 23 February 2012.

All Member States have notified the Commission, within the deadline specified in Article 7 of Regulation (3.6.2011), the names and addresses of the competent authorities will be responsible for its implementation. The aim of the competent authorities in each MS is to:
- Conduct regular checks on monitoring organizations to verify whether they meet the obligations laid down by Regulation (EU) no. 995/2010 and its Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 607 / 2012'

- monitor that operators fulfill their obligations defined by Regulation (physical checks at the premises of operators and requirement for corrective measures);
- keep records checks and to make relevant information in accordance with Directive 2003/4 / EC.

In addition, Member States should ensure that infringements of this regulation by operators, wholesalers and monitoring organizations will be subject to effective and dissuasive sanctions.

This Regulation entered into force on March 3, 2013 and is not retroactive. This means that operators must be able to identify their supply of timber and timber products, before and after that date to be able to demonstrate during the audit by the competent authorities, that the due diligence system which have establish, operate from the date of the Regulation.

Furthermore, because the existence of pending issues and the different interpretation of some definitions of probability Rules which could lead to different operations, the Commission adopted a guidance document (Guidance document for the EU Timber Regulation) to uniform implementation of.

IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) No. 607/2012

By Implementing Regulation lays down detailed rules concerning the due diligence system and the frequency and nature of checks on monitoring organizations. Basic provisions are:

1. Application of the due diligence system:

-Operators shall apply the due diligence system to each specific type of timber or timber product supplied by a particular supplier within 12 months, provided that the species of trees, is (are) country (ies) harvesting, or (the) region (s) of the country and (the) license (s) timber remain unchanged.

- The above paragraph does not affect the obligation of the operator to maintain measures and procedures providing access to the information referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 concerning each consignment of timber and timber products placed on the market by the operator.

2. Information on the supply from the operator

The information on the supply of timber and timber products from the operator referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 provided in accordance with the following:

-The full scientific name of tree species is provided in cases where there is ambiguity in the use of generic.

-Information on the country's periphery is provided where there is a different risk of illegal harvesting between regions of the country.

- Information on logging license provided where there is a different risk of illegal harvesting between logging permits in a country or region of the country of harvest.

3. Evaluation and mitigation

Certification or other verification systems from third parties may be taken into account in the risk assessment and mitigation of risk when they meet the following criteria:

-They have established and made available for use by third parties a publicly available system of requirements, which will include at least all relevant requirements of the applicable legislation.

- Specify that appropriate checks, including on-site visits are carried out by third parties at regular intervals not exceeding 12 months in order to ascertain compliance with applicable legislation.

-They include means, verified by a third party, to trace timber harvested in accordance with applicable legislation, and timber products derived from such timber, at any point in the supply chain before the placing on the market.

- Include controls, verified by a third party to ensure that it does not enter the supply chain of timber or timber products of unknown origin, or timber or timber products that have not been harvested in accordance with applicable legislation.

4. Record keeping by operators

-The information on the supply of timber or timber products by an operator under Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No.

995/2010 and application of risk mitigation procedures shall be documented by appropriate records, which are kept for five years and made available for checks by the competent authority.

-In the application of due diligence system operators must be able to demonstrate how the collected information is checked against the risk criteria provided for in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010, the manner in which decisions are taken to mitigate the risk and the way in which the operator determines the degree of risk.

5. Frequency and nature of checks on monitoring organizations

-The competent authorities shall ensure that the checks at regular intervals referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 carried out at least once every two years.

-The checks carried out in particular in the cases:

.The competent authority, in carrying out checks on operators, has found shortcomings in the effectiveness or implementation by operators of the due diligence system established by a monitoring organization •

.The committee has informed the competent authorities that a monitoring organization has undergone subsequent changes as provided for in Article 9 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 363/2012 as regards procedural rules for the recognition and withdrawal of recognition of monitoring organizations as provided for in Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010.

-Checks are carried out without notice, unless prior notification to the monitoring organization is necessary in order to ensure the effectiveness of controls.

-The competent authorities shall carry out controls in accordance with documented procedures.

-The competent authorities shall carry out checks to ensure compliance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010, which include:

.spot checks, including field audits •

.examination of documentation and records of monitoring organizations •

.interviews with the management and staff of the monitoring organization •

.interviews with operators and traders or any other relevant person •

.examination of documentation and records of operators •

.examination of samples of supply of operators using the due diligence of the relevant monitoring body system.

6. Reports of the checks on monitoring organizations

-The competent authorities shall draw up reports on individual checks carried out, including a description of the process and methods used and the findings and conclusions.

-The competent authorities shall notify the monitoring body has vetted the findings and conclusions of the draft report.

-The monitoring organization may submit comments to the competent authorities within the time limit set by them.

-The competent authorities shall draw up reports referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 on the basis of individual audit reports.

7. Entry into force

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) NO. 363/2012

The Regulation is supplemented procedural rules relating to the recognition and withdrawal of recognition of monitoring organizations as provided for in Regulation (EU) no. 995/2010. The main provisions are as follows:

. Identification Application

-Any company, legal person, company, institution or authority, legally established in the Union, may submit to the Commission an application in one of the official languages of the Union to be

recognized as a monitoring organization;

-The Commission shall acknowledge receipt of the application the candidate giving the timetable within which to take a decision on the application.

