

RSPO

Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

Promoting the Production and Use of Sustainable Palm Oil

 **RT⁹**
Sabah
2011 Borneo

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Plenary Session 4

An Introduction to the P&C Review Process and How Members Can Participate

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The need for Review

After 4 years of operation and no change the Principles & Criteria have now been tested in the field – and it is time to review how they can be improved.

EB statement: “The Principles & Criteria remain relevant and needed but they can be made more effective.”

P & C Review

Two main drivers:

- Generic P&C document should be reviewed by November 2012.
- The review should incorporate Principles, Criteria, Indicators and Guidance relating to GHGs and alternatives to the use pesticides.

ISEAL Recommendations

The RSPO has decided to follow ISEAL best practice guidance:

ISEAL recommends that a review looks at the:

- Continued relevance of the standard
- Effectiveness of the standard in meeting the stated objectives

Steering Group

The Executive Board of the RSPO has established a Principle & Criteria Review Steering Group made up of:

- Adam Harrison, WWF International – Chair of the Standards & Certification Steering Committee (P&CR Chair);
- Jan Kees Vis, Unilever – Chair of the Claims & Communications Steering Committee;
- Hidde van Kersen, IOI-Loders Croklaan – Chair of the Trade & Traceability Steering Committee;
- Edi Suhardi, PT Agro Harapan Lestari, EB member
- Darrel Webber, RSPO Secretary General;
- Salahudin Yaacob, RSPO Technical Director.

Planning of the Review

This review is being planned to be split into two parts:

Phase 1 – reviewing the relevance of the Generic P&Cs

Phase 2 – improving the effectiveness of the Generic P&Cs

Phase 1

Phase 1 – reviewing the relevance of the Generic P&Cs:

- A pre-consultation review - to the end of 2011.
- Opportunity to pose questions and to make suggestions for how the P&Cs could be made more relevant.
- It will also be an opportunity to draw on the lessons and suggestions from the various working groups of the RSPO
- The P&C Review steering group will draw together the conclusions, lessons or suggestions from the process and feed them into the next phase.

Phase 2

Phase 2 – improving the effectiveness of the Generic P&Cs:

- A more tightly focussed review process to look at the effectiveness of the current P&Cs and will run from January 2012
- To be conducted by a P&C Review Task Force established with balanced representation of all RSPO members and drawing on external experts.

Stakeholder Consultations

Stakeholder consultations:

The RSPO wants stakeholders to question the larger issues of the P&Cs but also to be aware that whilst this is an opportunity to substantially change the P&Cs this will only happen if consensus is reached.

Request to stakeholders

Specific request to stakeholders to input into Phase 1 of the review:

- RSPO Secretariat asks stakeholders to submit, by 31st December 2011, short, written comments addressing the following main question:

What is the continuing relevance of the RSPO's Generic Principle & Criteria to delivering sustainable palm oil?

Some issues to consider:

- Is the definition of sustainable palm oil still relevant?
- What are the sustainability challenges facing palm oil production?
- What can be improved about the Principles & Criteria?
- Do the indicators support the Criteria?
- Should there be P&Cs for other RSPO members?

Decision by GA9

Finally the agreement is that any changes to the document proposed by the Taskforce will be voted on by the General Assembly in 2012

Consensus Decision Making

- Request member participation in stakeholder consultation and task force
- Aim for improvement while maintaining relevance
- Decision made must be practical and based on lessons learnt
- Not changing the goal post but strengthening definition of sustainability

Thank You!

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