

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RSPO

29th RSPO BHCVWG MEETING

Date: 6th Aug 2015

Start Time: 9.00 am

Venue: Aloft Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Attendance:

<u>Members and Alternates</u>	<u>RSPO Advisors</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adam Harrison (AH, WWF INT) 2. Anders Lindhe (AL, HCVRN) 3. Anne Rosenbarger (AR, WRI) 4. Dickens Mambu (DkM, WWF MY) 5. Dwi Muhtaman (DwM, Remark Asia) 6. Leoni Lawrence (LL, ZSL) 7. Gan Lian Tiong (GLT, MM) 8. Glen Reynolds (GR, SEARRP) 9. Ginny Ng Siew Ling (GN, WILMAR) 10. Harjinder Kler (HK, HUTAN) 11. Henry Barlow (HB, Independent) 12. John Payne (JP, BORA) 13. Lanash Tanda (LT, SEPA) 14. Lee Swee Yin (LSY, SIME) 15. Melissa Yeoh (MY, FGV) 16. Michal Zrust (MZ, Daemeter) 17. Olivier Tichit (OT, SIPEF) 18. Richard Kan (RK, GAR) 19. Simon Siburat (SiS, WILMAR) 20. Sophie Persey (SP, REA) 21. Tang Men Kon (TMK, SIME) 	<p><u>Secretariat Staff</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oi Soo Chin (OSC, RSPO) 2. Dillon Sarim (DS, RSPO)

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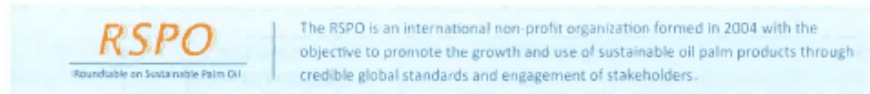
Item	Description	Point Person
<p>1.0</p> <p>1.0.1</p> <p>1.1</p> <p>1.1.1</p> <p>1.1.2</p> <p>1.2</p>	<p>1.0 Opening meeting</p> <p>OT opened the 29th BHCVWG meeting by welcoming members and participants.</p> <p>Approval of previous minutes</p> <p>OSC presented the minutes and sought comments from members. The minutes were endorsed by the BHCVWG members and OSC informed members that it will be uploaded on the RSPO website.</p> <p>OT and AH requested the RSPO to clarify the involvement Board of Governors (BoG) in the compensation panel by cross checking this with the BoG meeting notes.</p> <p>Action points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To upload minutes onto the website. 2. To clarify involvement of BoG in the WG 	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>OSC</p> <p>OSC</p>
<p>2.0</p> <p>2.0.1</p>	<p>2.0 Update on Budget</p> <p>OSC presented the spending for BHCVWG for financial year July 2014 to June 2015.</p>	<p></p>
<p>3.0</p> <p>3.0.1</p> <p>3.0.2</p> <p>3.0.3</p> <p>3.1</p>	<p>3.0 Update on Compensation Panel</p> <p>DS presented to the WG the new composition of the compensation panel, as well as the assignment of compensation cases.</p> <p>HK raised an objection on Hutan's involvement in Genting's compensation cases. Hutan has declared a conflict of interest with Genting Plantations and should not be involved in any cases related to Genting Plantations.</p> <p>SP commented that, the current assignment for compensation cases may not be fair as the number of cases per company varies. OT and AH suggested to list all the compensation cases per company. It was also important to note the progress of compensation cases in the new updated sheet.</p> <p>Action points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To reassign Genting Plantation to another panel 2. To list all the compensation cases per company and provide information on the current progress. 	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>DS</p> <p>DS</p>

Item	Description	Point Person
<p data-bbox="264 219 304 248">4.0</p> <p data-bbox="264 304 316 333">4.0.1</p> <p data-bbox="264 629 304 658">4.1</p>	<p data-bbox="392 219 1201 293">4.0 Position paper for membership issues (processors & traders and multiple membership)</p> <p data-bbox="392 304 1201 539">OSC explained to members how multiple memberships (multiple subsidiary memberships in RSPO) and integrated company are affecting the compensation mechanism. AH recommended to present and get recommendation on the issue from the BoG. He volunteered to draft a problem statement and possible solution for the Board's consideration.</p> <p data-bbox="392 595 555 624">Action points:</p> <ol data-bbox="440 636 1182 786" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="440 636 1182 710">1. AH to draft a text on multiple membership and circulate it to the Co-Chairs. <li data-bbox="440 721 1182 750">2. Co-Chairs to review it before circulating it to the WG. <li data-bbox="440 761 1182 786">3. The finalised text will be sent to the BoG. 	<p data-bbox="1289 636 1329 665">AH</p> <p data-bbox="1257 721 1361 786">AR & OT OSC</p>
<p data-bbox="264 880 304 909">5.0</p> <p data-bbox="264 920 316 949">5.0.1</p> <p data-bbox="264 1167 316 1196">5.0.2</p> <p data-bbox="264 1581 316 1610">5.0.3</p> <p data-bbox="264 1861 304 1890">5.1</p>	<p data-bbox="392 880 1066 909">5.0 Update on workshop to incentivize grower members</p> <p data-bbox="392 920 1201 1111">The plan to organise the workshop materialised from previous meeting when the co-chair of ERWG (Emission Reduction Working Group) presented their work to the BHCVWG. Members from both WGs were interested to co-organise the workshop together with members of ERWG.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1167 1201 1240">OSC informed the WG that members who volunteered to organise the workshop have proposed to have it in October.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1296 1201 1532">GLT explained to members that Criteria 7.8 requires company to set aside HCS areas in new development and the default value for carbon sequestration is still a work in progress within the ERWG. The ERWG felt that the set aside HCS and HCV areas within the plantation could be used as carbon/emission credit for growers and a workshop could be organised to explore ideas.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1581 1201 1816">SiS commented that in order to incentives growers to set aside HCS and HCV areas for carbon sequestration, individuals with marketing background could be brought into this sub-group. He also proposed that Joshua Lim could be the right person to help the sub-group. OSC replied that once the concept note is ready, it will be circulated to members.</p> <p data-bbox="392 1861 555 1890">Action points:</p> <ol data-bbox="440 1901 1150 1975" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="440 1901 1150 1975">1. OSC to circulate the concept note to members once it is ready. 	

Item	Description	Point Person
<p data-bbox="268 219 308 248">6.0</p> <p data-bbox="256 304 316 333">6.0.1</p>	<p data-bbox="395 219 1134 293">6.0 Update on compensation staged implementation period & compensation plan evaluator cost</p> <p data-bbox="395 304 1198 663">OSC provided update on the cost of hiring compensation plan evaluator to the WG. The RSPO counter proposed that the evaluation cost for first submission would be covered by the RSPO until May 9th, 2016. From May 10th 2016 to May 9th 2017, the RSPO will cover half the cost. Subsequent submissions for the same concession due to poor quality of the compensation plan will need to be at the company's expense. After May 9th 2017, companies will cover the cost. The TF accepted the proposal and expressed their gratitude over the proposed cost arrangement.</p>	
<p data-bbox="268 757 308 786">7.0</p> <p data-bbox="256 842 316 871">7.0.1</p>	<p data-bbox="395 757 1134 831">7.0 Update on collaboration with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)</p> <p data-bbox="395 842 1198 1066">OSC informed members that the RSPO has signed letter of collaboration with Palm Center of UTM. Researchers from UTM (Dr. Sune and Dr. Rory) would be coming over for lunch to meet members in the afternoon. The researchers would like to know what research questions related to biodiversity and HCV the WG would be interested in.</p>	
<p data-bbox="268 1171 308 1200">8.0</p> <p data-bbox="256 1256 316 1285">8.0.1</p> <p data-bbox="256 1581 316 1610">8.0.2</p> <p data-bbox="256 1749 316 1778">8.0.3</p>	<p data-bbox="395 1171 1198 1245">8.0 HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS), Unified HCV Approach for smallholders update and HCV toolkit for oil palm sector.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1256 1198 1525">AL provided updates on the HCV ALS. In August, there were more than 60 provisional licensed assessors and 7 registered training organisations. There were 21 HCV assessment report reviewers registered with HCV Resource Network. Sticky issues related to HCV ALS were presented. AL sought feedback from members whether assessors involved in complaints should be allowed to join the HCV ALS.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1581 1174 1693">AL also presented the progress of Unified HCV approach for Smallholders to members. Findings from field testing in Ghana, Tanzania, Indonesia and Honduras were also shared with the WG.</p> <p data-bbox="395 1749 1198 2018">AL proceeded with the brainstorming session for the proposed HCV toolkit for palm oil sector. The WG agreed that the current common guidance for identification of HCV was sufficient and a specific HCV toolkit for palm oil sector was unnecessary. The WG proposed that budget allocated for this project be used for the 3rd BHCVWG project. See Annex 2 for presentation.</p>	

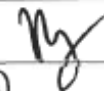

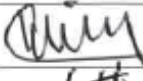
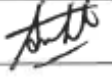
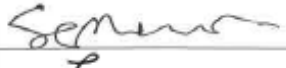


Item	Description	Point Person
8.1	<p>GN explained that in Indonesia, HCV assessment findings and area planned for development submitted via NPP may be different from the final lease (HGU). She then asked whether companies are allowed to update the HCV assessment findings. GN commented that a procedure for review and update of HCV assessment should be provided. MZ suggested members who have experience in Indonesia to present these cases to the WG. GN and SP volunteered to work on examples of cases.</p> <p>Action point: GN and SP to prepare examples related to HCVs area during and after NPP submission.</p>	
9.0 9.0.1	<p>9.0 NPP update and public consultation</p> <p>OSC provided updates on the NPP revision exercise to members and highlighted major proposals and changes in the NPP relevant to HCVs. She also informed members that the document was already available on the RSPO website for public consultation. She reminded members to provide comments via online and during the public consultation workshop.</p>	
10.0 10.0.1	<p>10.0 RT 13 Update and Planning</p> <p>OSC informed members that the RT would still be held in Bangkok unless there were unforeseen circumstances. Speakers and topics should be confirmed as soon as possible. The WG agreed and arrangements could be made outside this meeting.</p>	
11.0 11.0.1 11.0.2	<p>11.0 Closing meeting</p> <p>OT closed the meeting by thanking the WG members for their participation.</p> <p>The next meeting CTF and BHCVWG will be held in Bangkok on 9th – 13th of November 2015.</p>	

ANNEX 1



**29th Meeting of RSPO BHCVWG
6th August 2015
Aloft Hotel, Kuala Lumpur**

#	Name	Organisation	Signature (BHCV WG – 6 th)
1	Adam Harrison	WWF Int	
2	Agus Purnomo	GAR	
3	Anders Lindhe	HCV RN	
4	Anne Rosenbarger	WRI	
5	Audrey Lee	OLAM	
6	Cahyo Nugroho	Fauna and Flora International	
7	Cecep Saepulloh	Remark Asia	
8	Darmawan Liswanto	Fauna and Flora International	
9	Dickens Mambu	WWF MY	
10	Dr. Ruslan Abdullah	MPOA	
11	Dwi Muhtaman	Remark Asia	
12	Gan Lian Tiong	Musim Mas	
13	Ginny Ng Siew Ling	WILMAR	
14	Glen Reynolds	SEARRP	
15	Harjinder Kler	HUTAN	
16	Henry Barlow	Independent	
17	John Payne	BORA	
18	Lanash Thanda	SEPA	
19	Lee Swee Yin	SIME	
20	Leonine Lawrence	ZSL	
21	Marcus Colchester	FPP	
22	Michael Brady	IFC	

#	Name	Organisation	Signature (BHCV WG – 6 th)
23	Norazam Abd Hameed	FGV	
24	Melissa Yeoh	FGV	
25	Olivier Tichit	SIPEF	
26	Richard Kan	GAR	
27	Simon Siburat	WILMAR	
28	Sophie Persey	REA	
29	Tang Men Kon	SIME	
30	M. ZRUST	DAEMETER	
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			



ANNEX 2

HCV RESOURCE NETWORK



HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme

RSPO BHCV Working Group
Kuala Lumpur, August 2015





Status (31st of July)

- Online accounts 169
- Applications received 71
- Applications rejected 5
- Applications on hold 2
- Provisional licences 64
- Full licences 0
- Registered training organisations 7
- Peer reviewers 21
- Quality Panel members 6



Current activities

- HCVRN now an independent legal entity under UK law
- Ensure clear ALS requirements in **updated version of NPP**
- **Building an expert register of team members**
- Webinars: Latest in Bahasa Indonesia
- **HCV Assessor Training Courses** underway in Africa, Asia and Latin America



- Engagement with other cert. schemes through ISEAL to promote consistent HCV understanding & implementation
- Keeping track of **feedback** from users & stakeholders
- Maintenance & improvement of **web platform**
- Preparing participation in **palm conference in Colombia**



Sticky issues

- Currently, ALS only required by RSPO NPP – assessments outside this scope could be performed poorly
- Provisional assessors involved in complaints - dilemma of suspending licences for work done before ALS was in place
- Analysing if we should accept ALS training course examination as part of application
- NPPs slowing down? Or growers not using licensed assessors? We haven't received that many reports... Can RSPO give us numbers?



