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## **Annex I to the draft working paper towards a work plan 2017-20 for the implementation of the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan**

<b>Priority Area 1: Supply side measures and collaboration with timber producing countries</b>							
<b>Work plan section</b>	<b>Specific objective</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Deliverables / milestones</b>		<b>Reference to action area of FLEGT AP</b>
1	Forest governance and law enforcement in timber producing countries is improved and capacity to tackle illegal logging is strengthened through a variety of targeted mechanisms	Promote inclusive stakeholder participation in forest policy design and implementation, and sharing of benefits from the forest sector to vulnerable groups	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 20 countries, in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		1 (equitable solutions)
		Promote transparency of information in forest sector	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 20 countries, including both in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		1 (transparency)
		Support the development and/or strengthening of traceability and verification systems for timber legality	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 10 countries, including both in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		1 (verification)
		Build capacity of government and civil society to implement governance	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 23 countries,		1 (capacity building)

		reforms, tackle corruption (including link to EITI) and increase enforcement capacity, and monitoring forest sector			including both in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		
		Facilitate policy reform to improve coherence, inclusiveness and feasibility of regulatory framework	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 20 countries, including both in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		1 (policy reform)
		Stimulate adoption of public procurement policies in producing countries to source legal timber	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 5 countries, including both in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		3
		Strengthen SMEs compliance with legal frameworks and value chain competitiveness	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 23 countries, including both in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		4
		Facilitate resolution of conflicts related to local access to forest resources (including support to environment defenders and indigenous peoples' rights)	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 10 countries, including both in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		7
		Consider ways to better address illegal forest conversion in the context of the FLEGT support and dialogue and increase understanding of how illegal logging relates to the other drivers of deforestation in producing countries.	EC+MS	2018	Dedicated report published		
		Strengthen the capacity of timber producing countries to meet international market requirements for timber legality (e.g. EUTR, Lacey, etc.)	EC+MS	2017-2020	Relevant support project in at least 30 countries, including both in the context of VPAs or other FLEGT engagement		1, 2
		Strengthen cooperation with other major consumer countries on support to third countries to maximise impacts	EC+MS	2017-2020	At least 3 joint initiatives		1, 2

					Coordinated approach		
	<i>Enhance regional collaboration on timber trade and forest governance to better control trade in illegal timber within a region</i>	Strengthen regional networks for independent forest monitoring, building synergies between FLEGT and REDD+ processes	EC+MS	2017-20	At least 6 regional projects supporting CSO networks		1,7
		Support the ongoing efforts by the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to develop a more coherent regional framework on FLEG, timber legality and fight against illegal logging and related trade, including exchange of information and best practices	EC+MS	2017-2020	Regional cooperation component operating		1,2
		Reinforce Africa regional cooperation by identifying timber trade flows within the region and sharing best practices on FLEGT approaches	EC+MS	2017-2020	Regional cooperation component operating		1,2
<b>1.1.a</b>	<i>The FLEGT Licensing scheme and related FLEGT Voluntary Partnerships Agreements are effectively implemented both in the EU and Partner countries</i>	Ensure smooth operation of the FLEGT licensing scheme in the EU and document lessons learnt	EC+MS (partner country)	2017-2020	Biannual report on FLEGT regulation		2
		Publish annually Commission summary reports on implementation of the FLEGT licensing scheme, on the basis of national reports by Member States	EC+MS (partner country)	2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020	Annual reports available		2

		By 2019 <sup>1</sup> , submit to the Council a Report on the implementation of the FLEGT Regulation, based in particular on the synthesis reports referred to in Article 8(3) of the FLEGT regulation and on the reviews of Partnership Agreements.	COM	2019	Report on the implementation of the FLEGT Regulation		
		Ensure an effective and uniform implementation of the FLEGT regulation across the EU, including cooperation with Customs	EC+MS	2017-2020	Report on the implementation of the FLEGT Regulation		2
		Increase understanding of the functioning and benefits of the FLEGT licensing scheme among market operators and engaging with the private sector to this end	EC+MS	2017-20	FLEGT Information resources maintained, updated and disseminated (e.g. FLEGT.org website, Q&A documents, national resources, etc.)		
		Further develop and update regularly Commission guidance notice on implementation of the FLEGT regulation, including guidance notice on "Customs and FLEGT implementation guidelines"	EC+MS	2017-20	At least 3 updates of the guidance notice		2
	<i>EU-Indonesia VPA effectively implemented and its impacts monitored</i>	Oversee and ensure effective monitoring of the implementation of the of the EU-Indonesia VPA, including the functioning of the Indonesian TLAS and FLEGT licensing scheme	EC	Continuous with milestones in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual periodic evaluation carried out</li> <li>• JIC meeting at least on an annual basis</li> <li>• Functioning Independent Forest Monitoring Function</li> </ul>		

<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that in line with Article 9 of the Council Regulation (EC) No 2173/2005, this report should be presented “two years after the entry into force of the first Partnership Agreement”. Furthermore, “*this report shall be accompanied, where appropriate, by proposals for improvement of the FLEGT licensing scheme*”.

