## Philippine Wood Products Association



# ANNUAL REPORT 1980



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## **Management Report**

The PWPA, a result of the merging of PLPMA and PCWI, and which now represents the Philippine wood industry, is starting its third year of operations with much apprehension about the survival of the wood industry amidst depressed market conditions, higher taxes and production costs and more stringent government regulations.

As of the first quarter of 1981, there are 263 regular members and 29 associate members recorded—an unprecedented 157% increase from the 92 regular members and 22 associate members when the PWPA started two years ago.

Earnings have also increased to \$\mathbb{P}\$1,336,845 or 67.4% from last year's levels. However, because of the depressed business conditions, our receivables increased by 53% amounting to \$\mathbb{P}\$422,498 in 1980.

MEMBERSHIP & INCOME

A distinct improvement in government relations was achieved as a result of programmed meetings with government officials in various agencies, highlighted by a dialogue with His Excellency, President Ferdinand E. Marcos after the oath-taking of the elected PWPA officers and directors held on June 3, 1980. In compliance with His Excellency's directive to prepare a long term plan for wood industry, the officers conducted a week-long planning seminar with experts from the government and the academe which resulted in a preliminary report to President Marcos entitled "Preliminary Summary: Forest Conservation Program and Plan for the Wood Industry." More detailed studies and proposals on industrial tree plantations and wood processing centers and expedient government action on these priority projects are expected.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Your association worked for the amendment of the proposed advaloremtax on timber which would have cost the industry \$\mathbb{7}7.00/cu.m. or \$\mathbb{7}385\$ million in additional taxes. Batasang Pambansa No. 83, implemented by Revenue Regulations 2-81, consolidated the charges and fees on timber to \$\mathbb{7}30.00\$ per cubic meter. Your association, moreover, succeeded in its request to postpone the legislation's full effectivity to April 1, 1981. An interim specific tax of \$\mathbb{7}20.00\$ was agreed upon. Because of the depressed situation of the industry, President Marcos was likewise requested to postpone the implementation of the \$\mathbb{7}30.00\$ specific tax for another 12 months.

A major concern of PWPA are regulations which tend to discourage instead of enhance the planting of trees on a massive nationwide scale, needed urgently to preclude large scale importation of wood by the year 2000. Some success was achieved in moderating regulations on the harvest of trees planted on private land.

Another concerted effort of your association pointed to the impracticability of implementation of LOI 818 at the same time agitating for recognition of participation in cooperative reforestation projects as partial compliance thereof. Your association has also started dialogue with government for the rationalization of the criteria for the gathering of forest residues and wastes by TLA holders, and recently BFD Administrative Order 3-81 seeking to prohibit highlead yarding operations.

AND TAXATION

REGULATIONS

Close rapport is maintained with other associations like: the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) where the president of your Association has been recently elected chairman of one of the major industry sectors covering the wood-based, pulp and paper, and furniture industries; the Employers Confederation of the Philippines, (ECOP); the Confederation of Philippine Exporters (COPE); and the Philippine Lumber Merchants Association (PLMA).

RELATIONS W/OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

The unity, coordination and development that we seek for the wood industry can best be achieved thru regional chapters of which there are eight — Region II, IV, VI, VIII, IX, X, XI and XII. The streamlining and full activation of these chapters will represent your association in the regional level and bring into reality the "comanagership concept of our forest resources".

REGIONAL CHAPTERS

Internationally, PWPA has been recognized with its full participation as a council member of the Southeast Asia Lumber Producers Association (SEALPA) and the Asean Plywood Federation (APF) and its affiliate membership with the Imported Hardwood Products Association (IHPA) of the USA.

INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Effective PR Campaign has succeeded in establishing a base of credibility for the wood industry resulting in negligible adverse reactions during natural calamities unlike the tirades hurled against it in the past.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

A continuing dialogue with members of the press and media projects the wood industry as responsible and desirable to the economic progress of the country.

Your association's print ad "Sometimes Nature Fights Back by Doing Nothing" won the Catholic Mass Media Award of Merit and its Grand Award for Print Advertising which was received with pride and humility from the hands of the Holy Father himself.

Your association's organizational structure was reoriented with one branch at tending to operations (routine matters) and another branch attending to development (new and future thrusts) with the prime objective of establishing a data bank readily accessible to and usable by the association members. The PWPA Secretariat has increased expenditure for salaries and allowances by 33.5% or \$203,195 but the benefits to the members more than offsets this higher cost.

ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL

Another difficult year for the entire economy and the industry is forecast for 1981 what with high interest costs slackening housing construction. The recovery of the American market by the end of the third quarter and of the European market by the fourth quarter is speculated. The Japanese market continues to be in the doldrums with housing down by 35% and consumption down by 25% compared with 1979 figures.

