

## MINUTES OF MEETING

### 11th Peatland Working Group 2 (PLWG-2) Meeting

Date : 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020  
Venue : Virtual Meeting

SECTOR	SUBSTANTIVE MEMBERS	ALTERNATIVE MEMBERS
GROWERS (MALAYSIA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jason Foong (KLK)</li> <li>● Joshua Mathews (IOI)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Arif Sugandi (AAR KLK)</li> <li>● William Siow (IOI)</li> </ul>
GROWERS (INDONESIA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lim Sian Choo (BGA)</li> <li>● Gotz Martin (GAR)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fanny Roussel (SIPEF)</li> <li>● Desti Hertanti (GAR)</li> </ul>
GROWERS (REST OF THE WORLD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ian Orrel (NBPOL)</li> <li>● <b>Shahrakbah (Sime Darby)</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sim Choon Cheak (SD)</li> </ul>
SOCIAL NGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jason Hon (WWF)</li> <li>● Wida Nindita (Sawit Watch)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Riza Harizajudin (Sawit Watch)</b></li> </ul>
ENVIRONMENTAL NGO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Faizal Parish (GEC)</li> <li>● Dato Kheizrul Abdullah (Wetlands International)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Mohd.Faizuddin (GEC)</b></li> <li>● <b>Almo Pradana (WRI)</b></li> </ul>
PALM OIL PROCESSOR AND TRADERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chin Kaixiang (Bunge Loders Croklaan)</li> <li>● Julia Lo (Musim Mas)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Rianto Sitanggang (Bunge Loders Croklaan)</b></li> <li>● <b>Feber Antarisu/Surya Purnama (Wilmar International)</b></li> </ul>

**\*Bolded name indicates absence with apologies**

NO	ITEM DESCRIPTION	MAIN DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION POINTS	PROGRESS UPDATE
<b>14th April 2020 (Tuesday)</b>				
1	<b>Review of previous minutes of meeting</b>	<p>The Secretariat shared the update from the previous meeting.</p> <p>There are 2 proposals received to be Trainer for RSPO Drainability Assessment (DA) Procedure. Based on vote from each representative, Wetlands International Malaysia was selected to be the Trainer.</p> <p>FR offered assistance should the Secretariat require help on the translation of the peat factsheet in French language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secretariat is to provide the peat factsheet to FR.</li> <li>● Secretariat is to amend and upload the final minutes on the RSPO website.</li> </ul>	<p>Done. Peat fact sheet has been translated into all languages except for Thailand, yet to receive from translator.</p> <p>Done</p>
2	<b>Updates on Resolution GA16 -6E and peat inventory monitoring</b>	<p><b><u>Timeline for the Peat Inventory Submission:</u></b></p> <p>RSPO Growers and P&amp;T Members are required to submit the Peat Inventory for both Certified and non-certified plantation before 30th March 2020, together with the peat maps and shapefile. Submissions of shapefile for uncertified units can be submitted separately before 31st May 2020.</p> <p><b><u>Updates on Peat Inventory Submission</u></b></p> <p>The Secretariat is currently monitoring 132 members in total in terms of peat inventory submission. This consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 113 Oil Palm Growers</li> <li>● 19 Processors and/or Traders (with oil palm plantation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secretariat to follow up with non-submitted members (particularly members included in the Gunarso</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● On-going. Secretariat sent a last reminder for companies listed on <i>Gunarso</i> but have yet to</li> </ul>

		<p><b>Breakdown of Submission:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Submitted <b>(34)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Complete Submission (21)</li> <li>○ Submitted only for certified unit (3)</li> </ul> </li> <li>*All 3 companies requested for extension until 30.05.2020 for the submission of uncertified units.</li> <li>● Pending clarification from members <b>(10)</b></li> <li>● No Peat <b>(35)</b></li> <li>● No Submission <b>(63)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Members included in Gunarso Study <b>(7)</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Total Planted area on Peat (in accordance to Peat Inventory submission)</u></b></p> <p><b>Indonesia: 317,619.54 ha</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Certified: 158,000.76</li> <li>● Uncertified: 96,921.40</li> <li>● Pending Clarification: 62,687.38</li> </ul> <p><b>Malaysia: 22,644.19 ha</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Certified: 11,107.68</li> <li>● Uncertified: 4,766.64</li> <li>● Pending Clarification: 6,769.87</li> </ul> <p><b>Papua New Guinea (PNG): 643.63 ha</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pending clarification: 643.63</li> </ul> <p>Total Certified: 169,108.44          Total Uncertified: 101,688.04          Total Pending Clarification: 70,110.88</p>	<p>Study)</p>	<p>declare on peat. On-going clarifications with growers.</p>
