

China's Initiatives for Promoting Sustainable Trade in Forest Products

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I. China Has Became the Major Power of World Forest Products Production, Processing, Consumption, Exportation and Importation



◆ **Consolidating of Traditional Products:**

Timber, Rosin, Economic forests,etc.

◆ **Flourish Development of Newly-emerged Products:**

Bamboo industry, flower cultivation, forest tourism Industry, forest-based foods.

◆ **Based panels, furniture and rosin output ranked first in the world**

◆ **Paper and paper board production and consumption in both ranking second in the world**

◆ **Turpentine, lac, wood flooring production in the world top three**

◆ **Economic forest products and the production of flowers also ranked best in the world**



According to the Customs HS code classification system to statistics, China's forest products in the 8-bit code under the 535 species in 10-bit code under 774 kinds

Products	Code	Products	Code
Wood chip	4401	Pulp & waste paper	47
Charcoal	4402	Paper & paper board	48
Log	4403	Paper products	49
Sawn timber	4406-4407	Wooden furniture	94016110、6190、6900； 94033000、4000、5010、5091、 5099、6010、6091、6099
Veneer	4408	Rattan, grass, reed and associated products	46、94015000、94038010
Pre-finished furniture	4409	Seedling, flower	06
Particle board	4410	Edible fruit and nut	08
Fibre board	4411	Bamboo	14011000
Plywood	4412	Rattan	14012000
Woodwork	4413、14、15、16、17、18、19、20、21	Activated carbon	38021000
Cork & cork products	45	Rosin and associated products	3806

In recent years, the foreign trade of forest products developed rapidly, the trade deficit has been transformed into a trade surplus. According to Chinese customs statistics, China's forest products foreign trade in 2007 totaled 64.3 billion dollars, representing 23% growth in 2006. Among them, exports 31.9 billion dollars, an increase of 21%; imports amounted to 32.4 billion dollars, an increase of 25%.





II. The Efforts of Promoting Sustainable Trade in Forest Products & Combating Illegal Logging by China

1) Domestic Level



Logging Quota



Timber transport documentation



Wood processing permit

Operational Legal Basis

Domestic associated law & statute:



The Foreign Trade Law of the People's Republic of China
The Customs Law of the People's Republic of China
The Forestry Law of the People's Republic of China
The Regulations for the Implementation of the Law of the People's Republic of China
The People's Republic of China Import and Export Goods Regulations

International conventions

2) International Level



Correctly treating the relation between economic development and ecological conservation is the foundation of protecting forest resources, controlling illegal logging and relevant trade.



The standpoint of Chinese Government to protect the global environment, combat illegal logging and illegal timber trade is firm. China also participate in multilateral / bilateral communication, cooperation and relevant international conference actively.

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
The Convention on Wetlands
The Convention on Biological Diversity



China took measures to assist some countries to protect and rational exploit of forest resources

(1) China provided personnel training to a number of timber-producing countries in ASEAN, Africa and Oceania, to strengthen their managers' diathesis and management of forest resources.



(2) China assisted neighbouring countries to restore forest resources and encourage Chinese enterprises in Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia and other countries to carry out afforestation and alternative cultivation of drugs; In 2007 Chinese government also Introduced A Guide on Sustantable Overseas Silviculture By Chinese Enterprises to guide and normalize Chinese enterprises form concept of sustainable development of forest operation.



(3) In the development and utilization of forest resources, China promoted mutually beneficial, long-term sustainable development principles and requirements of Chinese enterprises in strict accordance with the laws and regulations in host country of the resources, to engage in forest logging, processing and updating



(4) Strengthening cooperation in the combating illegal logging. China signed the memorandum on combating illegal logging with the United States and Indonesia, set up the Combating illegal logging and relevant trade bilateral forum, participate in the course of Asian, European and North Asian forest law enforcement and the regional administration.

China also discussing with Australia, European Union, United Kingdom, Russia and Japan to cooperate in this field, to do efforts for the global forests sustainable development.



3) Attached importance to cooperate with international organizations, NGOs and corporations

State Forestry Administration, P.R.China is cooperating with FAO, ITTO, IUCN, TNC, WWF, Forest Trends, etc.



Promoting enterprises in action with 2 levels:

The first, to raise up the companies' aware of the harm and gravity of illegal logging through publication, to raise the initiative and consciousness of enterprises to prevent illegal logging.

The second, to constitute relevant regulations, normalizing the enterprises' timber production and operation, stop illegal logging.



Timber supply and consumption countries have to do efforts for the maintenance sustainable development of global forest resources!

