

# QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE: Identifying legal timber from *Malaysia*



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture  
and Water Resources



Malaysian Government  
Ministry of Plantation  
Industries & Commodities

This Quick Reference Guide supports the **Country Specific Guideline** for **Malaysia**. These documents may be used by Australian importers of regulated timber products from Malaysia to carry out their due diligence in accordance with the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012* and the *Illegal Logging Prohibition Regulation 2012*.

Malaysia's forestry and timber industry is governed by laws, regulations and institutional arrangements in the three regions; Peninsular, Sabah and Sarawak.

## Legal requirements of timber harvesting in Malaysia

Any company or person wishing to take or remove timber from a forest area in Malaysia shall have a valid harvesting licence or forest timber licence, to be issued by the relevant state authority. Felled logs are inspected for royalty assessment and payments. All royalties assessed on logs shall be issued and accompanied with Removal Passes (or Exchange Removal Passes) to approved destinations.

The three regions have each compiled a list of timber species that shall be protected. A company or person issued with a valid harvesting licence or forest timber licence shall ensure that these protected species are retained after harvesting the licenced area. The lists can be found in the Country Specific Guideline for Malaysia.

Areas gazetted as Aboriginal Reserves, Aboriginal Areas, Communal Forests and any land subject to Native Customary Rights are excluded from the areas planned for harvesting, unless prior consent or approval has been obtained.

## Exports of Malaysian timber and timber products

Any company or person engaged in the export of the regulated timber products (e.g. HS codes 44, 47, 48 and 94) must register with the relevant issuing authority and be issued with a Certificate of Registration. Registered companies or persons are allowed to export these products upon obtaining an Export Licence.

In Peninsular, the issuing authority is Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB). In Sabah, the issuing authority is the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD). In Sarawak, the issuing authority is the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC). See sample documents below:

### Peninsular



Figure 1:  
Registration Certificate

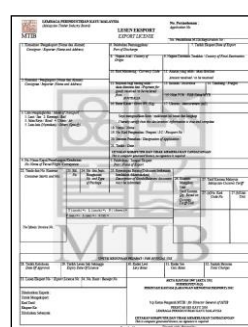


Figure 2:  
Export Licence

**Disclaimer:** While the Sabah Forestry Department is named as the Licensing Authority (Export & Import) for timber products in Sabah, it has yet to undertake this task. Therefore the Malaysian Timber Industry Board will act as the interim Licensing Authority (Export & Import) for timber products in Sabah until further notice.

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### Sabah

**Figure 3:**  
Registration & Export  
Licence

### Sarawak

**Figure 4:**  
Certificate of  
Registration

### Sarawak

**Figure 5:**  
Export Licence

### Sarawak

**Figure 6:**  
Export Licence Pg 2

Exporters of regulated timber products need to make a customs declaration using the Customs Export Declaration Form K2 (sample below).

**Figure 7:**  
Customs Export Declaration Form

## Other requirements

All Malaysian timber processors and manufacturers are required to register with the relevant State authority.

For timber products listed by the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), a CITES export or re-export permit issued by MTIB for Peninsular and Sabah, and Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) for Sarawak, can be considered as having fulfilled the applicable national and CITES requirements.

For further details on timber legality in Malaysia, see the **Country Specific Guideline for Malaysia**.

## Who should I contact for further information?

**Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**  
GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601  
Phone: +61 2 6272 3933  
[www.agriculture.gov.au/illegallogging](http://www.agriculture.gov.au/illegallogging)  
[illegallogging@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:illegallogging@agriculture.gov.au)

**Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB)**  
Level 13 – 17, Menara PGRM, No.8, Jalan Pudu Ulu, Cheras,  
P.O. Box 10887, 50728 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Phone: +603 – 9282 2235 Fax : +603-9285-1744  
Website : [www.mtib.gov.my](http://www.mtib.gov.my)  
E-mail : [mmsg\\_pm@mtib.gov.my](mailto:mmsg_pm@mtib.gov.my)

**Sabah Forestry Department (SFD)**  
Locked Bag 68, 90009 Sandakan, Sabah, Malaysia  
Phone: +6089-660811/242500 Fax: +6089-666-170  
Website: [www.forest.sabah.gov.my](http://www.forest.sabah.gov.my)  
E-mail : [mmsg\\_sabah@sabah.gov.my](mailto:mmsg_sabah@sabah.gov.my)

**Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC)**  
Wisma Sumber Alam, Petra Jaya, P.O. Box 194, 93702  
Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia  
Phone: +6082-473004 Fax: +6082-449 -741  
Website: [www.sarawaktimber.gov.my](http://www.sarawaktimber.gov.my)  
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