

Resolution GA13-6h

Proposed Resolution to be adopted at the 13th General Assembly of the
Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)

10th of November 2016

TITLE: SUSPENSION OF THE RSPO MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDANCE FOR GROUP CERTIFICATION OF FFB PRODUCTION

Submitted by: Indonesian Growers Caucus, including but not limited to:

First Resources Ltd, Goodhope Ltd, PT Sampoerna Agro, Bumitama Agri Ltd, PT Dharma Satya
Nusantara, PT Austindo Nusantara Jaya Agri, PT Inti Indosawit Subur, PT Salim Ivomas Pratama
Tbk, PT Triputra Agro Persada

Background:

Smallholders are critical to the present and the future of the RSPO, and of oil palm.

The certification of smallholders, and in particular of independent smallholders, to the RSPO standard is a challenging task. It must be approached with great care, with a system that covers all aspects of the standard, so that smallholders can commit to a process which has a predictable costs/benefits balance.

On 07 March 2016, the Board of Governors of the RSPO has endorsed the "RSPO Management System Requirements and guidance for Group Certification of FFB Production".

The "Group Certification" scheme of the RSPO includes requirements which cannot be fulfilled by smallholders as the supporting RSPO documents are still not available.

In particular, there is still no Remediation and Compensation Mechanism for smallholders, and no tool for GHG calculations for smallholders (for existing or new oil palm smallholders blocks), both promised in the Group Certification document). As a consequence, smallholders must comply with 5 Major indicators as if they were industrial plantations.

It leaves potential compensation liability hanging over the heads of smallholders, threatening their commitment.

The RSPO must live up to its goal of inclusiveness of smallholders, and develop a clear, fair certification system for smallholders.

Potential Risks/Benefits

Risks: Certifications for independent and scheme smallholders, and also outgrowers will be based on and using generic P&C until the new group certification of FFB production and practical tools for smallholders are developed and implemented.

Benefits : Develop practical procedures and tools for smallholders seeking RSPO certification.

THIS RESOLUTION PROPOSES:

The RSPO GA 13 requests the RSPO Secretariat to suspend the implementation of the document entitled "RSPO Management System Requirements and guidance for Group Certification of FFB Production", until the necessary tools for smallholders have been developed.

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