ECONOMY AND MARKETS

OUTLOOK

Production from the natural forests will continue to slide as resources recede. What is important is to get started on a massive and effective business-oriented nation-wide activity to grow wood to meet domestic and export demands by the year 2000.

Main hardwood log supplier countries in Southeast Asia will continue to restrict exports of raw materials in favor of domestic processing with added value uppermost in the minds of policy makers.

Work will continue in the rationalization of the wood industry with emphasis on wood processing centers as a primordial and urgent concern. Time is coming when timber may be allowed for processing only in designated centers where utilization of the log and of the resulting mill residues and wastes is maximized.

Wood as an energy source, will continue in importance not only by using wastes but also by growing trees for energy conversion in dendro-thermal plants.

The harvest and use of lesser known species (LKS) will become more important being a positive forest conservation measure in itself. It is hoped that the government will accede to PWPA's proposal to allow the unlimited export of LKS logs exclusive of the regular log export quota until such time that the industry can acquire the technology and equipment needed in its processing.

Forest destruction will continue unless massive employment of forest dwellers become a reality and this can come when only when investments in industrial tree plantations will pour in on an increasing scale.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

More than ever we must stand together and indivisible, convinced about our irreplaceable place in society as caretakers and users of the forests, as growers of wood, and as manufacturers of wood products, for these activities are destined to remain with us for generations to come.

We wish to thank the Directors, Officers and Staff of PWPA National as well as

those with the Regional Chapters for their time and effort spent in the offices of your association.

Lastly, in behalf of your Board of Directors, we wish to thank you for your continuing support and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted:

ROBERTO V. REYES

Chairman of the Board

ERNESTO F. SANVICTORES

President

## **Our Objectives**

- 1. To promote such activity on any matter pertaining to the lumber and plywood industry (hereinafter understood to include veneer, pulp and other wood products) intended to increase and improve production, manufacturing and marketing of logs, lumber, plywood, veneer, pulp and other wood products;
- 2. To promote the efficient and scientific utilization of timber into lumber, plywood, veneer, pulp and other wood products; to encourage and expand the sale of these products in the Philippines and abroad;
- 3. To foster cooperation among members and to bring about the unity of those engaged in the lumber and plywood industry particularly in support of any measure that will promote the collective interest and welfare of its members;
- 4. To collect and assemble information related to the lumber and plywood industry in the Philippines, the United States, Japan and other foreign countries and to act as a forum for exchange of ideas and information among its members;
- 5. To make representations with any government authority, agency or instrumentality, private concern or agency in behalf of its members on any matter that will protect their individual interests and of the lumber and plywood industry;
- 6. To improve trade relations abroad and to bring about alone or in cooperation with other organizations of similar nature a stable market for Philippine Mahogany in the United States and other foreign countries;
- 7. To encourage in cooperation with the government, efficiency in the administration of Philippine forests that will bring about efficient forest conservation and wider utilization of timber;
- 8. To study and promote an efficient system and procedure in the grading of logs, lumber, plywood, veneer, pulp and other wood products within the context of law and regulation;
- 9. To intensify and accelerate reforestation and aforestation, in order to assure the perpetuity of our forest resources.
- 10. To encourage further development of the wood based industry requiring a higher degree of technology and active marketing strategy of finished and semi-finished wood products.
- 11. To attain recognition and appreciation of the investments of the private sector in the wood-based industry and in the development and meaningful exploitation of our forest resources, and to insure the protection and stability of such investments.
  - 12. To give support to the government policy of:
    - a) Banning of log exports:
    - Encouragement of processing of raw logs into finished and semifinished wood products, particularly non-traditional wood for marketing in the world market.
- 13. To attain unity among all elements in the wood-based industry under one single representation and one integrated association that would serve as spokesman for the entire wood industry for the country and as an effective media of representation and dialogue with government authorities.
- 14. In general, to safeguard the welfare and interests of the lumber and plywood industry. As incidental to such purpose, the corporation shall have the power:
  - 1. To purchase, hold, convey, sell, lease, let, mortgage, encumber, or otherwise own real properties in any part of the Philippines as the purpose for which this corporation is formed may permit or as may be reasonably and necessarily required for the transaction of the lawful business of the corporation.
  - 2. To have and to exercise any and all powers and privileges now or hereafter conferred by the laws of the Philippines upon corporations formed thereunder or under any act amendatory or supplemental thereto or substituted therefor.

