RSPO Annua Communications of Progress 2017

### **Particulars**

#### **About Your Organisation**

1.1 Name of your organization					
FEDIOL -	- EU Vegetable Oil and Proteinmeal Industry				
1.2 What are the main activity(ies) of your organisation?					
	☐ Oil Palm Growers				
	☐ Palm Oil Processors and/or Traders				
	☐ Consumer Goods Manufacturers				
	Retailers				
	☐ Banks and Investors				
	☐ Social or Development Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)				
	☐ Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)				
	☑ Affiliate Members				
	☐ Supply Chain Associate				
1.3 Membership number 8-0008-04-000-00					
1.4 Membership category					
Affiliate					
1.5 Membership sector					
Organisations					

#### **Affiliates**

#### **Operational Profile**

#### 1.1. What are the main activities of your organisation?

FEDIOL represents the interests of the EU crushers and vegetable oil refiners towards European Institutions. Industries affiliated to FEDIOL (180 plants belonging to approximately 35 companies across 17 EU Member States) are crushing oilseeds and refining crude vegetable oils, both locally grown and imported. FEDIOL addresses

issues of common interest to our companies and does it generally in horizontally manner. Our working groups deal with food and feed safety, food and feed regulatory issues, nutrition, trade, environment and sustainability, agricultural policy and supply chain issues.

#### 1.2. Does your organization use and/or sell any palm oil?

FEDIOL does neither use nor sell palm oil.

#### 1.3. Activities undertaken to promote sustainable palm oil, the RSPO and/or members in the reporting period

FEDIOL's Environment and sustainability working group have regularly discussed sustainable palm oil issues. The European Parliament own initiative Report on palm oil which was finally approved in April 2017 triggered a lot of attention and required coordinated action from stakeholders interested in sustainable palm oil production and use.

FEDIOL finalised a second monitoring of sustainable palm oil showing that certified sustainable palm oil reached 60% in 2016. FEDIOL continued cooperating with EU associations under ESPOAG which support the use of sustainable palm oil.

#### 1.4. What percentage of your organization's overall activities focus on palm oil?

10%

#### 1.5. Did members of your staff participate in RSPO working groups/taskforces in the reporting period?

Yes

### 1.6. Do you have any collaborations with the industry players/private sector to support them in the market transformation towards CSPO?

Yes

#### If yes, please give details:

As European organisation, we discuss and coordinate with our members and member companies.

We have cooperation with 4 other European Associations under the ESPOAG, European Sustainable Palm Oil Advocacy Group. Our joint objective is to rebalance the debate on palm oil in Europe. We are raising in this platform all questions relative to sustainability, nutrition and food safety of palm oil in Europe, including how to achieve up-take of sustainable palm oil. ESPOAG is also having regular contacts and exchanges with several national palm oil coalitions or alliances in the EU and maintains contact and working relations with EPOA (European Palm Oil Alliance), Brussels-based NGOs active in the sustainability area and ESPO Europe.

lf	not,	please	explain	why:
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#### 1.7. How is your work on palm oil funded?

FEDIOL is an association funded through membership contributions. Our activities, which are decided on a yearly basis by the FEDIOL General Assembly are mostly horizontal and even if action can be focused when needed on rapeseed, soybeans, sunflower seed oil or palm oil (for example), there is no isolated budget to cover these specific actions; the common funds serve all identified priorities.

#### **Actions for Next Reporting Period**

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#### 2.1. Outline actions that will be taken in the coming year to promote sustainable palm oil.

FEDIOL will continue undertaking the monitoring of sustainable palm oil that is used by its member companies. As part of the European Sustainable Palm Oil Advocacy Group (ESPOAG), it will continue addressing issues arising around the up-take of sustainable palm oil.

With the release by the European Commission of a feasibility study on a possible action plan against deforestation and a study on palm oil production and consumption, looking at the different certification systems, FEDIOL together with its partners in ESPOAG, will join the debate and the likely consultation on policy measures. Our interventions will have as objective to ensure that policy measures that may be envisaged are supportive and not counter-productive for existing efforts to promote sustainable supply streams.

#### Challenges

1 What significant economic, social or environmental obstacles have you encountered in the production, procurement, use and/or promotion of CSPO and what efforts did you make to mitigate or resolve them?

The European Commission's legislative work on setting maximum values for Glycidyl esters has to some extent calmed down the anti-palm campaigners that were vocal on food safety grounds. These are process contaminants arising during refining of vegetable oils when they are exposed to high temperatures with higher incidence in palm oil. Efforts made by our industry achieved a substantial reduction through implemented mitigation techniques. Following the release of the up-dated EFSA risk assessment early 2018, the EU regulatory activity with regard to the other substances, 3-MCPD esters, is on-going. In the course of 2017, more anti-palm campaigners have been vocal in the debate on the EU Renewable Energies Directive, notably in the European Parliament. The rejection arises because of the association of palm oil and deforestation, despite the fact that palm oil used for biodiesel must be certified sustainable. Our action aimed at preventing the differentiation between feedstock, notably through the use of iLUC (indirect Land-Use Change) factors and maintaining existing investments instead of phasing out conventional biofuels, including palm oil.

2 In addition to the actions already reported in this ACOP how has your organization supported the vision of RSPO to transform markets in other ways? (e.g. Funding; Engagement with key stakeholders; Business to business education/outreach)

FEDIOL has continued, on its own or jointly with ESPOAG parters, to exchange with other stakeholders and with the European Institutions about ways and means to support efforts towards increasing sustainable supply streams. This has been done through meetings, organisation and speaking in events, such as EPOC (European Palm Oil Conference) taking place in November 2017, publication of documents, positions, press releases......

3 File -Please attach or add links to any other information from your organisation on your policies and actions on palm oil (EG: sustainability reports, policies, other public information)

 Uploaded files: Palm oil\_PKO monitoring 2017\_ver18.06 FINAL.pdf

Link: http://www.fediol.be/data/FEDIOL%20on%20EP%20palm%20oil%20report%20april%202017final.pdf