

# FSC Plantations Review

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Background

Scope

Process

Timeline



# Scope

- Critique and concerns both case-specific and more general
- Concerns about content as well as implementation
- Full-scale review rather than ‘patch the leaks’



# Scope

- Ambiguous wording of Principle 10 opens for different interpretations
- Reflects deeper, unresolved differences among members
- Progress difficult unless these differences are identified, debated and resolved
- FSC can provide a forum for members to seek solutions



# Process

- FSC two-phase process proposal:
- 1. 'Policy', phase to identify, debate and resolve fundamental differences enough to produce clear terms of reference for...
- 2. 'Technical' phase to develop international, generic standards for FSC-certification of forest plantations



# Process

- Examples of potential phase 1 issues:
- Role of forest plantations vs. conservation and management of natural forests
- Preservation of biologically/socially valuable non-forested ecosystems
- Multiple forest use/benefits at stand vs. landscape level



# Process

- Single category plantations or subdivisions based on e.g. scale, intensity, objectives
- Separate label or even system for plantations
- Separate plantation principle or same set of principles for all forests
- Generic formulations vs. local flexibility, qualitative vs. quantitative indicators...



# Proposal to the FSC Board of Directors for phase 1

- To set up a north-south, chamber-balanced Policy Working Group ('Policy Group') with 12 representatives selected by the chambers themselves
- Policy Group task: to produce clear terms of reference for the second phase



# Process

- The Policy Group should aim for full consensus (but a minimum level needs to be defined)
- Invite observers from FAO, CIFOR, WB, PEFC...to increase transparency and input
- Dissolve the Policy Group once the terms of reference for the second phase have been endorsed by the FSC Board of Directors





# Proposal to the FSC Board of Directors for Phase 2

- FSC to set up Technical Group (12 – 15 people with technical expertise)
- Technical Group to be approved by FSC Board of Directors
- Task: to produce international, generic FSC-standards for plantations according to the terms of reference from the Policy Group
- Comply with ISEAL Code of Good Practice for setting Environmental and Social Standards



# Process

- FSC will facilitate wide stakeholder consultation on draft standards
- Final proposal to FSC Board of Directors for approval
- Any suggested changes to FSC Principles and Criteria to members for formal vote



# Process

- FSC will facilitate open e-mail-based discussions and contributions during both phases
- FSC will encourage FSC National Initiatives to convene national/regional stakeholder meetings to further increase participation during both phases



# Timeline

- Chamber-wise selection of Policy Group representatives complete Dec 2004
- Terms of reference for Technical Group approved by FSC Board of Directors Dec 2005
- Generic standards developed by Technical Group and approved by FSC Board of Directors Dec 2006

(given the good will of Fate and Funders...)