#### OFFICERS

ERNESTO F. SANVICTORES President
GERMAN B. ARANEZ Executive Vice President
ARISTEO G. PUYAT VP-Lumber
FELICIANO SARMIENTO VP-Plywood
GABRIEL R. FORMOSO
SANTIAGO P DE GUZMAN
PURA D. ALMARIO
EDITH ALCANTARA Asst. Treasurer
ANTONIO G. BERNAS

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

RENATO AREVALO		
TEODORO C. ARANETA	A	Adviser
CARLOS P. FERNANDEZ	A	Adviser
ALFONSO LIM		Adviser
PEDRO PICORNELL	A	Adviser
JOSE E. DELA ROSA	A	Adviser

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Membership & Regional Affairs JOSELITO C. BALTAZAR I
Marketing LAWRENCE LIM
Finance & Budget
Legal ANTONIO G. BERNAS
Government Relations
Industrial Plantations PEDRO NISPEROS
Public Relations GABRIEL R. FORMOSO
Agro-Forestry FELICIANO F. SARMIENTO, SR.
Products & Standards DAVID M. GATASI
Industrial Development & Info

#### CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Northern Luzon Region (II)  COL. JOSE S. BASS Tagalog Region (IV)  Western Visayas Region (VI)  Eastern Visayas Region (VIII)  Western Mindanao Region (IX)  Northern Mindanao Region (X)  Eastern Mindanao Region (X)  Eastern Mindanao Region (XI)  Eastern Mindanao Region (XI)  Eastern Mindanao Region (XII)  FELICIANO T. ALCANTARA Southern Mindanao Region (XIII)
PWPA STAFF  Manager, Office Services
Manager, Information Resource LOUIS L. LAUDENCIA Administrative & Finance Officer
Librarian
General Clerk
PUBLIC RELATION CONSULTANTS

BANK ..... BPI

## Directory

#### MEMBER FIRMS AND REPRESENTATIVES

#### REGION I - ILOCANDIA

Benguet Consolidated, Inc. Delfin L. Lazaro Carried Lumber Company Abraham Lee Chuy Cellophil Resources Corp. Freddie B. Uy Heald Lumber Co., Inc. Juan Abella

#### REGION II - CAGAYAN VALLEY

Acme Plywood & Veneer Co. Rudy Nazario Amunitan Bay Timber Licensees, Inc. Constantino S. Ortega Anson Sawmill Mariano Chua Aritao Sawmill Juan Gantioqui Aurora Logpond Co., Inc. Amor V. Balgos Aveco Equipment Corp. Eduard C. Cham B.V. Cuaresma Logging Banuar Corpuz Bagac Sawmill Aniero F. Ner, Jr. Bugnay Sawmill Manolo Uy Lim C & M Timber Corp. Orestes J. Santos

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FCA Timber Devl. Corp. Rosalina Jesswani Golden Flame Sawmill Luis A. Ng Jones Logging Corp.

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La Villa de Manila, Inc. Arturo Say

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North Luzon Mahogany Exporter Rodolfo Rivera

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Pamplona Redwood & Veneer Co. Lawrence Lim

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Ind., Inc.

Florinio Sangil Puzon Industrial Devl.

Evangeline Puzon Rotary Sawmill, Inc.

Sanafe Timber Corporation Alan Alcid

Sierra Madre Projects, Inc. Genero Balolong

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Tropical Phils, Wood Ind.

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Veterans Woodworks, Inc.

Jose S. Bass

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J.T.C. Lumber & Industrial Co., Inc. Diego Encina

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Greenhills Wood Industries Co., Inc.

Abraham Lee Chuy Bitnong Sawmill Inc.

Robert I. Alcantara Southern Plywood Corp. Alfonso V. Lim, Jr.

Banava Sawmill, Inc.

Uy Sio An Sinafal Sawmill, Inc.

Tirso Ong Tiu

Mayantoc Sawmill Fernando A. Lu

Kasibu Logging

Joaquin Ang San Andres Logging Ent., Inc.

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Manuel L. Cervantes

Bagabag Sawmill Corp. Tan Leong Cheong

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Allied Sawmill Gaw Chiao

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Oesco Timber, Inc. Renato E. Rillo

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Rodolfo Perez Isabela Sierra Lumber Corp.

Manuel L. Gonzales Isabela Lumber Industries, Inc.

Bun Hua Choa Apayao Wood Ind. Devl. Corp. Gavino Concepcion

#### **REGION III – CENTRAL LUZON**

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Emerson Wood Ind., Inc. John Alvarez Grand Pacific Ent., Inc. David Golangco Nicos Industrial Corp. Antipas Hernandez Orbit Sawmill, Inc. Laurentino Mendoza Ramada Sawmill Company Edgardo L. Ong San Pedro Sawmill Eduardo Chu Santa Rosa Sawmill Company Ernesto Flores Tayag Sawmill Gil Corpus Aurora Logpond, Co., Inc. Amor V. Balgos Central Luzon Sawmill Corp. Conrado Yang Subic Bay Sawmill, Inc. Lee Keen Tabang Sawmill, Inc. Andy Go Scala Sawmill Co., Inc. Francisco Pena Meycauayan Sawmill Rafael J. Tan Rosewood Processing Inc.

