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Malaysian Timber Certification Council

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Revised PEFC Chain of Custody Standard

The PEFC General Assembly held in November 2010 has adopted the revised chain of custody (CoC) standard entitled *PEFC Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products-Requirements* (PEFC ST 2002:2010) dated 26 November 2010. The main change in this revised standard is the inclusion of social, health and safety requirements.

The revised standard replaces Annex 4 (*Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products-Requirements*) of the PEFC Council Technical Document which is the current chain of custody standard used under the MTCS. CoC certificate holders have been informed that Annex 4 will be withdrawn on **26 November 2011, after a one-year transition period.**

Nevertheless, during the transition period, i.e. from now until 26 November 2011, certificate holders are given the option of being assessed to the current standard (Annex 4) or the revised standard (PEFC ST 2002:2010). After 26 November 2011, all audits for chain of custody certification, whether first-time audits, surveillance or recertification shall only be carried out against the PEFC ST 2002:2010 document.

The PEFC General Assembly has also adopted the second edition of the document entitled *PEFC Logo Usage Rules* (PEFC ST 2001:2008 v2 dated 26 November 2010). The document reflects the changes to the label claim text, as well as the treatment of recycled material, for labeling purposes.

Certificate holders have been informed that the PEFC ST 2001:2008 v2 will be applicable only to the PEFC Logo usage licence holders that have been certified against the PEFC ST 2002:2010. Logo users which have obtained chain of custody certification against Annex 4 are required to continue using the first edition of the PEFC ST 2001:2008 (dated 21 November 2008).

In order to provide a better understanding on the *PEFC Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products- Requirements* (PEFC ST 2002:2010) and changes made in comparison to Annex 4 document as well as their implications, MTCC will be organising a series of briefings sessions in 2011.

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Photo courtesy of PEFC International

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PEFC NEWS

Source: PEFC Website

PEFC Launches Small Grants Program, Calls for Proposals by 26th February 2011

Building on a PEFC cornerstone of 'Think Global – Act Local', PEFC is pleased to announce the first call for proposals for the PEFC Collaboration Fund. The Fund seeks to support members and partner organizations in their dedicated efforts to advance sustainable forest management and forest certification around the world.

"Through the Collaboration Fund, we are looking to support locally relevant advancements in sustainable forest management", explained Sarah Price, Head of Projects and Development at PEFC International. "We recognize innovative ideas and solutions at a local level can often be scaled up for global application, and the Fund seeks to catalyse this interaction."

The Fund also represents an important element of PEFC's contribution to the UN International Year of Forests 2011,

which celebrates people's action to sustainably manage the world's forests.

The Fund's objectives are to:

- stimulate new innovative approaches which contribute to PEFC International strategic priorities;
- act as a catalyst for locally relevant projects which embody PEFC International's mission of 'a world where people manage forests sustainably';
- encourage the establishment of new partnerships amongst organizations and/or the strengthening of existing partnerships;
- provide co-funding that leverages funding from additional sources.

PEFC members and other non-profit organizations are encouraged to submit proposals for new and innovative projects by 26th February 2011. Project partners may also include private and public sector organizations.

Proposals requesting a PEFC Collaboration Fund contribution of up to 40,000 CHF and have a project timeframe up to two years will be considered. Grantees must provide evidence of at least 25% additional co-funding from other sources towards the overall project budget.

"An additional goal of the Fund is to foster existing and facilitate new partnerships among forest stakeholders," emphasized Ms. Price. "With the total area of certified forests globally having stalled at around 9% in recent years, partnerships and collaboration are needed to provide an important boost to the forest certification movement."

The official letter and its application form can be downloaded from the PEFC website at www.pefc.org

Update on the Review of the MC&I(2002)

The Second Draft of the MC&I(Natural Forest) was subjected to three regional consultations in Sarawak, Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia. The regional consultations were held in Kuching on 19-20 July, in Kota Kinabalu on 22-23 July and in Kuala Lumpur on 26-27 July 2010 respectively.

The main objective of the regional consultations was to obtain further comments and feedback from the various stakeholder groups on the Second Draft, to supplement the comments that have been received during the Second Public Comment stage, which was held from 10 March to 9 April 2010.

The consultations resulted in valuable comments and feedback received from the participants representing the social, environmental and economic stakeholder groups and the relevant government agencies in the three regions as reflected in the Records of

Discussion of the Regional Consultations for Sarawak, Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia.

MTCC as the Secretariat of the Standards Review Committee (SRC) has consolidated the comments and feedback on the Second Draft from the three regions which will be tabled for the deliberation by the Panel of Experts (PoE) scheduled to be held on 27-28 January 2011, and subsequently for the consideration by the Second Meeting of the SRC on 16-18 March 2011, in line with the revised process and timelines for the revision of the MC&I(2002).

