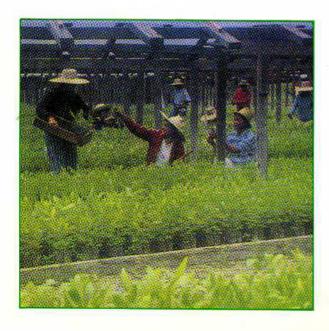


PHILIPPINE WOOD PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION







1997 Annual Report

BOARD RESOLUTION

The Board of Directors of the Philippine Wood Producers Association, by unanimous concurrence, submits herewith the Statement and Annual Report of the Chairman of the Board and the President as its Report to the Members for the year ended December 31, 1997.

ANTONIO G. BERNAS Chairman

FERNANDO A. LU President



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COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHT

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

RESOURCES

with speciment and an income of the control of the	<u>1996</u>	1997p	Percentage Change
TLA's in existence, number	35	26	(25.71)
Annual allowable cut, '000 cu m	517	854	65.18
Forest area under license, '000 ha	802	1,310	63.34
ITPLA's (IFMA), number	200	179	(10.50)
ITPLA'S (IFMA), area, '000 ha	422	405	(4.03)

PRODUCTION (Volume in '000 cum)

	<u>1996</u>	1997p	Percentage Change
Logs (Saw- and Veneer-)	400	498	24.50
Lumber	313	349	11.50
Plywood	508	340	(33.07)
Veneer	82	62	(24.39)

EXPORT (Volume in '000 cum; Value in '000 US\$, FOB)

	<u>1996</u>		1997p		Percentage Char	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Logs	hearn.	467	4	266	-	
Lumber*	145	23,196	141	21,852	(2.76)	(5.79)
Plywood	а	78	а	17	-	(78.21)
Veneer	26	12,856	31	14,385	19.23	11.89
Other wood-based panel	12	4,430	14	5,147	16.67	16.19
Other wood-based manufactured articles ('000 GK)	70,328	150,014	99,314	132,266	41.22	(11.83)
Furniture, n.e.s. of wood ('000 GK)	19,910	84,947	25,212	102,040	26.63	20.12

IMPORTS (Volume in '000 cum; Value in '000 US\$, CIF)

COLUMN TO THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF	1996		1997p		Percentage Change	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Logs (Saw- and Veneer-)	878	127,412	768	117,821	(12.53)	(7.53)
Lumber	567	161,972	412	112,639	(27.34)	(30.46)
Plywood	1	674	1	478	0.00	(29.08)
Veneer	95	26,424	86	27,569	(9.47)	4.33
Other wood-based manufactured articles ('000 GK)	3,135	6,305	6.675	9,212	112.92	46.11

Source: Data furnished by FMB/DENR, 07 July 1998, (p-preliminary, a-less than 1,000 cu m)

ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

	<u>1996</u>	1997p	Percentage Change
Regular Members	94	82	(13.83)
Associate Members	3	1 hogor to 3 di	too bishoot set
Revenues	P 6,165,068	P 4,384,520	(28.88)
Expenses	P 4,394,960	P 4,075,593	(7.26)
Assets	P 2,995,187	P 3,223,409	7.61

^{* -} Finished lumber products only, raw lumber not allowed for export.

TO OUR MEMBERS

WOOD-BASED INDUSTRIES IN REVIEW

Two whammies, one after the other, hit the wood-based industries during the year under review.

The first. Because of the dilly-dally of the DENR in approving the integrated operation plans (IAOPs) of TLA-holders, operations were delayed and log production came in trickle.

By its extension, the manufacture of wood products slowed down in the first semester. The later attempt at the recovery of production, however, was overtaken by the succeeding, more serious, wallop.

The second. The regional financial storm that visited the country in July of the year under review lingered on throughout the second semester with no end in sight.

The depreciation of the Philippine peso against the American dollar and other strong world currencies affected seriously the national economy, in general, and the woodbased industries, in particular.

Importation of raw wood materials such as logs and lumber initially became expensive while cheap imported plywood continued to flood the domestic market and seriously affected local production of plywood. The cost of production of most local firms increased while local demand for wood products softened, as housing starts and construction practically ground to a halt.

Before the regional currency crisis one of the head-aches of the wood-based industries was, and still is, the import tariff. Its accelerated rate of reduction under various programs, such as AFTA-CEPT, MFN, APEC, or WTO has caused grave concern to the local wood industries. Unprepared with the so-called safety nets the government promised, their competitiveness has rested on the gradual, rather on the early and steep, tariff reduction schedule.

Relative to the previous year, by value, the export of primary wood products inched a bit forward but that of wood-based manufactured articles and furniture of wood inched a bit backward.