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	<p><b><u>Total Unplanted area on Peat (in accordance to Peat Inventory submission)</u></b></p> <p><b>Indonesia: -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conservation (HCV, HCS): 51,320.16 ha</li> <li>● Peat Rehabilitation area: 3,046.59 ha</li> <li>● Others (Infrastructure, buildings, etc.): 39,353.45 ha</li> </ul> <p><b>Malaysia: -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conservation (HCV, HCS): 2,960.73 ha</li> <li>● Peat Rehabilitation area: 31.83 ha</li> <li>● Others (Infrastructure, buildings, etc.): 192.26 ha</li> </ul> <p><b>PNG: -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conservation (HCV, HCS): 718.76 ha</li> <li>● Peat Rehabilitation area: 0.00 ha</li> <li>● Others (Infrastructure, buildings, etc.): 8.25 ha</li> </ul> <p>The PLWG members commented that the figure for “others” is unusually high. RSPO members may have incorrect understanding on the classification of the unplanted areas on peat. All unplanted peat should be considered as a conservation area after November 2018.</p> <p>The Secretariat clarified that the peat rehabilitation area may come from the results of Complaints cases or rehabilitation done by the company other than the DA.</p> <p><b><u>Year of 1st Planting on Peat (in accordance to Peat Inventory submission)</u></b></p> <p><b>Total planted area on peat: 340,907.36 ha</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1990 – 2000: 44.50%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secretariat to review the figures on the unplanted area on peat (others) and seek clarification from members.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secretariat have sent clarification email to companies with high figure on ‘Other’ areas. On-going clarifications with growers.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 2001 – 2005: 11.60%</li> <li>● 2006 – 2010: 30.49%</li> <li>● 2011 – 2015: 9.45%</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Challenges faced on the peat inventory submission:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Incomplete submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No submission of peat inventory by members.</li> <li>○ Incomplete peat maps or shapefiles</li> <li>○ Common reason for incomplete shapefile is due to uncertain legality status and clearance (mainly Indonesian plantation)</li> </ul> <p>*Proposed solution: To provide a list of non-submitting members to CBs for further action.</p> </li> <li>● Inaccurate disclosure of data by members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Discrepancies in the data provided in the peat inventory submitted</li> </ul> <p>*Proposed solution: To be verified by CBs during Audit.</p> </li> </ul> <p>The PLWG members disagreed with the proposal to allow the CB to check the information during the audit as members may question the Secretariat on the confidentiality issue of sharing the information to the CB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Delays on submission due to COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3 members requested an extension on the submission of peat inventory for the uncertified unit.</li> <li>○ Limited access and mobility to assess the peat inventory.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>WG explained that the peat maps available (especially in Indonesia) are usually indicative maps. Hence, members will face difficulty in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secretariat to follow up with members to clarify / confirm the information provided in peat inventory.</li> <li>● Secretariat to provide peat ha in terms of % against mineral for concession with peat</li> <li>● Secretariat to make a projection of peat replanting</li> <li>● Secretariat is to draft a formal announcement to provide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● On-going clarification with growers.</li> <li>● To be updated during working group meeting.</li> <li>● To be updated during working group meeting.</li> <li>● RSPO's PDPA policy <a href="https://rspo.org/about/privacypolicy">https://rspo.org/about/privacypolicy</a></li> </ul>
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		<p>providing the shapefiles to RSPO. However, the members are more likely to have the map / shapefiles available for the planted area on peat as members are required to implement BMP on the planted area on peat.</p> <p>Based on the previous meeting, the PLWG members provide flexibility to members for the submission of maps of unplanted areas on peat. Hence: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For planted area on peat:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Members must provide peat maps and shapefiles by 30.05.2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>● For Unplanted area peat:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Members are allowed to provide an indicative map (based on estimation)</li> <li>○ Secretariat may provide additional time for members to submit the peat maps and shapefiles</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Some members may have concerns on submitting the shapefiles in fear of its publication to the public domain (website). The shapefile submitted in RSPO will only be used internally within RSPO.</p>	<p><a href="#">assurance to members on preserving the confidentiality of the shapefiles submitted by members.</a></p>	<p><a href="#">cy-policy</a></p>