For further information regarding the review of the MC&I(2002), please log on to the MTCC website under 'latest news' or contact the Secretariat (Mr. Yong Teng Koon and Mr. Mohd Faisal Jaafar) at 03-2161 2298 or via email at yongtk@mtcc.com.my or faisal@mtcc.com.my.

Auditor Training Course on MC&I (Forest Plantations)

A three-day auditor training course on the MC&I(Forest Plantations) was conducted by MTCC on 13-15 December 2010 in Temerloh, Pahang. The purpose of this training course was to enable the Certification Bodies (CBs) to comply with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17021 with regard to the competency of its auditors for accreditation with the Department of Standards Malaysia (STANDARDS MALAYSIA).

Six participants from two MTCS-notified CBs, i.e. SIRIM QAS International Sdn. Bhd. and SGS (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. attended the training course. To familiarise the auditors on the requirements of the MC&I(Forest Plantations), the course included lectures, a field visit programme for trial auditing, and the presentation of audit findings based on the trial audit.

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While the course focused primarily on the requirements of the MC&I (Forest Plantations), the participants were also briefed on the implementation of the MTCS, the accreditation requirements of CBs including the competency requirements for auditors, and the various assessment tools used in forest plantation management certification.

The one-day field programme was conducted at the forest plantations managed by Asiaprima Resources Sdn. Bhd. located in Kemasul Forest Reserve, Pahang. The trial forest plantation management audit included documentation review, consultation/communication with relevant stakeholders and the verification of management activities in the field. In conducting the trial audit, the audit teams visited and consulted an Orang Asli community at Kampung Asli Bukit

Ngeri, observed a permanent sample plot, inspected the chain of custody system in tracking the flow of forest products, assessed the natural regeneration of harvested areas, and visited areas designated as a High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) and a Research and Development (R&D) plot.

MTCC would like to express its heartfelt thanks to the Director of the Pahang State Forestry Department, and in particular the staff of the Kemasul Forest Plantation office for the logistic support rendered. MTCC would also like to thank Puan Wan Sabariah Mohd Noor, the Forest Plantation Manager of Asiaprima Resources Sdn. Bhd. for providing the site as well as in facilitating the field audit programme for this training course.



Visit and discussion at the R&D plot



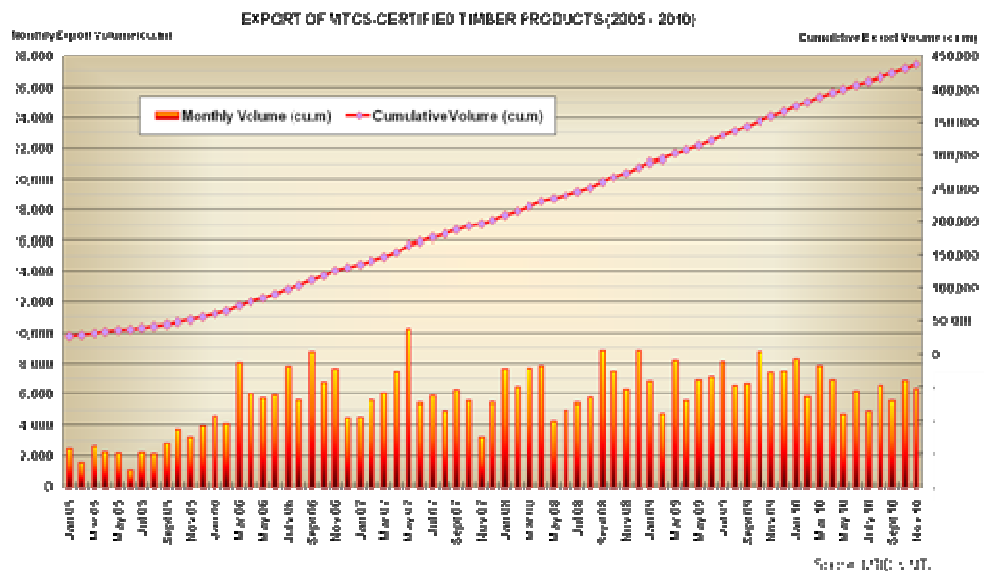
Visit and discussion at Orang Asli village

Export of MTCS-Certified Timber Products

November 2010

By Destination	Volume (m ³)
The Netherlands	3,533.16
Belgium	887.21
United Kingdom	610.32
USA	511.89
France	510.98
Australia	114.38
Germany	133.78
New Zealand	19.30
Total	6,321.02

By Product	Volume (m ³)
Sawn Timber	3,762.19
Plywood	1,974.61
Moulding	584.22
Total	6,321.02



Volume exported in November 2010: 6,321.02 m³

Total cumulative volume exported since July 2002: 436,608.75 m³

By December 2010, 160 timber companies are holders of PEFC certificate for CoC under the MTCS. Of these, 49 companies have signed the PEFC Logo Usage Licence agreement which will enable them to use the PEFC logo on their MTCS-certified products.

More information on the validity, size, contact information and location map of certified FMUs under the MTCS can be obtained from: www.mtcc.com.my