In sum, the year under review gave the wood-based industries not only an almost flat growth but also an indication of a scenario of more hard times to come that the industries would likely be faced with.

ROUNDWOOD OR LOG SUPPLY

The log supply made available for wood processing totalled to 1.27 million cum almost equal the previous year's 1.28 million cum. However, imported logs consisted 60% of the total supply as against the previous year's nearly 70% (Table 1).

Table 1 - Log Supply, in 000 cu m				
Source	1996	1997	% Change	
Local	400	498	25	
Import	878	768	(12)	
Total	1,278	1,266	1	
% Import	69	61	(9)	

Data from: Economics Division, FMB, DENR

Actually, there were only 19 TLA-holders, excluding 2 in ARMM, that were allowed to operate in 1997. The 498,000 cu m log production was only a little over 50% shy or short of the total log annual allowable cut granted them because of the very late approval by the DENR of the IAOPs of key TLA-holder-players.

Log buyers held back on their importation as cost increased and demand for wood products decreased. Import of logs decreased by 12% relative to the previous year's.

PRODUCTION AND IMPORTATION OF WOOD PRODUCTS

Indicative of the hard times the wood-based industries experienced during the period under review was the low availability of the volume of primary wood products - lumber, plywood, and veneer - in the round form. Availability diminished by 20% compared to the previous year's (Table 2).

Table. 2 - Aggregate Primary Wood Products, in 000 cu m					
Source 1996 1997 % Chang					
Local	903	751	(17)		
Import	_663	499	(25)		
Total	1,566	1,250	(20)		
% Import	42	40	(2)		

Data from: ibid.

Local production of primary wood products decreased by 17% relative to the previous year's. The increase in lumber production by about 12% (from 313,000 cu m to 349,000 cu m) was overshadowed by the 32% decrease in plywood and veneer production (from 590,000 cu m down to 402,000 cu m). On the other hand, aggregate import, particularly lumber, decreased by 25%.

From the available aggregate volume, about 40% of the primary wood products, notably lumber, came from importation.

WOOD MARKETS AND TRADE BALANCE

During the year under review tropical or non-coniferous logs were imported from PNG, Solomon Islands, Malaysia, western and central Africa and South America, among others, while coniferous logs were imported from New Zealand and USA, among others.

Primary wood products, principally lumber, were exported to Taiwan, Thailand and Japan, among others. The US remained the principal market for furniture, chair and seats of wood and other markets were Japan, UK, Australia, etc. UK, Japan and US were main markets for wooden doors and frames as well as builder's joiner and carpentry of wood.

Under the period under review, aggregate values of import and export in relation to the previous year's may be appreciated in Table 3.

Table. 3 - Aggregate Export Import, in 000 US\$					
MAC	1996	1997	(%) Change		
Export, fob		And I would	The same of		
Primary wood products	40,560	41,667	2.7		
Downstream wood products	234,961	234,306	(0.3)		
Total	275,521	275,973	0.2		
Import, CIF					
Logs and lumber	316,482	258,507	(18.3)		
Downstream wood product	6,305	9,212	46.6		
Total	322,787	267,719			

MAJOR ISSUES FACED

The major issues (see following Major Industry Issues) faced by wood-based industries during the period in review are summarized below:

- The failure of many existing TLA-holders to obtain their 1997 cutting/logging permits on account of new DENR regulations and guidelines.
- The policy of the government to implement on schedule the tariff reduction rates on wood products despite the absence of safety nets to enable the industries to compete.
- The changing policy of the DENR on IFMA thus setting back ITP development and its policy giving focus to community-based forestry management (CBFM).
- The impact on TLA tenurial system caused by the enactment of RA No. 8371, The Indigenous People's Rights Act of 1997.
- The effects of the regional currency crisis on the future of the wood-based industries

ASSOCIATION

Mr. Antonio G. Bernas of M & S Co., Inc. assumed the chairmanship of the Board and Mr. Fernando A. Lu of Pacific Timber Export Corp. was elected president of the Association.

Messrs. Felix L. Sy and Wellington C. Yao of Bulacan Integrated Wood Ind. Corp. and Panel Products Ind. Corp., respectively joined the rest of the members of the Board of Directors during the year under review.

The Association hosted the 38th APPF Meeting on December 1996 and the 10th APTO Meeting on November 14, 1997.

Notwithstanding the environment of unstable and unencouraging policies of the government and the regional financial crisis, the Association tried to gather resolve and spirit to continue working for a place in the sun, as it were.

ANTONIO G. BERNAS

Chairman

FERNANDO A. LU
President

Data from: ibid.

ISSUES

POSITION TAKEN BY PWPA

STATUS

A. ARISING FROM DENR

- 1. Importation of Wood Products. The issuance of DAO No. 97-08 dated March 18, 1997, that prescribes, among others, the procedures inspection. discharge. storage and processing of imported wood products, was PWPA viewed by unnecessary and duplicatory and could cause delay in business operations.
- 2. Environmental Impact Assessment. A condition for the approval of IAOP is the prior approval of EIA and the grant of Environmental Clearance Certificate (ECC) following DAO No. 96-37 dated December 2, 1996. Environmental Guaranty Fund (EGF) and Multipartite Monitoring Fund (MMF) upon issuance of ECC have to be set up by a TLA-holder.
- Port Integrated Clearance of Domestic Vessels and Cargoes. DENR Memo Order No. 97-01 dated March 18, 1997 would subject logs and other wood products carried by domestic vessels to inspection and clearance by PPA, BOC, BOQ, BAI, BPI, PSO, NTC, PCE, PNP, and FMB.
- 4. Allowing a Two-Year Operations Plans. Under a DENR Memorandum Order to all REDSs dated May 23, 1997, a two-year operations plans may be opted by TLA-holders in lieu of the IAOPs, only if they updated their respective Medium-Term Forest Management Plan (MTFP).

PWPA called the attention of the DENR that major provisions of DAO No. 97-08 seem to have no legal basis. The inspection and clearance of imported wood, like any other imported articles are legal functions of the Bureau of Customs and the Plant Quarantine Office, in accordance with E.O. No. 292, the Administrative Code of 1987 and their respective IRRs.

PWPA submitted the position that DAO No. 96-37 is appropriate for new projects and that for old, recurring activities or projects like logging or forestry a much simpler EIA system should be adopted in conformity with DAO No. 97-18. Also, in lieu of cash deposits for EGF and MNF, a combination of cash, bond, and bank certification should be allowed therefor.

PWPA contested this Order, purportedly getting mandate from Memo Circular No. 129 issued by the Office of the President on April 16, 1991, as business-unfriendly and contrary to the deregulation policy of the present Administration.

PWPA has proposed this scheme in order to have a longer continuity of operations by TLA- and IFMA-holders. However, the DENR failed to reckon that it once suspended the effectivity of existing MTFPs and that there is a need to lift said suspension before they can be updated. However, in the light of new policies, new MTPs have to be prepared.

The DENR Secretary himself instructed his officials to review DAO No. 97-08.

On December 8, 1997, DAO No. 97-35 was issued amending and clarifying DAO No. 97-08 that, in effect, sustains the position of PWPA that inspection and clearance of imported wood materials are functions of BOC and BOQ.

The DENR prepared a so-called EIA Manual for Forestry Projects to simplify the EIA but pending its approval, it (DENR) insisted on so-called full-blown EIA thus limiting the number of IAOPs approved. TLA-holders granted ECCs were allowed to negotiate the amount and mode of EGF and MNF deposit. Later, the Secretary approved a checklist form of EIA but was never implemented

Because of the "surfacing" of E.O. No. 493 dated December 3, 1991 mandating the removal of red tape, etc. and simply delegating PPA as the sole clearing agency of incoming and outgoing vessels, DENR issued Special Order No. 97-1314 revoking its Memo Order No. 97-01.

One or two TLA/IFMA-holders succeeded in having a two-year operations plans by updating their respective "old" MTFPs. Others who are in current IAOPs may possibly follow before the lapse of these IOAPs.

1997 MAJOR INDUSTRY ISSUES

ISSUES

POSITION TAKEN BY PWPA

PWPA submitted the position that

IFMAs granted under then existing

regulations should continue in

operation under such regulations

and not to be subjected to

On the other hand, TLA-holders

should be accorded the modicum

of due process before any action

on cancellation would be taken.

subsequent regulations.

STATUS

 Suspension or Cancellation of TLAs or IFMAs. The operations particularly of a number of IFMAs were suspended purportedly pending the issuance of new guidelines or orders therefor.

Some TLAs were cancelled for no apparent valid cause, except, perhaps the desire of DENR to trim down the number of TLAs, and IFMAs.

- B. ARISING FROM THE TARIFF COMMISSION AND BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
- From the Tariff Commission.
 The Tariff Commission continued pursuing the accelerated reduction of tariff rates on imported wood articles.
- From Bureau of Customs.
 The entry albeit dumping particularly of cheap plywood from neighboring ASEAN countries, through misdeclaration and improper tax creditation, has caused the price of locally made plywood uncompetitive.

The bill on Sustainable Forest Management Act of 1997 was actually an administration bill the Association and other NGOs, supported to be passed by Congress.

The PWPA voiced its opposition to the total logging ban bill during public hearings of the Senate. The efforts of the Association was a case of déjà vu. The IFMA regulations have been muddled to the point of confusion and loss of heart on the part of investors or developers to pursue ITP any further.

Some holders whose TLAs have been cancelled went to the motion of appeal.

Unable to defer the tariff rates reduction last year, the Association pursued a move for a more gradual rates of reduction of import tariff on various wood articles vis-à-vis the AFTA-CEPT, MFN, and APEC-EVSL programs.

The Association, on several occasions, has called the attention of the Bureau of Customs, the Department of Finance and the Department of Trade and Industry about juxtaposed practices by certain importers not connected with the Association. The Association also volunteered its cooperation with the Bureau of Customs in physically monitoring importation of plywood.

A zero tariff rate on imported logs, as requested by the Association, was allowed. However, a gradual and rescheduled rate of reduction vis-à-vis AFTA-CEPT and MFN was worked out by PWPA, especially for plywood.

The Bureau of Customs at the Port of Manila has taken positive steps to minimize such practices and accepted the cooperative service of PWPA. However, same action and cooperation need to be done by the Bureau of Customs in the other ports now utilized by importers trying to perpetrate such anomalous practices.

C. ARISING FROM THE CONGRESS

- From the Lower House.
 Through the tireless efforts of the Chair of the Natural Resources Committee, the bill on Sustainable Forest Management Act of 1997 was given more emphasis than the logging ban bill.
- From the Upper House, or Senate. Unlike the Lower House, the Senate opted for the passage of a total logging ban bill as it did during the 8th and 9th Congresses.

The Lower House succeed in passing the Sustainable Forest Management Act on third and final reading and was supposed to be endorsed to the Senate as a counterpart bill. Further action by it was overtaken by the next elections.

The Senate passed on third and final reading the total logging ban bill. Because there were two contrasting bills from the two Houses, the Conference Committee failed to meet on them.

REGULAR MEMBERS

CAR

Furniture Group, Inc. R-273 Wellington Bldg., Plaza Ruiz, Binondo, Manila Mr. Florio Buñag

REGION II

La Peña Sawmill Co., Inc. 560 Padilla de los Reyes Bldg., 232 Juan Luna St., Binondo, Manila Mr. Francisco U. Peña

Liberty Logging Corp. 123 Kaingin Road, Quezon City Mr. Wilson Lim

Luzon Mahogany Timber Ind., Inc. 44 Edison St., U.E. Tech. Subd. Malabon, Metro Manila Atty. Bienvenido Rillo

Monte-Alto Timber Res. Corp. R-407 Anita Building 1300 Quezon Avenue Quezon City Mr. Romeo Y. de Jesus

Sierra Madre Wood, Ind., Inc. c/o Emco Plywood Corp., G/F W&W Building 106 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City Mr. Vicente Chan

Southern Plywood Corp. No. 220 Wilson St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila Mr. Osmundo R. Quijano

GMWPA

A & A Wood Corp. 205 Maysan Road Valenzuela, Metro Manila Mr. Manuel Anbio

Alaska Lumber Co., Inc. 2071 Int. Raxa Bago St., Juan Luna, Tondo, Manila Mr. Felipe Lee

Atlanta Wood Development Corp. 12 T. Santiago St., Canumay, Valenzuela, Metro Manila Mr. Tan Chin Atlas Wood Industries, Inc. 387 McArthur Highway, Malinta, Valenzuela, Metro Manila Mr. Jim Lim

Bulacan Integrated Wood Industries Corp. Marilao, Bulacan Mr. Felix L. Sy

Catmon Sales International Corp. 909-913 Gen. Kalentong St. Mandaluyong City Mr. Antonio Toh/Mr. Tomas Toh

Century Hardwood & Lbr. Co., Inc. 2627 T. Earnshaw St., Tondo. Manila

Mr. Tay Chun Lai

East Asia Sawmill Corp. 1235 T. Earnshaw St., Tondo, Manila Mr. James Lee

Elco Wood Processing Corp. San Juan, Balagtas, Bulacan Mr. Juan L. Santiago

Extensive Wood Processing Corp.
Km. 15 McArthur Highway,
Dalandanan, Valenzuela,
Metro Manila
Mr. Johnny Chan

Golden Star Industrial Corp. Bo. Patubig, Marilao, Bulacan

Mr. Edward Coquinco

Grand Pacific Ent., Inc. 17-1/2 Km. McArthur Highway, Meycauayan, Metro Manila

Great Wood Corp.
Vicente Reales St.,
Valenzuela, Metro Manila
Mr. Guillermo Go/Mr. Pinsing Ng Chua
Great World Ind'l. Int'l. Corp.

Bo. Canumay, Valenzuela, Metro Manila Mr. Benjamin Coquinco Sta. Ana Industrial Corp. 2735 Old Panaderos St., Sta. Ana, Manila Mr. Benjamin Coquinco

Tabang Sawmill, Inc.
Tabang, Guiguinto, Bulacan
Mr. Jose Ong, Jr.

Region III

Emerson Wood Ind., Inc. Km. 24 McArthur Highway, Marilao, Bulacan Mr. Peter S. L. Santos

Goodyear Timber Products Corp. 27-C Compound, Bagbagundo, Valenzuela, Metro Manila Mr. Benny Coquinco

Industrial Timber Corp. R-504 ITC Building 337 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave., Makati City Dr. Tomas T. Tangsoc, Jr.

Maple Resources Dev. Corp. Pandayan, Meycauayan, Bulacan Mr. Jimmy A. Ng

M R Board, Inc.
G/F Metrobank Building
Ortigas Ave. cor. Wilson St.,
Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Mr. Pedro C. Bernardo/Mr. Jimmy Ng

New Olympic Industrial Corp. 25 Km. McArthur Highway, Bunlo, Bocaue, Bulacan Ms. Imelda Rogando

Panel Products Industries Corp. 436 A. Juan St., San Juan, Metro Manila Mr. Wellington C. Yao

Rosewood Processing Inc. 1012 E. delos Santos Ave., Project 7, Quezon City Mr. Julian Ong

Scala Sawmill
R-560 Padilla delos Reyes Bldg.,
232 Juan Luna St., Binondo, Manila
Mr. Francisco U. Peña

Region IV

Industries Development Corp.
IDC Compound
E. Rodriguez, Jr. Ave.,
Ugong Norte, Quezon City
Mr. Joselito Ong

Inter-Pacific Forest Res. Corp. R-203 Anita Building 1300 Quezon Avenue Quezon City Mr. Alfredo Ong

Mt. Banahaw Wood Ind., Inc. 24 Dancalan St., Damar Village Quezon City Mr. Rafael Tantuco Pacific Timber Export Corp.
2/F LGI Bldg., Ortigas Avenue
Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Mr. Fernando A. Lu/Gen. Felizardo R. Tanabe

San Roque Sawmill, Inc. Dingalan, Aurora

Tableria Tan Tao Sawmill, Inc c/o Seven Brother, 5/F APMC Bldg. 135 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City Mr. Domingo Tan/Mrs. Sandra Yu Shaw

Verdant Agro-Forest Dev. Corp. G/F Metrobank Building Wilson St., cor. Ortigas Avenue Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila Mr. Jimmy A. Ng

NCR

Asia Pacific Timber & Plywood Corp. Bo. Pantok, Meycauayan, Bulacan Mr. Ramon Lim

International Plywood Corp. 518 Baesa Road Caloocan City Mr. Manuel Young

Republic Wooden Commodities Mnfg. Corp. #917 Susano Avenue, Novaliches, Quezon City Mr. Rosendo Dy

Region IX

First Plywood Corp. 4/F DACON Building 2281 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City Atty. Antonio G. Bernas

Mindanao Estates Timber Corp. 2227 Jose Abad Santos Avenue Tondo, Manila Mr. Jose Dy

Sirawai Plywood & Lumber Corp. 4/F DACON Building 2281 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City Atty. Antonio G. Bernas

Westmin Forest Products, Inc. Formerly El Salvador Timber Rm. 506 Heritage Bldg. 1851 Vasquez St., Malate, Manila Mr. Guilbert Go

Zamboanga Plywood, Inc. Rm. 272 Wellington Building Plaza Ruiz, Binondo, Manila Mr. Celso E. Abastillas

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Timber Industries of the Phil., Inc.

JOSE A. LORENZO
Casilayan Softwood Dev. Corp.

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Pacific Timber Export Corp.

JIMMY A. NG Maple Res. Dev. Corp.

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ARISTEO G. PUYAT Surigao Dev. Corp. ERNESTO F. SANVICTORES Aras-asan Timber Co., Inc.

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FELIX T. TAMESIS Nasipit Lumber Company, Inc.

WELLINGTON C. YAO
Panel Products Industries Corp.

LEONARDO D. ANGELES Secretary of the Board





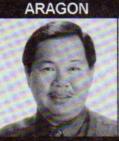








ALCANTARA



















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TAMESIS

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FELIX T. TAMESIS

VP-Timber

FELIX L. SY

VP-Lumber &

Related Products

JIMMY A. NG

VP-Plywood &

Related Products

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> **JOSE A. LORENZO VP-Forestry & Environment**

> > WELLINGTON C. YAO VP-Particleboard & **Fiberboard**

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ERNESTO F. SANVICTORES VP-International Relations

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SEVERINO T. DE GUZMAN **VP-Legal & Government** Relations

LEONARDO D. ANGELES Executive Director



SECRETARIAT

DUCAY

LEONARDO D. ANGELES Executive Director

CELIA P. DUCAY Administrative Officer **ANGELES**

REGINO M. SERAFICO Account Officer

Region X

Agusan Plywood Corp. R-502 APC Building 1186 Quezon Avenue Quezon City

Mr. William L. Perez

Agusan Wood Ind., Inc. R-504 ITC Building Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave. Makati City Dr. Tomas T. Tangsoc, Jr.

Anakan Lumber Co. 5/F Maritima Building

117 Dasmariñas St., Binondo, Manila

Atty. Felix T. Tamesis

Casilayan Softwood Dev'l. Corp. 211 Pasong Tamo cor. Tindalo St. Makati City

Mr. Tomas E. Bacalso

Emco Plywood Corp.
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106 Aguirre St.,
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JCA Lumber & Plywood Ind., Inc.
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Roxas Blvd. cor. Vito Cruz St., Manila
E. Rodriguez, Jr., Ave., Quezon City
Mr. Hernani S. Pasion/ Mr. Joseph Ll. Edralin

Liberty Forest, Inc. 91 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue Makati City Mr. Jose T. Ching

Mainit Lumber. & Dev. Co., Inc. 91 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City

Master Wood Ent. Corp.
Phividec Ind'l. Estate, Baluarte,
Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental
Mr. Willie Tan

Nasipit Lumber Co., Inc. 5/F Maritima Bldg., 117 Dasmariñas St., Binondo, Manila Atty. Felix T. Tamesis

Mr. Jose T. Ching

Phil. Wallboard Corp. 5/F Maritima Bldg., 117 Dasmariñas St., Binondo, Manila Atty. Felix T. Tamesis Provident Tree Farms, Inc.
PHIMCO Compound, A. Bautista St.
Punta, Sta. Ana, Manila
Mr. Lutgardo F. Lopez

Royal Match Co., Inc. 2111 Pasong Tamo cor. Tindalo St., Makati City

Mr. Antonio M. Cruz

TIPI Wood Products Corp.
R-502 State Condominium I,
Salcedo St., Legaspi Village,
Makati City
Mr. Antonio C. Olizon

Top Forest Developers, Inc. G/F Cordova Building, Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City

Mr. Robert W. Kua Union Plywood Corp. R-502 State Condominium I,

Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

Mr. Antonio C. Olizon

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Woodland Domain, Inc.
Unit R Times Plaza Building
Pamplona, Las Piñas,
Metro Manila
Mr. Danny Dragon

Region XI

Aras-Asan Timber Co., Inc.
Rm. 404 Concorde Building
Benavidez St., Legaspi Village,
Makati City
Mr. Ernesto F. Sanvictores
C. Alcantara & Sons, Inc.
3/F Alsons Building
2286 Pasong Tamo Ext.,
Makati City
Ms. Edith I. Alcantara

Consolidated Plywood Ind., Inc. R-202 Cityland III, Herrera cor. Esteban St., Legaspi Village, Makati City, Mr. Henry C. Wee

Davao Enterprises Corp. 28 Ramon Magsaysay Avenue Davao City Ms. Evelyn Uy

Davao Plywood Co., Inc. Km. 24 Bunawan, Davao City Mr. Gokim Leng

Mindanao Lumber Dev. Co., Inc. 15/F Antonino Bldg., T.M. Kalaw St., Manila Ms. Magnolia W. Antonino

PICOP Resources, Inc. 2297 Priscilla 100 Building Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City

Mr. Pedrito M. Aragon

San Manuel Wood Products, Inc.
Daliao, Toril, Davao City

Mr. Manuel G. Ting/Mr. Faustino B. Lim Suan, Jr.

Super Plywood Corp. #608 Echelon Tower 2001 A. Mabini St., Malate, San Andres, Manila Mr. Conrado Lo

Surigao Dev't. Corp. 4/F ENZO Building 399 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Makati City Mr. Aristeo G. Puyat

Ventura Timber Corp. VTC Compound No. 88 R. Castillo St., Beside Salonga Motors Lanang, Davao City Mr. Jainal B. Uy

Region XII

Ever Sun Dev. Ltd.
2nd Flr. Kings Court Bldg.,
Pasong Tamo
Makati City
Mr. Kevin Cheng
Findlay Millar Tbr. Co.
Unit C, G/F, Cordova Building
cor. Sedeno & Agustin Sts.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

M & S Company, Inc. 4/F DACON Bldg., 2281 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City Mr. Antonio G. Bernas

Ms. Maria Teresita N. Kua

ARMM

Cotabato Timberland Co., Inc. 4/F DACON Bldg., 2281 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City Mr. Antonio G. Bernas

Timber Industries of the Phils., Inc.
Unit C, G/F Cordova Building,
Valero St., cor. Sedeno St.
Salcedo Village, Makati City,
Mr. Rufino T. Nasser/Mr. Robert W. Kua

Vicmar Dev. Corp Unit C, G/F Cordova Building Valero, cor. Sedeno St., Salcedo Village, Makati City Ms. Maria Teresita N. Kua

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

AG&P Co., Inc.
Pasong Tamo Ext.,
Makati City
Mr. Fernando Garcia
Borden Int'l. Phils., Inc.
Suite 1001, Ayala Life Building
Ayala, Avenue, Makati City
Mr. Rolando del Rosario Sison
Resins, Inc.
E. Rodriguez, Jr., Ave.,

Bagong Ilog, Pasig City

Mr. Meneleo Carlos, Jr.

SGV & Co

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

SyCip Gorres Velayo & Co An Arthur Andersen Member Firm

The Board of Trustees
Philippine Wood Producers Association, Inc.

6760 Ayala Avenue 1226 Makati City Philippines 632 891 0307 632 819 0872 Fax

We have audited the accompanying statements of assets, liabilities and members' equity of Philippine Wood Producers Association, Inc. (a nonstock, nonprofit corporation) as of December 31, 1997 and 1996, and the related statements of revenues and expenses and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and members' equity of Philippine Wood Producers Association, Inc. as of December 31, 1997 and 1996, and its revenues and expenses and its cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Supp borne Volag 4 &

April 14, 1997

(A Nonstock, Nonprofit Corporation)

STATEMENTS OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY

	December 31		
	1997	1996	
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	₽951,750	₽927,771	
Receivables - net (Note 3)	2,260,770	2,005,742	
Total Current Assets	3,212,520	2,933,513	
Property and Equipment - net (Note 4)	1,189	51,974	
Other Assets	9,700	9,700	
	₽3,223,409	₽2,995,187	
LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY	Cremical indicates in the	mental agency	
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	₽121,937	₱202,642	
Members' Equity			
Balance at beginning of year	2,792,545	1,022,437	
Excess of revenues over expenses	308,927	1,770,108	
Balance at end of year	3,101,472	2,792,545	
The state of the s	₽3,223,409	₽2,995,187	

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

(A Nonstock, Nonprofit Corporation)

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

	Years Ended December	
	1997	1996
REVENUES		
Membership and assessment dues (Note 5)	₽3,869,377	₽5,922,007
nterest and others	515,143	243,061
The state of the s	4,384,520	6,165,068
EXPENSES (Note 5)		
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	1,227,106	1,054,933
Provision for doubtful accounts	862,000	-
Office expenses	472,911	509,204
Professional fees	331,750	307,784
Condominium expenses, light and water	243,321	286,458
Meetings and conferences	222,718	240,082
Transportation and travel	148,814	321,888
Membership dues	105,115	65,790
Public relations and information	92,755	245,811
Telephone, telegram and postage	92,440	90,055
Donations and gifts	66,582	164,289
Taxes and licenses	52,150	21,789
Depreciation and amortization	50,785	115,749
Insurance	50,206	22,143
Write-off of receivables		352,275
Special projects		339,438
Regional chapter expenses (Note 5)		187,970
Others	56,940	69,302
	4,075,593	4,394,960
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	₽308,927	₽1,770,108

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

(A Nonstock, Nonprofit Corporation)

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Years Ended December 3	
		1996
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	₽308,927	₽1,770,108
Adjustments to reconcile excess of revenues over expenses to net cash provided by operating activities:	te i militari musi masi a	and the same of th
Depreciation and amortization	50,785	115,749
Provision for doubtful accounts	862,000	-
Write-off of receivables	-	352,275
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Increase in receivables	(1,117,028)	(1,455,160)
Increase (decrease) in:	Mariana St. St. Av.	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(80,705)	(170,099)
Dues collected in advance	The second	(135,000)
Net cash provided by operating activities	23,979	477,873
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITY		
Additions to property and equipment	The state of the s	(11,690)
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH		
EQUIVALENTS	23,979	466,183
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING		
OF YEAR	927,771	461,588
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	₽951,750	₽927,771

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

(A Nonstock, Nonprofit Corporation)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Organization

The Philippine Wood Producers Association, Inc. (Association) is an association of corporations, partnerships and individuals engaged in logging, sawmilling, veneer and plywood manufacture, wood preservation, and other related activities. Incorporated as a nonstock, nonprofit corporation, the Association aims to achieve unity in the wood industry under a single integrated association that would serve as spokesman for the entire wood industry in its continuing dialogue with government authorities. Its services, programs and activities are all geared towards the promotion and development of the lumber and plywood industry.