<p>3</p>	<p><b>Updates on ISH Peat BMP development</b></p>	<p><b><u>Review on ISH Peat BMP development</u></b></p> <p>The sub-group is still in the process of populating the necessary information based on the content that has been agreed previously. After the content has been finalized, the next phase is to ensure the content and language are modified appropriately to cater for the use of smallholders.</p> <p>The Secretariat presented the draft ISH Peat BMP. The content structure of the document are as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Guidelines to use BMP</li> </ul>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chapter 1: Introduction (GEC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ RSPO's definition on Peat</li> <li>○ Measuring and identify peat depth</li> <li>○ Type of peat, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Chapter 2: Water management</li> <li>● Chapter 3: Fertilizer and nutrients management</li> <li>● Chapter 4: Pest and disease management and control</li> <li>● Chapter 5: BMPs for operational issues</li> <li>● Chapter 6: Fire prevention</li> <li>● Chapter 7: Case Studies of BMPs implemented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Extension services by companies</li> <li>○ Legality issues on drainage and water management</li> <li>○ Government level support/aid</li> <li>○ Embung in the field</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Annex: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recommended table/SOP for fire prevention and control plan</li> <li>○ Recommended table/SOP for water level monitoring</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Suggestion and comments by PLWG members: -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To include smallholders in the review process: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Secretariat explained that the draft is currently reviewed internally by the Smallholder unit. There is a plan to bring the smallholder into the review process during the pilot testing of the BMP.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● To generate 2 separate documents for the group manager and the individual smallholders: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Secretariat explained that the current focus is to develop a document for the group managers. However, as suggested, a simpler template can be generated for some chapters to cater for the use of the individual smallholders.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secretariat to separate BMPs between GM and ISH</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Work in progress with the Smallholder Unit.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● There are no chapters touching on on social and environmental aspect (e.g.: riparian buffer, etc.) and suggested for it to be included in the BMP: -             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ FP explained that the draft of the document is predominantly guided by the criteria related specifically to peat in the smallholder standard. Hence, the other social and environmental aspects were not discussed previously.</li> <li>○ Pursuant to the above-mentioned statement, FP seek for Secretariats clarification should the smallholder units are developing an overall guidance for the smallholder standard.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● There are still too many words and too technical.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Secretariat takes note of the comment. The draft BMP will be further simplified to cater to the smallholder.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussion on Chapter 2: Water management</u></b></p> <p>The sub-group is facing difficulty in developing the content on the sub topic of flooding risk assessment (Sub-section 2.4).</p> <p><b>Comment by PLWG members on the flooding risk assessment: -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To conduct a flooding risk assessment in a smallholder land is impractical due to small land size. Despite being applied at a group level, the smallholder’s lands are not adjacent to each other.</li> <li>● An understanding of the whole river basin is required in order to conduct the flooding risk assessment. Hence, the smallholder will not be able to assess the flood risk nor prevent the flood from happening.</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggestions from PLWG members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Smallholder to provide historical data on flooding in the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To add these chapters in ISH BMP</li> <li>● Secretariat to check with the smallholder unit should there be any development of a broader guidance for smallholder standard.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Content is being developed internally by RSPO Biodiversity and Social Unit</li> <li>● Yes, there is an overall guidance provided in ISH Standard, from page 55 onwards.</li> </ul>
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		<p>plantation area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To include alternative livelihood options in the BMP document to help smallholders should their plantation be permanently waterlogged due to flooding.</li> <li>● To include the risk/implication of peat subsidence and waterlogged within oil palm plantation (upon replanting on peat) towards the smallholders' livelihood to encourage smallholders to turn into a more sustainable plantation on peat such as paludiculture, etc. (Can be included in a different section of the BMP)</li> </ul> <p>The sub-group shall proceed to draft the content for subsection 2.1 to 2.3. The sub-group may refer to the existing BMP manual to develop these sections.</p> <p><b><u>Confirmation on CB audit checklist for RISS</u></b></p> <p>The Secretariat presented the proposed audit checklist and comments.</p> <p><b>Comments by PLWG members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Criteria 4.4 MS B (Q4): How are the smallholders monitoring subsidence rate for existing plantings on peat?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is not practical for each smallholder to measure the subsidence rate.</li> <li>○ Proposed amendment:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ “How is the group as a whole monitoring the subsidence rate for existing plantings on peat?”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Criteria 4.5 MS A (Q5): What are the identified risks associated with subsidence?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The risk assessment training has to be worked out</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sub-group to proceed on drafting the content for subsection 2.1 to 2.3.</li> <li>● To update RSPO Smallholder Unit with the latest updates on audit checklist</li> <li>● The Secretariat to check with smallholder unit should the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To be discussed over working group meeting.</li> <li>● Done</li> <li>● Yes, this is mentioned as part of Group Manager's</li> </ul>
