

Nomination for Board of Governors Election

17th General Assembly of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)

25th November 2020

MEMBERSHIP SECTOR: Environmental NGOs

PRINCIPAL BOARD MEMBER

Name of organisation:	WWF International
Membership number:	6-0011-08-000-00
Name of nominee:	Michael Guindon
Position in the organisation:	Global Palm Oil Lead
Email address:	mguindon@wwf.sg
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SUMMARY

Nominee Profile

Michael has worked in the environmental sector for over a decade across civil society, government, and academia. Since 2013, his work has focused on improving the sustainability of agriculture supply chains, with a strong focus on the palm oil sector. Currently he is responsible for leading and coordinating WWF's global palm oil strategy and activities to achieve sector-level transformation. He has extensive experience leading research, communications, and corporate engagement on sustainability issues in agricultural commodity supply chains and also has a strong track record of producing high quality publications and obtaining press coverage to drive change in agricultural supply chains. He has extensive experience speaking at sustainability conferences and events, and representing environmental NGOs in multi-stakeholder forums including the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), Palm Oil Innovation Group (POIG), Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA), and Accountability Framework Initiative (Afi), among others.

Organisation Profile

WWF is one of the world's largest conservation organizations, with a presence in over 100 countries across the world and over 5 million supporter members. WWF works to protect the world's species and natural places, pushing for a more sustainable world, by working with local communities, governments, businesses, and other NGOs.

WWF aims to mainstream sustainable palm oil production in a way that protects nature, improves livelihoods for the millions of people that depend on it for their income, and ensures food security for a growing global population. In close collaboration with businesses, governments of producing and consuming countries, financial institutions, NGOs and consumers, WWF seeks to support the production and use of sustainable palm oil by:

1. Promoting sustainable palm oil in major markets and raising consumer awareness of the need to use sustainably produced and sourced palm oil.

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2. Encouraging demand for sustainable palm oil among buyers and traders, both through direct engagement and a number of alliances.
3. Helping banks, investors, regulators and stock exchanges integrate environmental and social governance (ESG) into mainstream finance and create a resilient financial system that supports the sustainable palm oil agenda.

WWF interventions span across all palm oil producing regions, including South East Asia, Central and West Africa, and Central and South America, as well as all major palm oil consumption markets.

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ALTERNATE (to be designated by the principal nominee)

Name of Alternate:	Harjinder Kler
Position in the organisation:	Sustainability Engagement Lead
Name of organisation:	HUTAN Kinabatangan Orang-utan Conservation Programme
Membership number:	6-0025-13-000-00
Email address:	klerh@yahoo.com
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Tel (Mobile):	+60 19-860 2910

SUMMARY

Alternate Profile

Harjinder Kler is with HUTAN – Kinabatangan Orang-utan Conservation Programme (KOCP), which is a community-based research and conservation Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO); based in the village of Sukau, along the Kinabatangan river in Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. Within her capacity at HUTAN, Harjinder engages with Government agencies, NGOs, universities, funders and the oil palm sector (primarily via the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil). She did her undergraduate degree in Parks & Recreation at Lincoln University in New Zealand and prior to working with HUTAN – KOCP, Harjinder was journalist based in Sabah before joining the NGOs fraternity with WWF-Malaysia.

Harjinder believes that we can all help do better for communities and the environment while still being economically progressive.

Organisation Profile (if different from Principal)

HUTAN is a grassroots non-profit organisation working to conserve orang-utan and other wildlife populations in the forests of Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. In 1998, HUTAN set up the Kinabatangan Orang-Utan Conservation Programme in collaboration with the Sabah Wildlife Department. We work with a wide range of partners - local communities, research institutions, government agencies and the private sector - to find realistic solutions where the sustainable use of natural resources and durable socio-economic development can be compatible with, and even support, the conservation of wildlife and their habitat.

Through KOCP, HUTAN has developed an integrated approach combining scientific research, protection and management of orang-utan habitat, capacity building, awareness campaigns, and community outreach and development projects. Over the past two decades, HUTAN has encountered many challenges but our efforts have resulted in many successes: discoveries are being made on the ecology of the orang-utan, new protected areas are created - such as the Lower Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary -, sound policies for the conservation of orang-utan and other wildlife are established in Sabah, solutions are implemented that reduce the levels of conflicts between human activities, and wildlife and pioneering initiatives by local communities are leading to tangible economic and conservation gains.

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Since the start of our work, we placed a high priority on the intensive training of our local staff to conduct high quality research and conservation activities. Today, our team is composed of 60 highly skilled staff hailing from the native community, working with immense dedication.

In 2013, HUTAN joined RSPO as an Environmental Non-Governmental Organisation to have a suitable platform to engage with the palm oil industry and has been a member of the Biodiversity & High Conservation Values Working Group in 2014, Market Development Standing Committee in 2019 and Shared Responsibility Working Group in 2020.