



## PEFC endorses Indonesian Forestry Certification Cooperation Program (IFCC)

**Jakarta, 11 December 2014** – A new initiative that will increase Indonesia's ability to export sustainable forestry products was marked at an event in Jakarta today.

All products recognised by the Indonesian Forestry Certification Cooperation (IFCC) will receive automatic accreditation from the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

Endorsement from PEFC, the world's largest sustainable forestry certification system, began in October and follows recognition by the European Union and Australia of Indonesia's Timber Legality Assurance System (SVLK), sending a strong signal that Indonesia is able and willing to manage its forests in a sustainable and transparent manner.

Secretary General of PEFC International, Ben Gunneberg, speaking at the event said: "This endorsement signifies a turning point for Indonesia, a country still struggling to combat high deforestation rates. Forest certification represents an important mechanism to verify and promote sustainable forest management, thus safeguarding the environmental, social, and economic benefits that forests provide.

"This is especially important in a country like Indonesia, given the significance of its forest resources both in terms of protecting biodiversity and its contribution to supporting local livelihoods. PEFC-endorsed forest certifications enable people to choose good wood, wood that comes from forests that have been independently verified as sustainably managed. We encourage companies and consumers alike to opt for PEFC-certified products to support forest owners in Indonesia, who manage their forests sustainably."

The process for setting the IFCC certification standard started in 2012. Drafted in partnership with members of the standardization committee, it was approved by the IFCC board of directors in 2013 and submitted to the PEFC Council for endorsement this year. The certification is valid until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019, when it will be subject to renewal.

The Chairman of IFCC, Dradjad H Wibowo, stated: "All this time, some people keep disputing between sustainable forest and economic development, Standard Certification of IFCC which has been endorsed by PEFC will be the effective tools to support sustainable forest management and in concurrent to keep the export of forest products and processed forest products, job opportunities and economic development. PEFC/IFCC Certification of Sustainable Forest Management Scheme is the market tool that is voluntary developed so it will not contradict in any aspects with the government mandatory SVLK. Many companies and consumers in the world



acknowledge PEFC/IFCC certificates and logo as the proof that they only procure the wood products, pulp, papers, and its derivative products that come from sustainable management forest. Thus, the products that have obtained PEFC logo and certificates, because they have fulfilled IFCC standard requirements will be able to be marketed to the worldwide companies and consumers. We ask all of our stakeholders to together keep and supervise IFCC certificates so they will always be implemented credibly.”

Indonesian Forest Manager/ Asosiasi Pengusaha Hutan Indonesia (APHI) welcome the endorsement of IFCC’s scheme by PEFC, which has been awaited by the license holder of the forest products utilization in Indonesia. PEFC endorsement marks the new era of the development of the voluntary sustainable forest certification scheme, which acknowledged internationally, said **Purwardi Soeprihanto**, Executive Director of APHI. Purwadi expects, this scheme will enhance the acceptance of the Indonesian forest products internationally. IFCC/PEFC scheme shall be supported to be synergized with the mandatory national certification scheme, or known as Timber Legality Verification System (SVLK). Therefore, the promotion of Indonesian certified sustainable forest products can be conducted effectively, added Purwardi. IFCC/PEFC scheme can be supplemented to the choices that the industry have to fulfil the international consumers’ request. Each consumer in different countries has different preference to certification scheme. The spirit and principles of PEFC which gives space to the values and regulations of the endorsed country, is believed to broaden the acceptance of this scheme in Indonesia.

Secretariat General of Indonesian Wood Panel Association/ Asosiasi Panel Kayu Indonesia (APKINDO) **A.A Malik** stated: “We welcome the existence of IFCC in Indonesia, which the world has accepted the standard that is developed by IFCC by keeping in mind the local condition (of Indonesia). Malik wishes that IFCC standard can be implemented to achieve forest sustainable and development of the wood panel industry. IFCC is expected to be able to broaden the market of certified wood panel by promoting and providing information to the consumers with the importance of the legal and certified wood.”

**Liana Bratasida**, Executive Director of Association of Pulp and Paper Indonesia/Asosiasi Pulp dan Kertas Indonesia (APKI), in this case also put positive response on the endorsement of IFCC Certification Scheme by PEFC, where she saw that the IFCC standard criteria were made by involving multi-stakeholders and fulfilling ecological aspects of forest sustainable management while still considering the well being of the surrounding community. Therefore this scheme will encourage the improvement of the sustainable forest management in Indonesia.



“Further, from the pulp and paper industry, she believes that by this endorsement, the pulp and paper products of Indonesia will be guaranteed coming from the sustainable management forest which then can be accepted by the international market, easy to be marketed and will save the cost (of production).”

Lisman Sumardjani, Executive Director of Association of Furniture Indonesia (Asosiasi Mebel Indonesia/Asmindo) also commented: “He wishes that IFCC’s action in the forestry products certification will get international acknowledgement and keep the aspiration of the sustainable forest.”

Endorsement of the IFCC is another mark of the expanded reach of PEFC within the region. As Japan becomes the latest Asian country to join PEFC as a National Member, a number of other countries are also exploring options to achieve similar recognition, with India, New Zealand, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, South Korea, and Thailand advancing their national systems for consideration by the certification system.

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## **IFCC – Indonesian Forestry Certification Cooperation**

IFCC is an Indonesian legal entity, established on 9 September 2011 and accepted as PEFC International Stakeholder Member by the PEFC General Assembly in Vienna, Austria on 16 November 2012. Its objective is to promote Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) by implementation of the PEFC’s Scheme, which includes among others, but is not limited to, certification of forest management, forest products, forest product-processing industries, and the chain of custody.

IFCC is a national organization responsible for the development of forest certification in Indonesia using the PEFC (Programme For The Endorsement Of Forest Certification) scheme. On May 2012, IFCC started the process to develop a sustainable forest management certification standard in an open and transparent manner, involving a variety of stakeholders to reach a consensus on an accepted forest management certification standard based on the PEFC’s guidelines.



**PEFC – The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)** is an international non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) through independent third-party certification.

PEFC works throughout the entire forest supply chain to promote good practice in the forest and to ensure that timber and non-timber forest products are produced with respect for the highest ecological, social and ethical standards. Thanks to its eco-label, customers and consumers are able to identify products from sustainably managed forests.

PEFC is an umbrella organization. It works by endorsing national forest certification systems developed through multi-stakeholder processes and tailored to local priorities and conditions.

With over 30 endorsed national certification systems and more than 240 million hectares of certified forests, PEFC is the world's largest forest certification system.

[www.pefc.org](http://www.pefc.org)

*Doing Good.  
Doing No Harm is no Longer Good Enough.*

Zulfandi Lubis  
Executive Director of IFCC  
(081584153379)