

Comment Sheet

Name	Jameson S French
Title	President and CEO – Northland Forest Products,
Organization	Past Chairman, The Hardwood Federation
Country	USA

Outline of the Organization The Hardwood Federation

Brief history: Started in 2003 – Largest Washington DC based hardwood trade association

Member ship: An umbrella organization consisting of 22 trade associations, representing over 10,000 companies. Range from plywood, flooring, veneer to solid hardwood.

Objectives, activities: Promotes and represents the common business interests of our membership to Members of Congress, administration officials and others in Washington DC.

Basic Policies of the organization on illegal logging issues and its activities

Leading industry group in support of Lacey Act amendment of 2008. Believes Lacey Act not only helps protect the worlds forest but it offers a fair and level playing field for US workers and companies directly impacted by the flow of illegally harvested wood and products made from that wood into the USA.

Topics1 General Evaluation of Japan's Action for illegal logging issue

At time (2001) Japan's law was progressive and a head of the rest of the world, but now its voluntary basis is not strong enough.

Important to establish a law that prohibit the importation of illegal wood. None of the current voluntary systems are strong enough.

Japan is a very important wood market and a world leader on these issues, Its time for Japan to join the USA, Europe and Australia with strong legislation to stop the flow of illegal wood products.

**Topics2 Possibility of Activities of Industry Associations for illegal logging issue in
the context of Goho-wood**

Very important to work together with responsible environmental groups (ENGO's) as well as other partners (labor, consumer groups etc.) to create a broad coalition to support the changes.