#### **REGION IV - TAGALOG**

Julian Ong

Central Palawan Timber Corp. Joselito C, Baltazar I International Hardwood & Veneer Co. of the Phils. Carolina Young Loyzaga Lumber Mill Augustine Loyzaga Manila Mills & Timber Co., Inc. Carlos Coquinco N. G. Mendoza Enterprises Natividad Mendoza Nationwide Princesa Timber Corp. Cesar Roldan

Neri-Tavera Lumber Co. Ricardo Neri

Pagdanan Timber Products Inc. Marianito Cuasay

Palawan Apitong Corporation Joe Arroyo

Palawan Lumber Manufacturing Corp. Joselito C. Baltazar I

Palawan Wood Enterprises, Inc. Albert See

Romblon Lumber Devl. Corp. Patriatico Moreno

Sta, Ana Industrial Corp. Benjamin Coquinco

Somilco

Isabelo Abeleda, Jr.

Southern Palawan Lumber Co., Inc. Loui Chan

Tableria Tan Tao & Sawmill Domingo Tan

Valbuecco, Incorporated Valeriano Bueno V. Ronguillo's Sawmill Vivencio Ronquillo

Western Palawan Timber Corp. Virgilio Valin

#### N C R - METRO-MANILA

Alaska Lumber Co., Inc. Benjamin S. Co Assad Commercial Corp. Felix Assad Atlas Wood Industries, Inc. Chan Yu Lim Blue Star Mahogany, Inc. Johnny Baranda D. M. Consunji, Inc. Antonio G, Bernas Extensive Wood Processing Corp. Chan Yu Lim Goodyear Industrial Corp. Robert Tsai Industrial Woods Phils., Inc. A. Buenaventura Luzon Mahogany Corp. Jan Nowakowski Oceanic Sawmill Co., Inc. Josie Ong Ong Yong & Sons, Inc. Roberto Ong Yong Pacwood, Inc. Cesar Ocampo Panama Sawmill Company Tan Chin Philwood Sawmill Co., Inc. Henry Tan Premium Wood Ind., Inc. Andres Chua Republic Wooden Comm, Mfg. Corp. Benjamin Uy Rizal Super Sawmill, Inc. Jose Dee Sahara Wood Corp. Tan Chin Tanduay Lumber, Inc. Andrew Loo Topwood Development Corp. Ernesto G. Millama Industries Development Corp. Jose Ong

#### REGION V - BICOLANDIA

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Antonio Garcia

Country Lumber Co., Inc. Domingo Sy Lerum Sawmill Pedro Lerum, Jr. Marosy Timber Sawmill Co Sin Ben Republic Hardwood, Inc. John Gohan Danas Sawmill Inc. Benigno O, Lim

#### REGION VI - EASTERN VISAYAS

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#### **REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS**

Manila Sawmill Co., Inc. Philip Go Philwood (Cebu), Inc. Go Tiong Kaw

Cebu Kenwood Trading Corp. Keneth Huang

#### REGION VIII – WESTERN VISAYAS

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#### REGION X - NORTHERN MINDANAO

Phil. Asia Timber Enterprises, Inc.

Adgawan Timber, Inc. Jose Yu

Guilbert Go

Rogelio Uy, Sr.