<b>1.1.b</b>	<i>Ensure progress towards achievement of VPA objectives in concluded VPAs</i>	Undertake a review of concluded VPAs whose progress has been below expectations, including both stock taking of current progress and a feasibility assessment to agreed objectives, and develop the chosen option concerning way forward	EC+MS+EEAS (partner country)	2018	Review discussed with concerned countries, and reinforced VPA implementation roadmaps or other FLEGT engagement agreed		1,2
		Support in country the implementation of reinforced VPA implementation roadmaps or of other FLEGT engagement, depending on agreed option (pending availability of funding from EC, MS or national budget)	EC+MS (partner country)	2017-20			
		Carry out Joint Assessment and finalise steps to issue of FLEGT licenses in Ghana, and oversee functioning of TLAS and licensing scheme (pending availability of funding from EC, MS or national budget)		2018	FLEGT licences emitted in Ghana. Annual JIC meetings carried out.		2
		Support completion of building of FLEGT verification system in Liberia, and finalise steps to FLEGT licenses (pending availability of funding from EC, MS or national budget)		2017-20	Milestones of Liberia VPA implementation roadmap, FLEGT licenses emitted in Liberia.		1,2
<b>1.1.c</b>	<i>Pursue ongoing VPA negotiations in countries where relevance is confirmed</i>	Make a (joint) stock taking exercise and feasibility assessment of on-going VPA negotiations which have seen limited progress and develop the chosen option concerning way forward	EC+MS+EEAS (+ partner country)	2017-mid 18	Assessments discussed with concerned countries, and strengthened negotiation strategies or other FLEGT engagement agreed		1,2
		Initial, sign and ratify EU-Guyana and EU-Honduras VPA, and cooperate towards preparation for implementation under an agreed Joint Implementation Framework		2017 - 2018	Agreement ratified  Joint Implementation Framework developed  Joint preparatory Committee/Joint		2

					Implementation Committee established		
		Sign and ratify EU-Vietnam VPA  Support and establish cooperation towards preparation for implementation under an agreed Joint Implementation Framework	EC+MS	2017-18	Agreement ratified  Joint Implementation Framework developed  Joint preparatory Committee/Joint Implementation Committee established		2
		Continue negotiations with Laos and Thailand and support the national FLEGT process, including by undertaking additional assessments to ensure informed and efficient VPA process	EC+MS	2017-20	At least one negotiation session /year		2
<b>1.2.</b>	<i>Pursue other options for FLEGT engagement with other timber producing countries through a range of mechanisms on FLEGT objectives ("FLEGT trademarked action", sector programme, "FLEGT Structured Dialogue")</i>	Explore with priority countries interest in engaging in the afore mentioned options on FLEGT objectives and develop their implementation scope and modalities	EC+MS (partner countries)	2017-20	Other engagement agreed in concerned countries, with its scope and modalities defined; (IF human and financial resources are available at EU level)		1
<b>1.3.</b>	<i>Cooperation with other major suppliers to EU market is strengthened</i>	Strengthen cooperation by establishing dedicated mechanisms (see section 1.2) and/or using existing mechanisms, fora and high-level dialogues which provide the basis for discussion on combatting	EC +MS	2017-20	At least 5 cooperation dialogues have defined scope and modalities		1, 2

		illegal logging and related trade					
		Fill in knowledge gaps concerning the phenomenon of illegal logging and related trade, particularly imports into the EU, for Russia, EU Eastern neighbourhood countries and EU candidate countries and potential candidates	EC+MS	2018	Study completed		
		Enhance cooperation on illegal logging and associated trade with EU candidates countries and potential candidates, including enhanced exchange of information and best practices	EC (NEAR) +MS	Continuous, with milestones to be determined	2 Workshops organized		
		Facilitate environmental legislation approximation, specifically concerning the EUTR and FLEGT regulation, for EU Candidate Countries and Potential Candidates	EC (NEAR) +MS	2017-20	TA support provided in at least 5 countries (more when MS indicate their input)		1, 2
	<i>Encourage responsible financing and investment in forest exploitation and timber production and processing</i>	Promote adoption of legality/sustainability standards by European financial institutions investing in forests or in sectors potentially linked to deforestation	ECFIN/FISMA tbc				5
1.4		Promote the increase of financial flow to the forest sector (with sustainability safeguards) through the External Investment Plan (EIP) and blending facilities	EC+MS	2018-20	At least 3 forest sector investments leveraged through EIP or blending facilities		5