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		<p>separately prior on providing this question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Criteria 4.5 MS A (Q7): Is the group manager aware of the replanting activities by group members? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The PLWG members suggested for this requirement to remain in milestone A (link to the training).</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Criteria 4.5 MS B (Q7): Is the group manager aware of the replanting activities by group members? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To amend the question to “is the group manager aware of the future plan of replanting activities by group members?”</li> <li>○ Proposed to move the above question to MS A</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>smallholders are required to disclose basic information of the area for replanting as part of the requirement in the eligibility phase (4.5 E)</p>	<p>role under the Group Manager’s guidance where “GM needs to collect and store information from group members on replanting plans and members with plantings on peat soils”.</p>
4	<b>Sustainability College</b>	<p>Secretariat updated that Wetlands International, the consultant to develop script for BMP on peat has provided content for Volume 2 based on the latest version of the BMP. The scripts have been circulated for comments among the WG members.</p> <p>Secretariat also explained that this project is currently not being monitored by any unit internally which means that there is no budget allocated for video production moving next financial year for the time being.</p> <p>WG suggested that the Volume 1 of the latest BMP to be prepared in power point slide format instead of video format.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● WG to review the content of scripts for Volume 2.</li> <li>● Secretariat to remove the current videos from Sustainability College since the content are outdated.</li> <li>● To prepare power point slides based on Volume 1 of the latest BMP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● On-going review.</li> <li>● Done.</li> <li>● On-going work.</li> </ul>
5	<b>Updates on Drainability Assessment monitoring</b>	<p><b><u>Current status &amp; breakdown of the Drainability Assessment Procedures (DAP) review</u></b></p> <p>Status of report: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● On-going review: 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Assessment based on RSPO methodology;</li> <li>○ Assessment based on non-RSPO methodology;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Report submitted to request for approval of new methodology.</li> <li>● Approved: 1             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Submission of DA review by country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Indonesia: 9</li> <li>● Malaysia: 5</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Experience and lesson learn</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Most submissions are incomplete:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Incomplete attachment/maps/etc.;</li> <li>○ Caused a lot of back and forth communication</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Misunderstanding and/or lack of clarity on the requirement to conduct RSPO DAP</li> <li>● Apparent “Lack of understanding” on the requirements for DAP report submission which causes more delays.</li> <li>● Apparent “confusion between RSPO DAP’s requirement against local regulation’s requirement.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Bottleneck and challenges</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lack of data (DEM, subsidence etc.)</li> <li>● Time consuming for the review process. SOP target:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Preliminary review by Secretariat: 7 Working days</li> <li>○ Methodology review: 30 Working days</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Most applications incomplete and did not follow the methodology</li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● More than half of last year’s submission did not use the RSPO methodology which causes further delay.</li> <li>● Uncertainty for growers who have conduct DA using other methods             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are 2 other methods submitted by members</li> <li>○ Most of the methodology submitted for review is incomplete.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Request for training from growers</li> <li>● Indonesian translation for RSPO DAP is still being finalised (Review of the technical term)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are cases of misinterpretation by Indonesian grower members on the technical aspect of the DAP due to translation issues.