Agusan Wood Ind., Inc. **Enrique Davila** Anakan Lumber Company Pedro Nisperos BRQ Timber & Dev. Corp. Bienvenido R. Quirolgico Bueno Industrial & Devl. Corp. Valeriano Bueno Builders Wood Products, Inc. Romeo Mondejar Bunawan Sawmill Corp. Benito Sia Butuan Baywood Sawmill Jose Aquino III Butuan Logs, Inc. Exequiel Magsaysay II Butuan Lumber Mfg. Co., Inc. Valeriano Bueno **CBL Timber Corporation** Arturo Sena CVC Lumber Ind., Inc. Carlito Tan Cagayan de Oro Timber Corp. Prudencio Plaza, Jr. Calson Timber Industries Casilayan Softwood Devl. Corp. Luis Roldan C. C. Almendras Ent. Caridad Almendras Catomando Corporation Rosarito Chua Davao Mahogany Prods., Inc. Helen Sanchez Del Rosario & Sons Logging Ent. Policarpio Del Rosario Dongailo's Ent., Inc. Claudio Sanchez Eurasia Match, Inc. Luis Roldan Eureka Enterprises Corp. Angel Cembrano Everwood Incorporated Alberto Samuco Grand Timber Corp. Bienvenido Ong JCA Lumber & Plywood Ind., Inc. Roberto da Silva Jane's Sawmill Chua Hang Kalilid Wood Industries, Corp. Vicente Marababol Liberty Forests, Inc. Jose T. Ching Luga & Sons, Inc. Meliton Battad Maderero de Misamis Co., Inc. Rudolfo Luna Mainit Lumber & Devl. Co., Inc. Jose T. Ching Malayan Wood Products, Inc. Anthony Lee Mindanao Plywood Corporation Alfredo Roxas Misamis Mahogany Co., Inc. Romarico Vitug Mt. Ampiro Timber Co., Inc. Loreto Morona Naredico Tito Chu Nasipit Lumber Co., Inc. Pedro Nisperos North Mindanao Bay Timber Salustiano Oca Pan Oriental Match Company Luis Roldan Phil Wallboard Corp. Carlos Fernandez

Provident Tree Farms, Inc. Suresh Srivastava

R. C. Aquino Timber & Plywood Jeremies M. Paul

Republic Timber Corp.

Robert Lim

Rustan Inv. & Mgt. Corp. Gervacio Taga-An

Sta. Ines Melale Forest Products Corp. Artemio Bayas

Sibagat Timber Corp. A. G. Corpus

Standard Plywood Corp.

Juanito Tan

Surigao Century Sawmill

T. H. Valderrama & Sons, Inc. Tranquilino Valderrama, Jr. Talakag Timber, Inc.

Julian Ong

Timber Ind. of the Phils. Inc.

Santiago Figuracion

Timbertown Sawmill, Inc. Bonifacio Molina

Visayan Box Factory Company

Eduardo Lee

#### **REGION XI – EASTERN MINDANAO**

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Anchorage Wood Ind., Inc. George Yusingco

Apex Mining Co., Inc. Vicente Valenciano

Aras-Asan Timber Co., Inc. Benjamin Sanvictores

Baganga Bay Forest Working Unit Henry Lee

Buenavista Timber Corp.

Guilberto Go C. Alcantara & Sons, Inc.

Edith Alcantara

Catalina G. Santos Timber Jacinto Legaspino

Consolidated Plywood Industries, Inc.

Elias Lopez Columbia Sawmill, Inc. Vicente Gotianse

Crisotelo Montalban Logging

Jonathan Montillo Cuison Lumber Co., Inc.

Roman Cuison, Jr. Davao Ent. Corp.

Melanio Alconcel

Davao Gulf Lumber Corp.

Antonio Santos

Davao Plywood Co., Inc.

Benjamin Limso

Davao Stevedore Terminal Co., Inc.

Emil G. Gaston

Eastcoast Devl. Corp. Gil Urgino

Fact Devl. Corporation Tan Eng Chiong

Felbet's Timber, Inc. Eduardo Pamani

General Plywood & Veneer Corp. Antonio Gotaco

Georgia-Pacific Int'l. Corp.

Warren Meyer Gonzalo Puyat & Sons, Inc.

Aristeo G. Puyat Hilton Sawmill Corp.

Macario Go

Hudson Sawmill, Inc.

Cua Sun Yiong

Industrial Lumber Co Steven Tan Casis

Kalinan Timber Corp. Simplicio Endava

S. Sarmiento & Co., Inc. Benjamin Raroque

Lianga Bay Logging Co., Inc. Armando Cruz

Manuel Nieto Corporation Pablo Sarmiento, Jr.

M. F. Timber Industries, Inc. Orlando L. Sunglao

Mindanao Lumber Devl. Co., Inc.

Gaudencio Antonino, Jr. Mindanao Mahogany Company Aristeo G. Puyat

Minrico Lumber Ent. Co., Inc.

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Mintrade (Davao), Inc.

Guilberto Go Mirho Craft

Abelardo A. Muyco, Jr.

North Camarines Lumber Co., Inc. Edgar Salcedo

North Davao Timber Consolidated Rufino Otero

Northern Hill Devl. Co., Inc.

Vicente Gotianse

Pahamotang Logging Ent., Inc.

Adolfo Arguna

Panakan Lumber Co.

Go Eng Hua Paper Industries Corp. of the Phils.

Gabriel R. Formoso

Phil, Lauan Ind, Corp.

Delfin Chua R. M. Soleño & Co., Inc.

Cua Sun Yiong

Sarangani Bay Pulp & Paper Co. Bienvenido S. Wong

South Bay Lumber Co., Inc. Emiliano Alvarez

Standard Hardwood Co., Inc. Aurelio Sia

Surigao Development Corp.