## Priority Area 2: Demand side measures

Work plan section	Specific objective	Actions	Responsible	Target date	Deliverables / Milestones		Reference to action area of FLEGT AP
2.1.	<b>Effective and uniform EUTR implementation across the EU is ensured</b>	Convene bimonthly meetings EUTR expert group are convened to ensure coordination among Member States	EC+MS	2017-20	All EU MS implement EUTR, including performing checks and applying penalties		2
		Define and assess priority risks regularly (e.g. risk species, products and trades routes) to support better enforcement by EUTR Competent Authorities	EC+MS	2017-2020	Periodic updates on relevant trade patterns		2
		Analyse relevant MS legislation and identify possible areas for improvement	EC+MS	2017-2020	All national legislations cover all elements of the EU Timber Regulation		2
		Analysis of the costs, administrative and other consequences of the compliance with EUTR for industry, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises;	EC				
		Identify best practices, challenges and shortcoming by operators, particularly considering the quality and cost-effective practices in application of due diligence systems	EC+MS	2017-2020	Operators have access to relevant information and apply best practices		2
		Compile and analyse information on cases where specific attention of the Authorities might be required based on publicly available information and specific reports both in EU and in third countries	EC+MS	2017-2020	All relevant cases are investigated		2
		Maintain EUTR communication platform on Cap4Dev and strive to make relevant information available to EUTR Competent Authorities	EC	2017-20	At least 10 FLEGT relevant inputs per year published in Cap4Dev		2
		Further develop and update regularly Commission guidance notice on	EC	2017-20	Periodic updates		2

		implementation of the EUTR					
		Publish Commission biennial reports on implementation of the EUTR, on the basis of national reports by Member States	EC+MS	2017 and 2019	Reports published		2
		Undertake impact assessment for the review of the product scope of the EU Timber Regulation and, if appropriate, propose any amendments	EC+MS	2017	Impact Assessment completed		2
<b>2.2.</b>	<b>Enhance bilateral cooperation with other major consumer countries</b>	Enhance engagement with other major importing countries with demand-side measures in place (e.g. USA, Australia, Japan), particularly with a view to share information about respective implementation/enforcement issues and coordinate support to producer countries	EC+MS	2017-2020	Periodic updates		2
		Continue and further strengthen EU-China Cooperation under the Bilateral Coordination Mechanism on FLEGT					2,1
		Monitor and support developments of legislative frameworks in other major consumer countries still in process	EC+MS	2017-2020	At least one new legislation developed		2
		Establish a dialogue on demand side measures which includes major market players and ensure follow-up	EC+MS	2017-2020	At least two events organised		2
<b>2.3.a</b>	<b>Strengthen EU MS national procurement policies</b>	Develop/adapt MS national policies on Green Public Procurement policies	MS	2017-2020	At least 20 MS have relevant policies in place		2
		Develop and/or update voluntary Green Public Procurement criteria which include timber legality as a core criteria	EC				
		Encourage Member States to recognise FLEGT licences in their national policies.	EC				
<b>2.3.b</b>	<b>Encourage EU private sector to apply responsible sourcing policies</b>	GROW + MS					4

### Priority area 3: Multi-lateral framework

	Specific objective	Actions	Responsible	Target date	Milestones		Reference to action area of FLEGT AP
3	<i>Strengthen multilateral efforts to combat illegal logging and related trade and support implementation of relevant international commitments</i>	Support the adoption and implementation of strong decisions, resolutions and political declarations on FLEGT objectives in forest related international instruments and multilateral fora, i.e. UNFF, ITTO and FAO	EC + MS	2017-20			6
3		Foster collaboration with CITES, in terms of listing of additional tree species and of improved compliance and enforcement	EC + MS	2017-20	Nº tree species added to CITES Annex II; support to CITES secretariat provided		6
3		Support and strengthen synergies between implementation of the FLEGT Action Plan and the EU wildlife trafficking Action Plan by ensuring that initiatives to combat forest crime and wildlife trafficking are mutually supportive	EC + MS	2017-20	Relevant support programme on wildlife and timber trafficking established		6, 7
3	<i>Mutually reinforce and support climate mitigation action and FLEGT objectives by promoting forest governance and the climate action potential of forests</i>	Strengthen the role of forest governance in Paris Agreement processes aiming to implement Article 5 of the PA (REDD+ and land-related mitigation) and support progress towards mitigation objectives, e.g. NDC commitments, in FLEGT processes	EC+MS (CLIMA)	2018-20	Nº NDC implementation strategies include FLEGT objectives OR Relevant linkages established in COP discussions, COP decisions		6
3		Actively promote the international uptake of EU approach to illegal logging, building on the work of the OECD, UN, G7/G20 and WTO committee on Trade and Environment.	ENV, TRADE, EEAS	2017-20			

