

**ACTIVITY PROPOSAL TO THE  
INTERNATIONAL TIMBER ORGANISATION (ITTO)**

Submitted by Government of Malaysia

**TITLE:** Use of DNA for Identification of *Gonystylus* species and Timber Geographical Origin in Sarawak.

**SUMMARY**

The Activity is intended to develop DNA database based on specific haplotypes of chloroplast DNA to identify species of ramin (*Gonystylus*) and its timber origin. The overall objective is to deter false identification of species at production chain and illegal logging activities in order to enhance sustainable management and conservation of CITES-listed timber species. The objectives of the Activity are (i) to construct a molecular database of ramin for the identification of species and the geographical origin in Sarawak; and (ii) to develop a protocol for extracting DNA from ramin timber. The expected outputs are (i) DNA from ramin samples extracted; (ii) chloroplast DNA haplotypes between species and origin determined; and (iii) DNA from wood samples extracted; and (iv) DNA extraction protocol for ramin timber developed.

**EXECUTING AGENCY** Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia

**IMPLEMENTING AGENCY** Sarawak Forestry Corporation & Forest Department Sarawak

**COLLABORATING AGENCY** Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)

**DURATION** 12 months

**PROPOSED STATE DATE** 2010