Aristeo G. Puyat Talomo Sawmill, Inc.

Dy Hue Hu Timber Producers & Mktg. Corp.

Felimon Madrid Twin River Forest Products

Robert Chua

Valderrama Lumber Mfrs.

Eduardo Arroyo, Jr. Wood Industrial Traders, Inc. Hermenegildo Pareja

Yujuico Logging Trading Corp.

Florante Bisquera Aguinaldo Devl. Corp.

Jose Ricafort Cantilan Lumber Co.

Henry Tan M C P Agro Industrial Ent., Inc. Mariano C. Pamintuan

Malalag Lumber Co., Inc.

Hernando Jocson Salton Industries, Inc.

Antonio Sanglay, Jr.

#### **REGION XII - CENTRAL MINDANAO**

A. P. Estaniel & Co., Inc. Herminio Estaniel

Cotabato City Central Logging Co., Inc. Herminio Estaniel

Cotabato Industrial Trading Center, Inc. Estrellita Juliano

Cotabato Timberland Co., Inc. Jose E. Dela Rosa Datu Blah Sinsuat Antonio Olizon Findlay Millar Timber Co. Pura D. Almario Greenbelt Wood Products, Inc. Benjamin Benitez M & S Company, Inc. Antonio G. Bernas Sarmiento Industries, Inc.

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Aboitiz & Co., Inc. Jesus H. Fernandez Air Mac Phils., Inc. W. Saint-Onge Asia Industries, Inc. Raymundo Sinense

Tito Beltran

Atlantic Gulf & Pacific Co., of Mla., Inc. Fernando L. Garcia

**Bekol Philippines** Joost Pekelharing

Borden International Philippines, Inc.

Reynaldo Adriano Capricorn Corporation

Jose Bonoan Jr. Citibank

Antonio Ma. Cailao

**Everett Steamship Company** Fernando Guerrero

East Asiatic Company, Ltd.

Svend Ishojer

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Jose Martin O. Aliling

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Vicente O. Novales Gulfeast Philippines

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Edgardo P. Bautista Resins Incorporated

Ernesto Lichauco Robert Hildebrand Phils. Corp.

Antonio G. Puyat Tierra Factors Corp.

Alonso R. Borromeo Transcoastal Shipping Associates

Benjie Nepomuceno

Usiphil, Inc. Bert Rejante

International Heavy Equipment Roy Agustin

Mindanao Native Products

Seniro Lim Alemar's Inc.

Stephen delos Santos Zamboanga Lumber Dealers Assn.

Nestor Lopez Agri-For Everglade Co., Inc.

Romulo G, Celi

## **Industry Highlights**

#### FOREST RESOURCES

The forests of the Philippines cover more than 12 million hectares or 42 per cent of the area of all the country's islands combined. The volume of timber on commercial forest land exceeds 850 million cubic meters of which 63 per cent is dipterocarp.

Apart from legitimate logging operations, forest destruction attributed to kaingins and fire was recorded at 62,130 hectares in 1979. Against this background, the Bureau of Forest Development reported 79,397 hectares as having been reforested and brought back under forest cover with the help of the private sector. For its part the PWPA has established cooperative reforestation projects which as of 1980 cover a total of 11,500 hectares.

These cooperative reforestation projects are being undertaken by PWPA regional chapters in coordination with local BFD regional offices. There are now five such project areas established, up from last year's three namely: Romblon-Palawan-Mindanao Cooperative Reforestation Project (RPMCORP) with target areas of 500 hectares at Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro and 500 hectares at Puerto Princesa, Palawan; the Samar-Leyte Cooperative Reforestation project (SALERA) with 500 hectares in the Eastern Visayas Region; the Zamboanga Timber Licensees Cooperative Reforestation project (ZAMTILCO) with 2,000 hectares at Upper Baluno Watershed in Zamboanga City; Region XI Wood Industries Reforestation Project (REWIREP) with 5,000 hectares at Mt. Apo and 1,000 hectares at Lake Mainit in Davao; and the Upper Agno Bued Amborayan Chico River Watershed project (UABAC) with 196,250 hectares along Agno-Buraluen rivers in Northern Luzon.