Unified HCV approach for smallholders

Update on field testing

BHCV WG meeting KL, August 2015

www.sharp-partnership.org | www.hcvnetwork.org



Overview of (draft) unified approach

1. Initial landscape risk assessment - is the unified approach applicable?
2. Preparations - collect info on smallholder capacity/organisation, identify potentially present focal species and relevant ecosystem services
3. Smallholder meetings - inform about certification. Discuss suggested focal species and other HCVs, threats, and agree on a set of Precautionary Practises.
4. Verification and monitoring – combination of self-assessment checklists, control by Group Manager and auditing by CB
5. Procedures for new plantings – mandatory site inspection by Group Manager. Expansion allowed on degraded lands without further assessment



Field testing sites

- Ghana: Adum Bansa palm plantation farmers organisation in W Ghana – 52 SH and 100ha – with Solidaridad and Rainforest Alliance
- Tanzania: Kigoma smallholder farmer project – 76 SH and 30 ha – with Seed Change
- Indonesia: Air Putih farmer association in Riau - 100-200 farmers and 450 ha – with SNV
- Honduras: Jaremar smallholder project – 70 SH and 1,500 ha – with Proforest



Scope of field testing

1. (Initial landscape risk assessment – work in progress with WRI and Daemeter, desktop analysis of field sites by Proforest, not field tested)
2. *Preparations, including guidance materials*
3. *Smallholder meetings, including guidance materials*
4. (Verification and monitoring – will be field tested in Q 4, 2015)
5. (Procedures for new plantings – need more work on methodology before testing)



Main feedback/findings so far

- Initial risk filter complicated and overcautious – need some rethink of both criteria and where it best fits into the methodology
- Smallholder meetings to discuss and agree precautionary practises to maintain focal species and ecosystem services works well, guidance helpful
- Good preparations for meetings important
- Training Group Managers so that they understand and can implement the approach essential
- We should start thinking on how to help smallholders maintain HCVs also in more risky situations



Next steps

- (Taskforce Webinar July 27th)
- Taskforce meeting in KL: high risk criteria, risk assessments, support tools/functions
- SHARP-HCVRN-WRI-Daemeter meeting on risk mapping end of August
- Further work on application / safeguards for new plantings
- Field testing of monitoring and verification Quarter 4, 2015
- Reporting on the field tests early 2016



HCV RESOURCE
NETWORK



HCV guidance for oil palm

RSPO BHCV Working Group
Kuala Lumpur, August 2015





HCV M&M Guide in oil palm landscapes

- On the RSPO to-do list for a long time
- Partly reflecting 'forestry bias' of early interpretations
- Identification same for all sectors but M&M to maintain HCVs may vary from sector to sector
- Globally applicable OP guidance - challenge to address country specific challenges and yet be generic
- Key issues brainstormed in May meeting
- No general agreement on priorities



Brainstorm – issues linked to planning

- Functional wildlife corridors
- Patch value / viability / dynamics (HCS)
- 'Layman-synthesis' of recent advances in conservation biology
- Ensure compatibility with HCS (Zero Deforestation commitments)
- Landscape level planning beyond concessions
- Opportunities for neighbouring RSPO members to collaborate
- Community Land Use Planning tool (cf HCS Toolkit)
- Ensure compensatory smallholdings provide viable livelihoods



Brainstorm - management

- Impacts of palm on hydrology and livelihoods
- Pesticide impacts on HCVs
- Dealing with encroachment from outside
- Maintenance of HCVs in areas of influence outside concessions
- Collaboration with State agencies in neighbouring protected areas/ protection forests
- Co-management with local communities
- Co-Management with government
- Compensation payments: ensure cash is not blown too soon and pressure reverts to land



Brainstorm - monitoring

- Link HCV monitoring to ESIA reporting
- Engaging communities in monitoring (learn from REDD+)
- User-friendly tools / approaches for smallholders
- Training of smallholders / lead farmers



Other suggestions

- Excision of HCV areas – allocated to other concessionaires
- On-line forum for sharing HCV lessons learned
- Compilation of informative and inspirational HCV oil palm case studies
- HCV checklist / HCV guide for CB auditors
- HCV training for CBs and ASI



Next steps...

- Prioritise and focus on most important needs
- Check overlaps with already identified BHCV WG prioritises
- Formalise proposal



Thank you!

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www.hcvnetwork.org