</li> <li>○ There are also apparent misunderstandings by the Indonesian grower members who mistakenly presume that complying with national regulation will be sufficient for the DAP. The PLWG member reiterated that the national regulation did not cover the aspects and requirements of the DAP <b>(to be included in the FAQ)</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Improvement moving forward</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introducing grower checklist which will be submitted along with their DAP report to encourage complete report submission</li> <li>● To develop a procedure for growers who would like to submit non-RSPO DAP methodology for review by RSPO to determine equivalent.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Proposal should include comparison between the findings of the drainability assessment conducted using their proposed methodology and findings through the RSPO DAP.</li> <li>○ This proposal is for members to demonstrate equivalence in</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PLWG members and Secretariat to finalise the review of the technical term in the Indonesian translation DAP.</li> <li>● To develop grower checklist for DA</li> <li>● To develop a procedure for growers who would like to submit non-RSPO DAP methodology for review by RSPO to determine equivalent.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● On-going work</li> <li>● On-going review</li> <li>● On-going review</li> </ul>
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		<p>both methods and justify the added value of the alternate method.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The PLWG endorsement shall be required prior to implementing the procedure.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussion on the requirement to provide information (e.g. maps) of the whole planted area (including non-peat area): -</u></b></p> <p>Basic information of the whole planted area (including non-peat area) is required in order to help the reviewer to understand the whole overview of the plantation in respect to the peat area subjected to DAP. The drainage system in the plantation may also be integrated between peat area and non-peat area. Hence, information of the whole plantation is essential in order to have a comprehensive understanding on the drainage system of the plantation affecting the peat area (e.g.: in terms of how the water to be drained from the plantation)</p> <p>Should information of the whole concession be required, only basic information such as the hectarage can be made available to RSPO and the reviewer. Members may not be able to provide the maps of the entire concession due to confidentiality issues.</p> <p>Should the total concession area be vastly bigger compared to the peat area subjected to the DAP, members may provide information (including maps) of the whole planted area (peat area and non-peat area) of the specific estate subjected to the DAP. Despite members having to provide information of non-peat areas adjacent to the peat area subjected to DAP, the restriction of replanting will only be</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Revising the current DAP reviewer form</li> <li>● Expanding pool of reviewers and nominal fee for reviewers</li> <li>● Preparing FAQ on RSPO DAP</li> <li>● To include examples of case studies to show the steps of the DAP in a plantation.</li> <li>● Secretariat is to reach out to Dipa to review the technical terminology in the Indonesian translation of the DAP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Done by Pak Arif</li> <li>● Announcement will be posted on website.</li> <li>● On-going work</li> <li>● Examples for Tier 1 will be given by IOI, waiting for confirmation from grower to use their DA as example for Tier 2.</li> <li>● WI has taken this up as part of training material preparation for DA training</li> </ul>
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		<p>affected in the planted area on peat</p> <p>Example of the above-mentioned issue is to be included in the case study of the DAP. Secretariat is to incorporate the above-mentioned information on the requirement of the map submission into the checklist.</p> <p><b><u>Discussion on the requirement for members to demonstrate the equivalence between the non-RSPO methodology conducted and the RSPO methodology: -</u></b></p> <p>Since the RSPO methodology is not made available right after the endorsement of the P&amp;C 2018, a transition period has been provided prior to the development of the RSPO methodology: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● P&amp;C 2018 requires all members to conduct a drainability assessment prior to replanting.</li> <li>● Since the RSPO methodology is not available, some companies have started using alternative methodology which could only be acceptable up until November 2019 provided that the methodology is submitted to RSPO and subjected for review.</li> <li>● After November 2019, RSPO members must follow RSPO methodology unless any new methodology has been approved by RSPO as equivalent.</li> <li>● The new methodology should be able to demonstrate the same principle of results, fundamentals and intention of the DAP.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Discussion on the expansion of the pool of reviewers and nominal fee for reviewers: -</u></b></p> <p>Proposal by the Secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To have an external reviewer only for the new methodology</li> <li>● To have an external reviewer to review all the DA</li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Alternatively, should the review be done internally, the Secretariat may reach out to the external party to come out with a comprehensive checklist to be used by the Secretariat for the review of RSPO methodology.