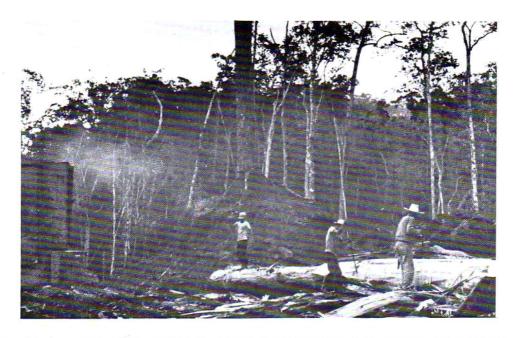
An additional 4,000 hectares intended for the cooperative reforestation project will be established within 1981 by the other regional chapters of PWPA. These are the Northeastern Cooperative Reforestation Project (NORESCORP) with 500 hectares at Sta. Fe, Nueva Viscaya; the NOTILCORP with 500 hectares at the foot of Mt. Kanlaon; Region X Cooperative Reforestation Project (REXCORP) with 1,000 hectares in Bukidnon and 1,000 hectares in Agusan; and another project covering 1,000 hectares to be located in Cotabato.

The PWPA has made recommendations to the government for the conversion of up to 30 per cent of commercial forest land under timber license to industrial tree plantations and provide long-term soft loans for this purpose. Once this proposal becomes part of national forest policy, it would pave the way towards putting some 2.5 million hectares of forest land under intensive forest plantation management. This would be a great leap towards staving-off the domestic wood shortage scare of the future. It would also encourage the general public to invest in private tree farms and agro-forestry projects on some 500,000 hectares made available for such purpose when they see the pioneering efforts of the existing forest industry veer toward success.



#### TIMBER LICENSEES

More than 80 per cent of all commercial forest land in the country have been opened for utilization by the MNR through 284 timber licenses falling under various categories. Most of these logging concessions are managed by holders of long-term Timber License Agreement which have a combined capacity of producing nearly 14 million cubic meters of logs annually.



In line with the objective of the PWPA to bring about unity among those engaged in the wood industry, the association has also intensified its membership drive. Thus, during 1980, the PWPA experienced both growing pains and progress. Membership among wood industry regulars increased from 92 to 263 along with more pressure to regionalize PWPA activities. The Board of Directors responded by facilitating the establishment of two more regional chapters bringing it to a total of eight: Northern Mindanao (X), Western Mindanao (IX), Southern Mindanao (XI), Eastern Visayas (VIII), Northern Luzon (II), Western Visayas (VI), Central Mindanao (XII), and the Tagalog Region (IV). All these chapters have elected their own officers and have since been active in promoting the interests of the local wood industry behind a united front. Prominent among chapter activities are the establishment of more Cooperative Reforestation Projects, the organization of Auxillary Foresters Committees and the acceleration of various fund-raising projects.

On the national level, the Executive Committee of the Association has been very active in bringing the problems and positions of all timber licensees in general to the attention of government regulators, other trade associations and missions both regional and international, as well as of the general public. Understanding and interest of these various factions have been maintained and promoted through a number of hearings, dialogues and meetings with various government agencies and officials as well as legislators. The Association's executives participated in inter-industry meetings, seminars, workshops and conferences on such issues as energy, exports, program planning, wages and other topics that are of common interest to businessmen.

The PWPA has also been represented internationally in the Southeast Asia Lumber Producers Association (SEALPA), Asean Plywood Federation (APF), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Asian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Japan Economic Trade Organization (JETRO) and other organizations providing opportunities to improve foreign trade relations and promote our national interests.

For the benefit of timber licensees and wood processors in general, the PWPA adopted and promoted industry positions on government regulations and legislations detrimental to the existence and development of the forest products industry. Among the critical issues faced by the PWPA were the ad valorem tax on timber, export taxes on lumber and veneer, financing of reforestation projects, industry rationalization, log export allocations and recently, the ban on highlead logging operations inside forest lands.

#### PROCESSING FACILITIES

The Philippine wood industry has installed processing plants with a combined raw material requirement of more than 13.7 million cubic meters of logs annually. Operating at full capacity, they can consume almost 80 per cent of the annual allowable cut from the commercial forest land under license of over 17 million cubic meters. Most of these facilities are sawmills numbering 371 and requiring 7.6 million cubic meters a year. There are 34 plywood plants which require more than 3 million cubic meters a year. Pulp and paper mills directly located on the forest resource are on four locations with a combined pulping capacity of more than 850 tons per day requiring 1.44 million cubic meters of pulpwood annually. Other wood product mills include 23 veneer, 12 blockboard, 2 particleboard, and 2 fiberboard plants with a combined wood requirement of at least 1.6 million cubic meters annually.

In its present state, the primary wood-using industries of the country need rationalization for the reason that the capacity utilization is very poor estimated at 54%. In response to this need, the PWPA has recently sponsored a research and development project on the feasibility of confining wood processing facilities in selected geographic centers. The implementation of such concept would involve the relocation or shut-down of certain processing facilities now in operation or in existence.

