



Celebratory Events for the Launch of Ghana's FLEGT License on the EU Market



Date: November 4th, 2025
Venue: The Hotel, Brussels, Boulevard de Waterloo 38, 1000 Brussels, Belgium
Time: 11:00 – 19:30

Event Overview

Ghana's celebratory events to mark the start of the FLEGT licensing system becoming operational in the EU, will be held on November 4th in Brussels. The day will be divided into five main elements as follows:

1. A symbolic exchange of FLEGT licenses between Ghanaian exporter and European importer to be covered by the press.
2. An interaction between exporters and importers to showcase the range of products that can be imported from Ghana under a FLEGT license
3. A political level roundtable/lunch event for the Minister with European counterparts
4. A conference to explain Ghana's timber licensing system
5. A cocktail reception hosted by Ghana's Embassy in Brussels

For the first element of the day, the event will start at 11:00 with speeches and remarks from dignitaries, followed by statements from Ghanaian and European private sector and CSOs. This will be followed by a photo opportunity with an exchange of FLEGT license between exporter and importer and a short interaction with the press.

Following this will be an opportunity for Ghanaian private sector to showcase the range of species and products that are to be exported under a FLEGT license.

While the Minister departs the venue for a select roundtable with European counterparts, lunch will be provided to all participants at the conference venue (13:00 and 14:00). This will be followed by a short conference that explains Ghana's timber licensing system and offers opportunity for Ghanaian and European stakeholders to illustrate the transformational process behind the delivery of the FLEGT license.

The day will close with a cocktail reception to be hosted by the Ghana Embassy in Brussels at a hotel venue in Brussels.



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Event programme

Guest Arrival (10:30)

- Guests arrive
 - Coffee/Tea
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Opening and Welcome (11:00 – 11:05)

- **Master of Ceremonies (MC)** welcomes guests
 - Recognition of dignitaries and special guests
 - Brief overview of order of events
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Welcome Remarks (11:05 – 11:20)

- Welcome by HE Ghana's Ambassador to Belgium and the EU
 - Welcome by European Timber Trade Federation
 - Opening Remarks by the Chief Executive, Forestry Commission
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Keynote Addresses (11:20 – 11:30)

- European Commission representative [tbc]
 - Hon. Minister of Lands and Natural Resources
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FLEGT License Launch Ceremony (11:30 – 11:45)

- MC invites dignitaries and Ghanaian exporter and European importer to the front
 - Symbolic exchange of FLEGT License between Ghanaian exporter and European importer
 - Photo session and brief press interaction
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Exhibition (11:45 – 12:45)

Open session that provides an opportunity for 'business-to-business' exchange, where Ghanaian exporters will interact with European private sector counterparts to showcase the range of products and opportunities available for trade in FLEGT-licensed products from natural and plantation forests.

Political level roundtable (12:15 – 14:00)

Minister and his entourage will depart the venue for roundtable/lunch with European counterparts.

Lunch (13:00 – 14:00)

Lunch will be provided for all participants at the venue.

Conference (14:30 – 17:00)

Forestry Commission Overview of Ghana's TLAS (14:30 – 15:15)	
• Presentation	Dr Richard Gyimah, Ag. Executive Director – TIDD (Licensing Authority)
• Q & A	
Ghana Private Sector Presentations on Compliance Obligations (15:15 – 15:45)	
• What is checked in the forest?	Richard Duah Nsenkyire, Managing Director – Samartex Timber & Plywood Co. Ltd.
• What is checked in the mill?	Avedis Jeghalian, Managing Director – Logs and Lumber Limited
• Q & A	



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CSO Presentation 15:45 – 16:15)	
• CSO role in Ghana's TLAS	Albert Katako, Civic Response Ghana
• Q & A	
European Private Sector Perspective on FLEGT Licensing (16:15 – 17:00)	
• Importance of License becoming Operational • The importance for the trade in terms of legality background verification • The current dynamics with EUTR and EUDR	Nils Olaf Petersen, General Secretary of European Timber Trade Federation (ETTF)
• Q & A	

Close of conference 17:00



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Cocktail Reception

Venue: The Hotel. Brussels, Boulevard de Waterloo 38, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Time: 17:30 – 19:30

Guest Arrival (17:30)

- Guests arrive
 - Background Music
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Three video screenings throughout the period

- One produced by the Forestry Commission on licensing
- One by civil society on the system
- One on the Broader Market Recognition Coalition (BMRC)

Speeches/Remarks

- Ghana's Ambassador to Belgium and the EU
- European Commission representative
- ETTF
- Optional statements
- Minister of Lands and Natural Resources