

## **Resolution GA13-6d**

Proposed Resolution to be adopted at the 13th General Assembly of the  
Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)

10th of November 2016

**TITLE:** ASSURING EFFECTIVELY PLANNED, IMPLEMENTED AND MONITORED COMPENSATION  
PROJECTS IN “REMEDICATION AND COMPENSATION PROCEDURE” OF THE RSPO

**Submitted by:** Kuchenmeister GmbH

**Co-signed by:** Agrarfrost GmbH & Co. KG, Bahlsen GmbH & Co. KG, Beiersdorf AG, DALLI-WERKE  
GmbH & Co. KG, Dr. Straetmans GmbH, EDEKA ZENTRALE AG & Co. KG, Gebr. Mueller  
Kerzenfabrik AG, Griesson – de Beukelaer GmbH & Co. KG, Kaufland Warenhandel GmbH & Co.  
KG, KU Kerzenunion GmbH, Promol Industria de Velas SA, REWE Group on behalf of REWE-  
Zentral- Aktiengesellschaft Köln, The Lorenz Bahlsen Snack-World GmbH & Co KG Germany

### **Background:**

In November 2015 the Board of Governors in the RSPO endorsed the RSPO Remediation and Compensation Procedures (RACP). The RACP is addressing and finding solutions towards Land Clearance without Prior High Conservation Value (HCV) Assessment and recognizes the fact that – despite guidance in the P&C and the *New Planting Procedures* – there has been land clearance without prior HCV assessment since November 2005.

RSPO acknowledged that non-compliant land clearance has taken place also in the RSPO membership. Therefore – as stated in the RACP –, the RSPO decided to not insist on requirements that would forever bar certain growers from certification and even RSPO membership. The RSPO has developed a formal procedure to remediate and compensate for land clearance without prior HCV assessment since November 2005.

The growers being affected by non-compliant land clearings were asked to submit their liabilities to the Secretariat. The RACP clearly outlines the process how to start, implement and monitor projects for compensating liabilities. Also some feedback loops involving the Complaints Panel and also independent evaluators are foreseen in the RACP.

However it currently remains unclear, whether and how affected growers are effectively planning, implementing and monitoring their Remediation and Compensation Projects. It remains unclear how “linking and learning” of experiences in planning, implementing and monitoring such kind of projects takes place in the RSPO. And it currently remains unclear which options for remediation and compensation, as well as prioritization of actions (as outlined in Chapter 5.3. and 5.4. of the RACP) the affected growers are making use of.

In order to assure effective planning, implementation and monitoring of the RACP and providing transparency in RSPO about this program we propose this resolution. This is also necessary to further position RSPO as a transparent certification system – where others can learn from – and to assure the implementation of meaning- and impactful Remediation and Certification projects.

We are in a much better position to promote CSPO if credible monitoring and implementation is installed.

**THIS RESOLUTION PROPOSES:**

**In order to assure effectively planned, implemented and monitored Remediation and Compensation projects in the RSPO, as well as enhance transparency in the RACP we propose that the General Assembly adopts the following resolution:**

- 1) The RSPO Secretariat to publicly disclose the overall figure of non-compliant land clearance as reported by the affected growers (size and regional spread); in the future the figure of non-compliant land clearance will be updated on an annual basis and publicly disclosed.**
- 2) The RSPO Secretariat to prepare an annual report containing the aggregated analysis of the submitted project concept notes, the remediation and compensation plans and the annual progress reports of the individual plans. This annual report by the Secretariat shall consist at least – but not limited to – the aggregated information of:**
  - a. Project Options and Priorities of Actions as outlined in Chapter 5.3. and 5.4. of the RACP;**
  - b. The Timelines as planned for projects, as well as the timelines of de facto implementation;**
  - c. The results of the independent Third Party Evaluations, as outlined in Chapter 5.7.**
  - d. Additional information provided in the standardized reporting template, which is foreseen as Annex 9 of the RACP but not (yet) publicly available;**
- 3) The RSPO Secretariat to independently review by the end of 2017 the quality of the SOPs as well as the effectiveness and consequences of the RACP and verify whether all companies with compensation liabilities are following their Remediation and Compensation Plans.**

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