



Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

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## GA-01 : Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

Chairman : Jan Kees Vis  
Date : 6 October 2004 (Wednesday)  
Time : 1630-1800 (Western, Indonesia)  
Venue : Bromo Room  
Grand Hyatt Jakarta  
JI MH Thamrin, Kav 28-30  
Jakarta 10230, Indonesia

### Participants

#### Oil Palm Growers

1. Ong Kim Pin, Kulim (M) Berhad
2. Marcello Brito, Agropalma
3. Intan Shafinaz, Consolidated Plantations
4. Jens Mesa-Dishington, FEDEPALMA
5. Kasmuri Sukardi, Golden Hope
6. Khairudin Hashim, Golden Hope
7. Joseph Tek, IJM
8. Tang Men Kon, Consolidated Plantations
9. Mohd Ramli Adnan, FELDA
10. Subramaniam Ramasamy, PT Agro Indomas
11. Faizal Firdaus, PT Agro Indomas
12. MR Chandran, MPOA
13. Mohd Zaki Che A Kadir, Golden Hope
14. Ahmad Rahman, Boustead
15. Ian Rowland, PRPOL
16. Gert Vandersmissen, SIAT SA
17. W Amintha Perera, MPOA
18. Derom Bangun, GAPKI
19. Gan Lian Tong, Kuala Lumpur Kepong
20. Simon Lord, New Britain Palm Oil
21. JPC Baskett, Socfindo

#### Palm Oil Processors and/or Traders

22. Jan Sintobin, Fuji Oil Group
23. Yukihiro Otani, Mitsubishi Corporation
24. Ian McIntosh, Aarhus United
25. Manuel Davila, Daabon
26. Jan-Olof Liddefelt, Karlshamns
27. Christopher Donough, IOI
28. Wilko-Jan Balkema, IOI
29. Bachtiar Karim, PT Musim Mas

#### Consumer Goods Manufacturers

30. Jan Kees Vis, Unilever
31. Tony Lass, Cadbury Schweppes

#### Retailers

32. Fausta Borsani, Migros
33. Rikke Netterstrom, Body Shop
34. Brigit Hofer, Coop

#### Banks and Investors

35. Chung Fui Ken, HSBC
36. Rusly Johannes, Rabobank
37. Aditya Kusuma, Rabobank

#### Environmental NGOs

38. Togu Simorangkir, PanEco
39. Matthias Diemer, WWF Switzerland
40. Dian Kosasih, WWF-Indonesia
41. Dionysius Sharma, WWF-Malaysia
42. David Lee, GEC

#### Social NGOs

43. Yanty Lacsana, Oxfam GB
44. Rudy Lumuru, Sawit Watch

#### Affiliate Members

45. Hubert Omont, CIRAD
46. Herbert Diemont, Wageningen University

#### RSPO Secretariat

47. Teoh Cheng Hai
48. Si-Siew Lim

## AGENDA

1. Opening address by the President, RSPO, Mr Jan Kees Vis
2. To receive the Report of the President, RSPO
3. To receive and adopt the Report of the Treasurer, RSPO
4. To elect the 1st Executive Board of RSPO
5. Any other business
  - To consider a proposal on 'Stimulating the Demand for Sustainable Palm Oil'

## MINUTES

- 1. Opening address by the RSPO President, Mr Jan Kees Vis**
- 2. To receive the Report of the RSPO President**

Jan Kees Vis welcomed all RSPO members and proceeded to give his opening remarks. A roll call was then conducted and results confirmed that a quorum has been achieved.

### **3. To receive and adopt the Report of the RSPO Treasurer**

Fausta Borsani (Migros) presented the report of the Treasurer, which included RSPO's audited accounts for two distinct periods, April-June 2004 and July-September 2004. The Treasurer explained that the accounts have been audited by an accredited accountancy firm in Malaysia. Several points were also highlighted to RSPO members, including the debt amounting to € 13,512.00 carried forward from the previous Organizing Committee, which has since been taken on by Unilever as an interest-free loan to RSPO. The Treasurer's presentation also included the proposed RSPO Secretariat budget.

### **DECISION: All RSPO members approve the Treasurer's Report.**

Chairman: Jan Kees Vis informed RSPO members that there may be some profits from RT2 but the exact amount is unknown at the moment. Any profits from RT2 has been agreed to be split 50/50 between the local (Indonesian) RT2 Organizing Committee and RSPO. He stressed that an additional 10 RSPO members will improve the financial situation of RSPO.

RSPO: Teoh Cheng Hai explained that the proposed RSPO Secretariat budget is based on operating costs of the current Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur.

