

Public Notice

● Korea Forest Service Notice No. 2018-73

Pursuant to the Article 19-3 (2) of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers, the Korea Forest Service hereby publicly notifies the Detailed Standards for Determining the Legality of Imported Timber and Timber Products as follows.

August 16, 2018

Minister of the Korea Forest Service

Detailed Standards for Determining the Legality of Imported Timber and Timber Products

1. Rationale

Pursuant to Article 19-3 (2) of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers, the Korea Forest Service intends to set detailed standards necessary for an inspection agency to determine the legality of imported timber and timber products when reviewing the submitted documents.

2. Major Contents

Article 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Public Notice is to prescribe detailed matters necessary for an inspection agency designated by the Minister of the Korea Forest Service under Article 19-3 (2) of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers to inspect documents about timber or timber products subject to an import declaration under Article 19-2 of the Act.

Article 2. Harmonized System Code of Products in Scope

The Harmonized System Code of timber products or log pursuant to Article 18-3 of the Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers (hereinafter referred to as “the Enforcement Decree”) are as follows:

1. Log (HS4403);
2. Sawn timber (HS4407);
3. Anti-decay wood (HS4407);
4. Fire-retardant-treated wood (HS4407);
5. Laminated wood (HS4407);
6. Plywood (HS4412);
7. Wood pellets (HS4401.31).

Article 3. Detailed Standards for Documents

When an inspection agency inspects documents pursuant to Article 19-3 (2) of the Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”), detailed standards for the document, which verifies that timber or timber products have been legally felled, are as follows:

1. A permit for felling issued pursuant to the statutes of the country of origin;
2. Documents internationally recognized to certify legally felled timber or timber products;
 - A. A Forest Management certificate or a Chain of Custody Certificate (including Controlled Wood Certificate) issued by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC);
 - B. A Forest Management certificate or a Chain of Custody Certificate issued by the Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC);
 - C. A certificate issued according to the certification system mentioned in the attached Table hereof, which is mutually recognized through bilateral consultation between countries and the PEFC;
 - D. A document issued in accordance with international certification systems (including a third party certification under ISO 17065) for sustainable use of biomass, which verifies whether timber has been legally felled.
3. A document mutually recognized through bilateral consultation between the Republic of Korea and the country of origin:
 - A. A document issued in accordance with the forest certification system operated by the government of the country of origin or an organization delegated by said government.
4. Any other document which verifies that the relevant timber or timber product has been legally felled:
 - A. A certificate issued in accordance with management systems established by the exporting country based on the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade-Voluntary Partnership Agreement (FLEGT-VPA) operated by the European Union;
 - B. An export permit which verifies that timber or timber products have been legally felled in accordance with the statutes of the exporting country;
 - C. A document with an official seal or a signature from the government of the exporting country or an agency delegated thereby that verifies the relevant timber or timber product has been legally felled, including a transportation permit and a packing list;
 - D. A document written and signed by an exporter in accordance with Attached Form 1 where the exporting country has laws and systems in place to restrict illegal logging and associated trade;
 - E. Any other document that can verify the legality and sustainability of timber through mutual consultation between the Republic of Korea and the exporting country.

Article 4. Requirements for Submission of Documents

Importers shall submit any of the documents specified in the subparagraphs of Article 3 and shall comply with all of the following conditions. However, if an importer proves that the imported timber or timber products declared pursuant to Article 19-2 were shipped on board before October 1, 2018, the importer need not submit the documents designated under Article 3.

1. The original or copy shall be submitted to an inspection agency designated under the Article 18-4 (1) of the Enforcement Decree.
2. Importers shall submit with a Korean or English translation when documents are written in the language of an exporting country other than Korean or English.

Article 5. Deadline for Reexamination

Under the Regulations on the Issuance and Management of Directives and Established Rules, the Minister of the Korea Forest Service shall examine the appropriateness of this Public Notice at the end of every three-year period, counting from January 1st, 2019 (referring to the period until December 31st of every third year), and take measures, such as making improvements.

Addendum

Article 1. Date of Enforcement

This Public Notice shall enter into force on October 1st, 2018.

Mutual recognition between countries and the PEFC

(As of September 2017)

	Country	Forest certification system	FM(ha)	CoC(case)
1	Argentine	Argentine Forest Certification System(CERFOAR)	22,524	10
2	Brazil	Brazilian Forest Certification Programme (CERFLOR)	3,072,628	65
3	Chile	Chile Forest Certification Corporation(CERTFOR)	1,908,712	63
4	Canada	PEFC Canada, Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)	130,937,328	188
5	America	PEFC United States: American Tree Farm System (ATFS), Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)	33,502,630	270
6	Uruguay	Sociedad de Productores Forestales del Uruguay	619,168	3
7	Australia	Australian Forestry Standard	23,832,280	196
8	China	China Forest Certification Council(CFCC)	5,709,026	289
9	Japan	Sustainable Green Ecosystem Council(SGEC)	679,129	700
10	Indonesia	Indonesian Forestry Certification Cooperation(IFCC)	3,491,040	32
11	Malaysia	Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC)	4,119,249	359
12	New Zealand	New Zealand Forest Certification Association Inc.(NZFCA)	434,185	28
13	Austria	PEFC Austria	3,081,518	470
14	Belarusia	Belarusian Association of Forest Certification	8,710,234	9
15	Belgium	PEFC Belgium	299,500	303
16	Czech Republic	PEFC Czech Republic	1,811,407	212
17	Denmark	PEFC Denmark	264,411	100
18	Estonia	Estonian Forest Certification Council	1,174,511	71
19	Finland	PEFC Finland	17,660,520	232
20	France	PEFC France	8,211,435	2,033
21	Germany	PEFC Germany	7,398,828	1,708
22	Hungary*	Hungarian Forest Certification Non-profit Ltd.	-	21
23	Ireland	PEFC Ireland	376,108	41
24	Italy	PEFC Italy	828,952	711
25	Latvia	PEFC Latvia	1,700,889	49
26	Luxembourg	PEFC Luxembourg	34,195	18
27	Netherlands	PEFC Netherlands	-	454
28	Norway	PEFC Norway	7,380,750	75
29	Poland	PEFC Poland	7,252,197	172
30	Portugal	PEFC Portugal	256,369	133
31	Russia	PEFC Russia	12,875,382	30
32	Slovakia	Slovak Forest Certification Association	1,230,971	79
33	Slovenia	Institute for Forest Certification	49,204	42
34	Spain	PEFC Spain	2,108,257	880
35	Sweden	PEFC Sweden	11,549,700	212
36	United Kingdom	PEFC UK	1,409,761	1,180
37	Switzerland	PEFC Switzerland	208,949	51
38	Romania*	PEFC Romania	-	24
39	Gabon*	PEFC Gabon	-	-

* FM does not apply to countries mutually recognized in 2016

※ Source: www.pefc.org (PEFC Global Statistics, SFM & CoC Certification, Sep 2017)

Confirmation of Timber Legality

■ Contractor:

Item	Unit	Quantity	Species	Country of Origin
E.g., Plywood	m ³	50	Radiata Pine (%)	New Zealand
			Eucalyptus (%)	Indonesia
			Poppler (%)	China

※ Write down all the countries of origin if a raw material comes from more than one country; the same applies for species.

The above statement verifies the contract between *Month, Date, Year* and *Month, Date, Year* .

The items mentioned above are products made from legally felled timber. We agree to cooperate with the Government of the Republic of Korea when it requests a local investigation for the legality of timber if needed.

Date: YY/MM/DD

Address:

Company Name:

Name:

(Representative)

Contact Number: