

ACTIVITY PROPOSAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANISATION (ITTO)

Submitted by the Government of Malaysia

TITLE Development of an Information Database for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of *Gonystylus bancanus* (Ramin) and *Aquilaria malaccensis* (Karas) in Malaysia.

Summary

With the inclusion of *Gonystylus bancanus* (Ramin) and *Aquilaria malaccensis* (Karas) in Appendix II of the Convention of International Trade on Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) and the concern on the unsustainable exploitation of the species, an assessment to identify the current distribution, production and trading status of these threatened species is compulsory. This Activity is part of a follow-up action to the successful implementation of the previous ITTO-CITES Activities conducted by Malaysia from 2008 to 2010 under Phase 1 of the ITTO-CITES Program. In order to conserve and sustainably manage *G. bancanus* and *A. malaccensis* species, a suitable database and information system is required. As such, this Activity is proposed to ensure the continuation of the previous Activities' outputs by developing a comprehensive web-based information database of Malaysia CITES-listed tree species, especially those related to the current status of their population, production, trade, and management practices in Malaysia. The main objective of the Activity is to develop a web-based information system of Ramin and Karas in Malaysia for management and conservation purposes (MyCITES). The expected outputs of the Activity are information on (i) Ramin and Karas distributions in Malaysia; (ii) research and development of Ramin and Karas in Malaysia; (iii) timber trade and production of Ramin and Karas in Malaysia; (iv) Malaysia's policy and management practices of Ramin and Karas; and (v) a comprehensive web-based information system of Ramin and Karas in Malaysia that contains all outputs from (i) to (iv). As a one-stop centre of Ramin and Karas, this web-based information system could be used by various stakeholders as a main source of information which will provide the latest information and details on these species for the purpose of learning, monitoring, conservation planning and other related activities in Malaysia.

Executing Agency: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia (MNRE).

Implementing Agency: Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM).

Collaborating Agency: Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM).

Duration: 22 months.