



Terms of Reference

Rationale

- 1.1 The ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network on Forests and Climate Change (from herewith shall be known as the “**Network**”) is established based on the decisions of the Eleventh Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF), held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 31 July -1 August 2008, to promote the use of regional knowledge networks, among others, to broaden the ASEAN base of knowledge in forests and climate change issues.
- 1.2 The Terms of Reference for the Network are elaborated below to ensure effectiveness in products delivery and efficient working of the Network. The Terms of Reference shall be reviewed periodically for their relevance.

Network Goals

The goals of the network are to:

- 2.1 Support ASEAN decision-making and implementation processes by providing inputs based on policy-oriented research results, outcomes and policy analysis on forests and climate change;
- 2.2 Support ASEAN Member States to better understand and learn from each other’s approaches in the implementation of forests and climate change activities and good practices;
- 2.3 Stimulate research and debateto develop, advise and facilitate solutions in forests and climate change issues among ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Partners.

Network Tasks

The Network strives to achieve those goals by:

- 3.1 Responding to emerging issues on forests and climate change arising from the work programmes of ASOF and AMAF, and from regional and international processes that are relevant to ASEAN Member States;
- 3.2 Creating and supporting a regional pool of expertise/experts in ASEAN to undertake policy analysis and research on forests and climate change issues from the perspective of ASEAN Member States;

- 3.3 Mobilizing resources and building partnerships to set up and coordinate collaborative research projects that are of interest to ASEAN Member States and facilitating the exchange of research results;
- 3.4 Enhancing policy implementation by capacity building to further strengthen the implementation of forests and climate change activities in ASEAN Member States, taking into account the different level of socio-economic development and forest resources among ASEAN Member States; and
- 3.5 Providing a platform for non-official stakeholders and the broader research community to enhance forests and climate change policy processes in ASEAN.

Network Chairperson

- 4.1 The Network Chairperson, a national of the lead country on the forest and climate change initiative in ASOF, shall be the coordinator of the Network.

Network Members

- 5.1 Each ASEAN Member State should have one appointment of a Network Member, whose tasks are to coordinate and facilitate national contributions to the Network at the country level.
- 5.2 Network Members shall be actively involved in forestry and climate change research and development activities
- 5.3 Network Members shall attend or have suitable representatives in attending Network Meetings.

Network Partners

- 6.1 Network Partners are individuals or organizations, which the Network Members have invited by consensus to contribute to the goals of the Network.

Network Working Modalities

- 7.1 The ASEAN Secretariat, assisted by the Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI), within its capacity, shall play a facilitating role for the Network, as well as provide the interface and manage the communication between ASOF and the Network. The ASEAN Secretariat shall be the institutional hub to ensure ownership by the ASOF/AMAF.
- 7.2 Research, especially policy-oriented research and policy analysis conducted by Network members shall be organized through service arrangements supported by Network Partners.
- 7.3 Common references for the Network activities are the ASEAN benchmarks, such as the ASEAN Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests, 2007, (ASEAN C&I) and the Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting Format for Sustainable Forest Management in ASEAN, 2007 (ASEAN MAR).

7.4 Communication among Network members, as well as for coordinated exchange and sharing of information shall be through the existing ASEAN Regional Forest Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) which is managed by the ASEAN Secretariat and by every means of communication.

7.5 Official communication should be through the National Coordinators of ASOF and the Network Chair to be facilitated by the ASEAN Secretariat.

Network Meetings

8.1 The Network will hold its meeting whenever required depending on the availability of resources, and not less than once a year.