		Use EU trade policies and instruments proactively, particularly by pursuing ambitious commitments to combat illegal logging and related trade in Free Trade Agreements	TRADE	2017-20	FTAs include ambitious provisions on Forest and Trade		
<b>Operational issues</b>							
<b>Work plan section</b>	<i>Specific objective</i>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Milestones</b>		<b>Reference to action area of FLEGT AP</b>
<b>4,1</b>	Analyse financial sustainability of FLEGT AP, including cost implications and potential revenues, and establish a financing strategy, considering financial sources beyond ODA.	Clarify resources demanded by VPA approach by carrying out 15 budget estimates and financing strategies for VPAs in negotiation and implementation	EC+MS	2017	15 VPA budget estimates and financing strategies		2, 1
		Include cost estimated and financing strategy in any new VPA negotiation	EC (+partner country)	2018-20	100% new VPA negotiations include this		2
		Include cost estimate and financing strategy in other FLEGT engagement proposal	EC+MS(+partner country)	2017-20	100% FLEGT engagements include this		1,2
<b>4,2</b>	<i>Strengthen EU and MS coordination in the implementation of the FLEGT AP</i>	Continue operation of the Ad Hoc FLEGT group	EC+MS	2017-20	number of meetings and minutes		n.a
		Continue operation of EUTR / FLEGT expert group	EC+MS	2017-20	number of meetings and minutes		n.a
		Reinforce EC and MS coordination in country as regards VPA implementation	EC+MS	2017-20	number of meetings and minutes		n.a
		Identify specific areas of FLEGT AP implementation where a MS (or coalition of MS) can take the lead for technical EU coordination	EC+MS	2018	At least 2 countries or areas technically coordinated by a MS		n.a

4,3	<i>Enhance monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the FLEGT AP</i>	Establish global level impact monitoring framework of the FLEGT AP	EC	2018	Independent monitor contracted, indicators agreed	all
		Report on EUTR and FLEGT Regulation implementation in line with legal requirements	EC		Report	2
		Produce biannual report on the implementation of the Work Plan	EC		Report	2
		Establish a data base on VPA achievements	EC+MS	2017	Data base functional with semestrial outputs	2, 1
		Establish a data base on progress for each of the seven action areas of the FLEGT AP	EC+MS	2017	Data base functional with semestrial outputs	all
		Help the JIC build and run impact VP monitoring mechanisms, in countries implementing a VPA	EC+MS(+partner country)	2018-19	At least 3 VPA impact monitoring mechanisms running in country	2
		Carry out FLEGT Independent Market Monitoring	EC	2017-20	Annual report published	2
4,4	<i>Promote common understanding of and better communicate objectives, achievements and challenges of the FLEGT AP</i>	Promote the use of existing communication tools	EC+MS	2107-20	Report by communication support provider	n.a
		Develop a communication strategy for the FLEGT AP with broad scope of target groups, and roll it out	EC+MS	2018	Communication strategy available	n.a

<b>Acronyms:</b>							
<b>EC</b>	<i>European Commission</i>						
<b>MS</b>	<i>Member States</i>						
<b>EEAS</b>	<i>EU External Action Service</i>						
<b>DEVCO</b>	<i>Directorate General International Cooperation and development</i>						
<b>ENV</b>	<i>Directorate General Environment</i>						
<b>CLIMA</b>	<i>Directorate General Climate Action</i>						
<b>GROW</b>	<i>Directorate General Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs</i>						
<b>TRADE</b>	<i>Directorate General Trade</i>						
<b>CAR</b>	<i>Central Africa Republic</i>						
<b>RoC</b>	<i>Republic of Congo</i>						
<b>DRC</b>	<i>Democratic Republic of Congo</i>						