The Association is exempt from payment of income tax with respect to revenues received in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 26 (f) of the National Internal Revenue Code.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Cash Equivalents

The Association considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with maturities of three months or less from date of acquisition to be cash equivalents.

Membership and Assessment Dues

Membership dues of Timber License Agreement (TLA) holders, sawmillers and associate members are based on fixed monthly rates. Assessment dues of TLA holders are computed based on the annual allowable cuts.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization are computed using the straight-line method based on the estimated useful lives of the assets ranging from 5 to 10 years. Ordinary repairs and expenditures which do not benefit future periods are expensed as incurred.

Receivables

This account consists of:

	1997	1996
Members	₽3,095,000	₽1,997,000
Others	124,045	105,017
	3,219,045	2,102,017
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	958,275	96,275
Desputies and the second secon	₽2,260,770	₱2,005,742

4. Property and Equipment

This account consists of:

Control of the second	1997	1996
Condominium office building	₽1,010,396	₱1,010,396
Office furniture, fixtures and improvements	129,043	129,043
Office equipment	247,789	247,789
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	1,387,228	1,387,228
	1,386,039	1,335,254
	₽1,189	₱51,974

Association's Regional Chapters

The Association maintains a number of regional chapters within the Philippines. These chapters act as extensions of the Association in their respective regions. Dues collected by these chapters are turned over to the Association. Ten percent of such collections are remitted back to the chapters to cover their administrative expenses. Such amounts are treated as expenses upon receipt of the chapters' collections.



Implementing the Vision of Sustainable Forest Resources*

Doable strategies, plans, and programs for the recovery of the forestry sector must address the following issues to achieve the vision of sustainable forest resources:

- Stop the shrinking of the areas of natural mangrove, dipterocarp, pine, and mossy forests;
- Speed up the rate of reforestation and industrial tree plantation development;
- Remove threats to biodiversity and the water carrying capacity of the watersheds;
- Ameliorate the socio-economic conditions of the stakeholders in the uplands and forestlands; and
- Stem the decreasing contribution of the environment and natural resources sector to economic development.

If these challenges were hurdled, the prospects of forestry in the 21st century may look as follows:

- Sustainably managed natural and plantation forests that can serve as: 1) a land cover (to protect soil from erosion, regulate water flows, sequester carbon dioxide, and provide sanctuary for wildlife); 2) crops (to provide the country self-sufficiency in timber and minor forest product); and, 3) a haven or site for recreation, biodiversity, and aesthetic and scientific studies;
- Actively cooperating stakeholders (individuals, communities, non-government agencies and institutions, and corporations) managing both forestlands and forests; and.
- A strong network of forestry and allied institutions performing educational, research, extension, management, and financing activities as well as body of essential and appropriate laws and policies that would serve as guideposts for sustainable forestry development.

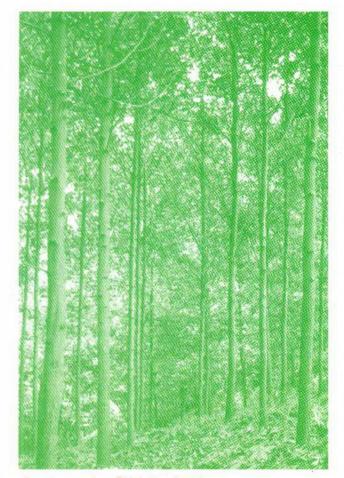
More than anything else, the government's visible hand must become a helping hand. It must decide, first of all, that the forestry sector has place and a role to play in national development. Then it must provide the stable legal framework that the forestry sector needs to enable itself to pursue sustainable forest management.

It must specify what the roles are, who among the players should perform which roles, and what the expectations are. It must provide the commensurate incentives that have proved effective elsewhere in the world, as in Chile and New Zealand. Finally, it must change its management posture: from that of a cop on the block to that of a partner in progress.

^{*} An excerpt from the article "Forestry: Fighting for a Place in the Sun" by Engr. Ernesto F. Sanvictores, formerly PWPA Chairman or President and ITTO Chairman and currently Chairman of APPF and PWPA Director, published in the "100 years of Philippine Agriculture", the Food and Agriculture Centennial Book, University of Asia and the Pacific, 1998.



Ground view of Dipterocarp forest.



Acacia mangium Plantation forest

"The forests must be, and will be, not only preserved, but used; and the experience of all civilized countries that have faced and solved the questions show that ... the forests, like perennial fountains, may be made to yield a sure harvest of timber, while at the same time all their far-reaching beneficent uses may be maintained unimpaired."

JOHN MUIR 1895