-If after three months of receiving the application, the Commission does not issue a recognition decision or rejected the application, he shall inform the applicant of the progress of the application assessment;

-The Commission shall transmit a copy thereof to the competent authorities, which may submit their comments within one month from the date of transmission.

2. Additional documents and access to premises

-A candidate or their competent authorities are obliged, if requested by the Commission, to submit additional documents within a specified period;

-The candidate shall provide the Commission access to its premises and the necessary facilities to verify the latter whether the conditions laid down by Regulation 995/2010 and delegated regulations. The competent authorities concerned may participate in the visit.

3. Recognition decision

-Once the Commission has taken a decision recognizing an organization, notify it within 10 working days from the date of issue, the organization concerned. At the same time granted by the certificate of recognition and communicate its decision to all competent authorities in all MS.

4. Legal personality and legal establishment within the Union

- If a candidate broadcaster is established in more than one MS, is obliged to give information on its headquarters, principal place of business within the Union, as well as the Annexes or subsidiaries has. He also states in most MS will operate;

- A candidate who is beginning the MS is not required to prove its legal personality.

5. Appropriate expertise

- A monitoring body is required to have staff with:

. Training in discipline related to the tasks of the agency (forestry, environment, law, business management, risk management, trade, auditing, supply chain management, financial control)

. For senior technical staff positions, at least five years of professional experience relevant to the tasks of the Agency.

6. Ability to exercise functions of a monitoring organization

- The candidate must demonstrate that

. Able organizational structure.

. Due diligence system for supply and use by operators.

. Procedures to permit evaluation and improvement of the due diligence system.

. Verification procedures for proper use of the due diligence system.

operators and taking measures in case of failure by an operator to use it properly.

7. Absence of conflict of interest

-The candidate must be organized in a way that ensures the objectivity and impartiality;

-When there is a risk of conflict of interest, the candidate to implement written policies procedures to avoid conflicts of interest at organizational level and individual.

8. Information on subsequent changes

-The monitoring agency shall immediately inform the Commission following recognition:

- . Occur any change that may affect the proper functioning ability.
- . Establish new branches, branches or subsidiaries within the Union.
- . Decides to provide services in other MS than those stated in the request cease to provide services in a MS;
- .The Commission shall communicate the above information to the competent authorities.

9. Review of the recognition decision

- The Commission shall review whenever a monitoring agency recognition decision where:
 - . Receives information from either the competent authority or by a third party that a monitoring organization does not perform his duties in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 995/2010 and the Delegated Regulations.
 - . Informed by a monitoring organization on changes that occurred after the recognition.
- The candidate provides in the review team, established ca assist the conduct of the review, access to the sites and all the facilities in order to verify whether it fulfilled the provisions of Regulation 995/2010 and the Delegated Regulation. The competent authorities concerned may participate in the visit.
- The review team prepares a report of its findings together with the necessary supporting information and which:
 - . Includes a recommendation on whether to revoke or not recognition of the organization.
 - . Forwarded to the competent authorities, which may submit comments within three weeks from the date of transmission.
 - . Provided in the form of a summary, the organization concerned, who may make observations within three weeks from the date of transmission of the summary.
 - . If the review team concluded that the monitoring organization no longer fulfills the duties in accordance with the provisions of EU Regulation no. 995/2010, then:
 - . Does the review report withdrawal of recognition or temporary and / or conditional, or permanently, depending on the deficiencies, or
 - . Recommends that the Commission issue a notice of remedial measures or to send a formal warning or not to take further action.

10. Decision to withdraw recognition

- Taking into account the review report, decides to withdraw the recognition of a monitoring organization either temporary and / or conditional, or permanently.
- When the level of shortcomings detected does not mean, according to the provisions of Regulation 995/2010 and Commission Delegated Regulation that the monitoring organization no longer meets the tasks, the Commission may issue a notice of remedial measures or formal warning.
- .The decision to withdraw recognition of a monitoring organization and the notice or formal notice notified to monitoring organization concerned and communicated to the competent authorities in all MS, within 10 working days of their issue.

The Delegated Regulation is binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all MS.

IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATION 995/2010 IN CYPRUS

The Forestry Department, who was appointed by the Republic of Cyprus as the competent authority for the implementation of EU Regulation on Wood (EUTR), following a public consultation with representatives of stakeholders, Services and Departments, prepared and sent in 2012, draft law on "the law on the control of Trade Timber and Timber Products Act of 2013"

to the Attorney General for legal vetting. Then, the bill was forwarded to the Cabinet which approved it and forwarded it to the House of Representatives which voted it into law on November 14, 2013.

According to the "on the Control of Trade Timber and Timber Products Act of 2013" (N. 139 (I) of 2013), which came into force on November 29, 2013 with the publication in the Gazette, the national legislation in line with the provisions of the European Regulation on Wood. Among other regulated and strengthened the supervision and control of the timber trade at the national level, rules for determining dissuasive sanctions in cases of violation of the provisions of Regulation, etc.

Forestry Department
January 2014