

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS 02-14

Minutes for BoG Concall

Date: 06/03/2014

Start Time:

Venue: Concall

Attendance

Members and Alternates

Bishwaranjen Sen – Unilever (BW)
Paul Wolvekamp - Both Ends (PW)
John Laidlow- HSBC (JL)
Ben Vreebug - IOI (BV)
Belinda Howell - RPOG (BH)
Adam Harrison - WWF(AH)
Neil Lacroix - Kraft Foods (NL)
John Clendon - Univanich (JC)
Thomas Ursem - Rabobank (TU)
Petra Meekers - NBPOL (PM)
Martin Craven - AAK (MC)
Johan Verburg - Oxfam (JV)
Edi Suhardi - Indonesian Growers (ES)
John Buchanan - Conservation Intl (JB)
Alex Booth – OLAM (AB)
Fiona Wheatley – M&S (FW)

With Apologies

Hugo Byrnes - Royal Ahold (HB)
Tim Stephenson - AAK (TS)
Felipe Guerrero – DAABON (FG)
Mohd Noor Kailany - Felda (NK)
Khairudin Hashim - MPOA (KH)
Simon Siburat - MPOA – (SS)

RSPO Advisors

Prof. BungaranSaragih (BS)

Secretariat Staff

Darrel Webber (DW)
Joycelyn Lee (JL)
Eileen Ho (EH)
Desi Kusumadewi (DK)
SalahudinYaacob (SY)

Item	Description	Point Person
<p>1.0</p> <p>1.1</p> <p>1.2</p> <p>1.3</p>	<p><u>Introduction</u></p> <p>RSPO Antitrust Laws. There will be no discussion on any commercial aspect of the trade in palm oil on premiums, volumes, individual suppliers, individual customers, etc.</p> <p>RSPO EB consensus based decision making. The EB was reminded that they try to reach/make decision by consensus which is the absence of sustained opposition.</p> <p>Apologies were made on behalf of MPOA representatives, KH and SS, as they could not attend this meeting. In anticipation of this absence a subset of the BoG (SL, BW and DW) had a meeting with SS and KH on 5th March 2014. BW had assured SS and KH that he would relay the discussion information back to the board.</p>	<p>BW</p>
<p>2.0</p>	<p>Response from MPOA to the RSPO letter dated 23rd January 2013</p> <p>DW says MPOA have agreed on recommendations which was made based on letter 23 Jan 2014. MPOA has agreed to lift the sustained objections. This clears the path for RSPO to proceed with trial implementation of the proposed HCV compensation procedure.</p> <p>DW reminds that there would be a need to obtain legal advice to incorporate the correct text into the proposed HCV Compensation Procedure document. This will avoid placing the producers in a situation where compliance may be seen as an automatic admission of guilt.</p> <p>DW commits that the proposed text should be able to be incorporated into the said document within 2 weeks. This will allow the document to be made public so that the compensation trial period can proceed.</p> <p>JL expressed thanks you to all who made this possible.</p> <p>DW mentions that thanks should be given also to the Members in MPOA Council who supported the move. SS, in particular, played a significant role in clarifying the compensation procedure to interested stakeholders.</p>	

	<p>BW,ES,JL, AH, BH,JB provided similar opinions that MPOA as an membership association (including others members in a similar situation) should make clear as to whom do they represent when at the Board/Working Groups/Task Forces at the RSPO. There is a lack of clarity at the moment. This is especially in light of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recent negative public statements on RSPO coming from MPOA leadership. • The recent MPOA Council meeting to discuss the organisations continued membership with RSPO. <p>Decision:</p> <p>A letter will be sent to MPOA to clarify their position and whom they represent within the RSPO. And to point out their obligations as per the RSPO Code of Conduct.</p>	
<p>3.0</p>	<p>RSPO related Manifestos and similar initiatives.</p> <p>In recent times there had been many publicly announced manifestos and initiatives that claim to want to go above and beyond the existing RSPO rules and requirements.</p> <p>DW proposes (see annex) that these initiatives be discussed via working group platform within the RSPO.</p> <p>In response, there was a general agreement that :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It's acknowledged that front runners will want to innovate faster. 2. These initiatives are causing great confusion in markets. 3. It was wise to bring the discussion within the RSPO via a dedicated working group 4. This working group should encourage wide participation, including from non-members. <p>Decision: Board endorses and proposal and DW to finalise and implement.</p>	
<p>3.0</p>	<p>Interim Board Member</p> <p>BH Introduced Fiona Wheatley, from Marks and Spencers, as the new Interim Board member. This was to fill in a vacant retailer seat on the Board.</p> <p>The retailer seat will be up for re-election this coming General Assembly.</p> <p>The retailer members within the RSPO, organised an election and had voted in favour of Fiona to be their representative on</p>	

	the BoG in the interim.	
4.0	<p>AOB</p> <p>AB mentions her concern that there are a limited number of <u>accredited</u> Certification Bodies (CBs) available for Mills and Plantation audits. This is especially acute in Africa.</p> <p>SY responded that thus far, 2 CBs are already accredited and a in the short term, a further 4 (or 5) CBs will be accredited.</p>	