MPOA: MR Chandran stated that RSPO's debt owed to Unilever should be included in the proposed budget. Further, the budget should include expected income. The budget should also commence (retrospectively) from the start of the financial year on 1 July 2004.

Aarhus: Ian McIntosh enquired about provisions in case the RSPO remains 10 members short.

Chairman: Jan Kees Vis assured RSPO members that provisions are not required at this moment. Members have signed up for 2 years and if the RSPO does not find 5-10 additional members, RSPO will have to reconsider the budget, find provisions, etc. He also stressed that global banks like ABN AMRO, other regional banks as well as social NGOs are expected to come onboard soon.

FEDEPALMA: Jens Mesa-Dishington enquired about RSPO activities planned for South America.

Chairman: Jan Kees Vis stated that the issue should be left to the RSPO Executive Board.

## 4. To elect the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Board of RSPO

RSPO and Chairman: Teoh Cheng Hai and Jan Kees Vis stressed that nominations for candidates can only be made within the members' respective categories. This is stated in page 3 of the RSPO Statutes.

IJM: Joseph Tek informed RSPO members that as EB members, their respective organizations will have to bear your cost for physical EB meetings, participation in telephone conferences, etc.

**DECISION:** The following Executive Board Members were unanimously elected:

### Oil Palm Growers

- Malaysia : MPOA
- Indonesia : GAPKI
- Smallholder : None
- Rest of the world : FEDEPALMA

### Palm Oil Processors and/or Traders

- PT Musim Mas
- Aarhus United

### Consumer Goods Manufacturers

- Cadbury Schweppes
- Unilever

### Retailers

- BodyShop
- Migros

### Environmental/Nature Conservation NGOs

- WWF Switzerland
- WWF-Indonesia

### Social/Developmental NGOs

- Oxfam GB
- Sawit Watch

Representatives from the Banks and Investors category were not able to cast votes and have requested to consult with their respective organizations.

## 5. Any other business

- **To consider a proposal on 'Stimulating the Demand for Sustainable Palm Oil'**

Chairman: Jan Kees Vis provided a brief explanation on Reinier de Man's proposal to RSPO as well as an explanation of Reinier de Man's involvement in the setting up of RT1. He also explained that the funding will be sought from DOEN Foundation in the Netherlands. However, endorsement from RSPO is required.

Migros: Fausta Borsani stated that similar to the Secretary General's post, the RSPO also needs to advertise the ambassador's post.

SIAT: Based on Gert Vandersmissen's experience with DOEN funding, he stated that DOEN normally only provides 30% funding on projects. The RSPO would still need to look for ways to finance the Reinier de Man's work.

Aarhus: Ian McIntosh expressed support for Reinier de Man. He stated that Reinier de Man has valuable contacts with palm oil supply chain stakeholders in Europe and since the criteria will only be finalised 12 months from now, there is no harm in lobbying for funds in the meantime.

Golden Hope: Kasmuri Sukardi stated that in principle, the proposal has merit.

WWF Switzerland, GAPKI, MPOA and IJM: Matthias Diemer expressed concern regarding an Oil Palm Ambassador in Europe overshadowing the current Secretariat's work. He preferred voluntary commitment from RSPO members to promote RSPO. Derom Bangun, MR Chandran and Joseph Tek expressed similar concerns and felt that RSPO members based in Europe would be able to do the same job.

NBPOL: Simon Lord expressed support for Reinier de Man's proposal. In addition, he offered NBPOL's sponsorship for the RSPO Secretariat to go to PNG to conduct briefing sessions with stakeholders.

Aarhus & Karlshamns: Ian McIntosh and Jan-Olof Lidfeldt stated that all EB members have full time jobs and it will be hard to promote the RSPO on a full time basis.

Chairman: As sufficient views have been provided by members, Jan Kees Vis proposed a vote to decide on the issue.

**DECISION:** On a vote of 16 for and 21 against, the RSPO did not endorse Reinier de Man's proposal. The offer by NBPOL was acknowledged with appreciation.

Wageningen University: Herbert Diemont stated that the RSPO needs to clarify the role of science. Scientific and research organizations may not be direct stakeholders but these organizations have a function in civil society.

Fuji Oil Group: Jan Sintobin congratulated the RSPO and RT2 Organizing Committee on the success of RT2. He went on to propose penalties for organizations that are found to not comply with the criteria for sustainable palm oil. He also suggested that governments be added as stakeholders of RSPO.

Chairman: Jan Kees Vis responded by stating that special attention will be given to these issues in the future.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1800 (Western, Indonesia) with a vote of thanks to the Chairman