

**TRANSITION PLAN FROM THE USE OF THE MC&I(FOREST PLANTATIONS)
TO MC&I FOREST PLANTATION.V2 UNDER THE MTCS**

The MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 replaces the MC&I(Forest Plantations) as the standard for forest management certification. The revision process was conducted based on international requirements and the standard setting process for the development of certification standards under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) which require the certification standard to be reviewed at least every five years to ensure continuous improvement.

The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) has developed a 12-month transition plan from the use of the MC&I(Forest Plantations) to the **MC&I Forest Plantation.v2** beginning from **19 December 2014 to 31 December 2015**. The transition period will encompass six months preparation for the endorsement of the revised standard by the PEFC Council, information dissemination and training, leading to the **application date** of the revised standard on **1 July 2015**, followed by another six months for transition before the standard becomes **mandatory** on **1 January 2016**.

All notified certification bodies (CBs) are required to adhere to the following:

1. Make preparations to carry out audits against the **MC&I Forest Plantation.v2** by **1 July 2015**. Therefore, by 1 July 2015, all audits for existing certificate holders and new applicants shall use the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 as the audit requirement. Applications against the MC&I(Forest Plantations) after 1 July 2015 should not be accepted.

All certificate holders for forest plantation management certification under the MTCS are required to adhere to the following:

1. All audits of certificate holders after **1 July 2015** shall be assessed against the **MC&I Forest Plantation.v2**.
2. Certificate holders found to comply with the requirements of the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 will be awarded with a new certificate, which will be valid until the end of its current certification cycle (i.e. until 17 July 2017 for the existing certificate holders).
3. Any deviation from the additional requirements found in the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 as compared to the MC&I(Forest Plantations) will be addressed as a *Non-conformity* according to the ISO17021.

All new applicants for forest plantation management certification under the MTCS are required to adhere to the following:

1. All applications for forest plantation management received after **1 July 2015** shall be against the **MC&I Forest Plantation.v2**.
2. Certificate holders/applicants found to comply with the requirements of the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 will be awarded with a new certificate valid for three (3) years.

Note: Validity of PEFC endorsement of the MC&I(Forest Plantations) is until 30 June 2015. MTCC is making efforts to obtain PEFC re-endorsement of the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 as soon as possible. Should there be any delay in the re-endorsement process, MTCC will request for the extension of the endorsement of the MC&I(Forest Plantations) and inform stakeholders of any amendment to the transition plan.