#### LOG PRODUCTION

Logging in the Philippines became even more discouraging in 1980 as the volume of log exports dropped to 726,510 cubic meters for the whole year compared to 1,247,923 cu.m. in 1979. This meant a decellerating rate from 44 per cent in 1979 to 42 per cent in 1980 of total production. The severe reduction in log exports as well as processed wood products pulled total log production down by 23% compared to a reduction of 8% in 1979. (see Fig. 1)

The lower timber harvests was immediately felt in lower sawmill and plywood plant capacity utilization. This resulted in depressed condition of the wood industry affecting rural communities where our forest-based industries are located and reduced government revenue from forest charges, local taxes and income taxes.

The prospects for 1981 would appear dim if we were to extrapolate current trends inspite of an expected growth in demand for wood products due to population expansion and improvement in living standards. Timber extraction from the natural forest resource is likely to decline due to continuing recession in the developing countries.

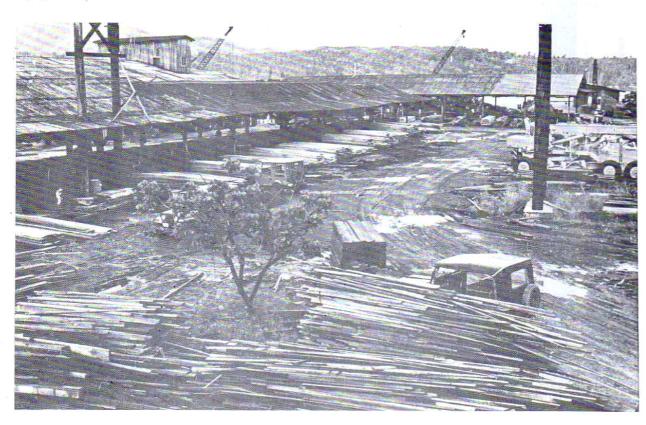
#### LUMBER PRODUCTION

The year 1980 marked a decline in the lumber industry worldwide. Depressed international market conditions brought down demands in major importing countries such as Japan, USA, Europe, United Kingdom and Australia. This resulted in a lower lumber export from the Philippines at only 307,054 MBF in 1980, down by 20 per cent compared to 1979 levels. Foreign exchange earnings likewise went down by 10 per cent to total only \$177 million during the year. The tight market position for export lumber was aggravated by strong competition from Indonesia and Malaysia. Even as sawmill operating costs climbed in 1980, firms were forced to grant price discounts for the inventory to move. Shipping lumber products remained problematic due to irregular vessel schedules especially those bound for the European markets. (see Fig. 2)

Industrial performance levels when the market conditions are weak as obtained in 1980, indicated the advantage of integrated sawmills in maintaining profitable operations as compared to basic sawmills. Thus, the trend in the lumber business is towards fully integrated sawmills that seek to recover and utilize wastes for conversion into drawersides, plant stakes, various mouldings and other exportable wood products. Importing countries have also indicated a preference for more finished lumber products due to rising labor costs.

Market prospects during the first half of 1981 is sluggish with recovery possibly taking place in the second half. An even lower lumber production level is forecasted in 1981 not only because of poor market conditions but also because the number of operating sawmilis will be reduced further by government regulations. Sawmill operators who are permitted to operate will still have to pay a 4 per cent tax on lumber exports.

Nevertheless, the PWPA is taking the lead in encouraging the establishment of wood processing centers for integrated wood utilization. It has also made clear the urgent need of the lumber business for financial assistance during these hard times.



#### **PLYWOOD**

The plywood industry suffered a severe slump in the international market in 1980. Despite the fact that such a slowdown was expected due to soaring interest rates in USA in 1979 causing reduced housing starts, the impact to the industry was more than expected. The situation in which plywood found itself was regarded as the worst, as 1980 saw the final shutdown of some of the biggest plywood plants in Korea and Japan.

Export volumes of Philippine plywood decreased along with drop in prices. Total exports dropped by 43.5 per cent from 666,141 MSF in 1979 to 464,076 MSF in 1980. The domestic market for plywood performed even worse with prices dropping by 25 per cent, and inventories piling up in the mills and in distribution channels. (see Fig. 3)

The plywood business hopes for a better prospect in 1981. But even with improving market prospects, plywood manufacturers have to contend with adverse factors such as the increasing pressure from emerging competition from new mills being established in Indonesia and the ever increasing costs.

Indonesia is emerging as a strong contender in the export market for plywood. This appears to dampen whatever advantage the Philippines has to gain with the weakening of Korea and Taiwan as plywood exporters.

#### **GENERAL**

The local demand for lumber, plywood and other wood products will increase in the coming years due to population growth and improvement in standards of living. People will consume more processed wood products.