</li> </ul> <p>The Secretariat raised concern on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Low budget             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Secretariat has set aside RM50,000 in the budget for the review process.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Low number of pool of reviewers which may cause backlogs on the DA review.</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggestions and comments from PLWG members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The initial process of reviewing the new methodology will take significantly more time.</li> <li>● The Secretariat may hire external reviewers to conduct the review for the 2 proposed new methodology submitted by members.</li> <li>● After the new methodology has been approved and established, the review process will be easier as the companies have familiarized themselves with the methodology. The DA can also be conducted internally by the Secretariat provided that the checklist is developed.</li> <li>● To identify and calculate the approximate hectareage of peat area in 1 year that may be subjected to replanting / drainability assessment based on the data collected in the peat inventory.</li> <li>● To differentiate members that conduct the DA years in advance prior to replanting with members that intend to do immediate replanting. Members is to capture the information in the DA report submitted.</li> <li>● In respect to the 13 outstanding cases, PLWG to prioritize the DA review for members that intend to conduct the replanting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secretariat is to generate forecast data on the hectareage of peat that may be subjected to replanting / drainability assessment.</li> <li>● Secretariat is to segment the 13 outstanding cases with Members that intend to immediately replant and members who conduct the DAP 5 years in advance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Will be updated in meeting</li> <li>● Done, review on progress</li> </ul>
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		immediately.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secretariat to prioritize review of the backlogs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Done, urgent reports will be flagged to reviewers for review</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Plans for ending of 1-year transition period for RSPO Drainability Assessment</b></p>	<p>The 1-year transition period will end on the 08.06.2020.</p> <p>The PLWG members and the Secretariat are to improve the effort on clearing the backlogs of the DAP review in order to gain more lessons learned. If necessary, The PLWG shall need to look into possible modification or amendment of the DAP / checklist / etc.</p> <p>The Secretariat clarified the review of the current DAP will be initiated after the 1-year transition period ends (After 08.06.2020). The suggested deadline for the completion of the review is in <b>August 2020 to give 3 months to incorporate the necessary amendments and update to the DAP.</b></p> <p><b><u>Training Schedule for the Drainability assessment</u></b></p> <p>There were 2 organizations submitting proposals on training in Drainability assessment: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Upon the review by the Secretariat, one of the organizations did not obtain the necessary skills.</li> <li>● The PLWG endorsed Wetlands International to conduct the training.</li> </ul> <p>Wetlands International proposed to conduct 3 training in Indonesia and 1 training in Malaysia. The training proposal provided by Wetlands international is in accordance with the scope of work. However, due to budget constraints, the organization was asked to provide more</p>		

		<p>options on the training proposals.</p> <p>Initially, each training conducted (in Malaysia and Indonesia) will consist of a 3-day module (2 days in a classroom; 1 day in the field). Due to budget constraint, the organization proposed an alternative option of a 2-day module (1 day in a classroom; 1 day in the field).</p> <p>The PLWG and the Secretariat agreed to the 2-day module proposal (1 day in a classroom; 1 day in the field)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 Session in Indonesia</li> <li>• 1 Session in Malaysia</li> </ul> <p>Wetlands International is currently in the process of developing the format and materials for the training which may require approximately 2 months. The Secretariat agreed with the timeline.</p> <p><b>Suggestions from PLWG members: -</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an alternative plan or timeline are required should the issue persist for a longer period of time. Should the training material come into fruition in 2 months' time, the training may also be conducted via webinar session. This proposal may allow the organisation to conduct more sessions than what has been proposed.</li> <li>• It was suggested for development of the Indonesian training material (In Indonesian language) to be developed first in order to aid the review of the technical terminology of the Indonesian translation DAP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetlands International to update the training plan and material in</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will be done during meeting</li> </ul>
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