

CERTIFICATION OF THE NATIONAL STANDARD FOR FSC CERTIFICATION OF  
PLANTATION FOREST MANAGEMENT IN NEW ZEALAND

**STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT GROUP (SDG)**

**Terms of Reference**

**1) What has to be achieved**

- a. The intention is to develop plantation standards specific to New Zealand.
- b. The SDG will work within the process requirements of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) for the development and maintenance of forest stewardship standards as laid out in document FSC-STD-60-006 (V1-0) EN.
- c. The SDG aims through consensus, to agree on the plantation standards to submit to FSC for approval.
- d. Where possible, the SDG will work with the November 2003 draft standards, update this document where necessary and resolve any outstanding issues.
- e. Any changes made to the FSC principles and criteria will be included in the plantation standards.
- f. The FSC Steering group (comprising of attendees at the 24/11/2009 meeting to re-engage forestry standards development) will review the roll of having a National initiative after the Standards Development Group 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the national standard has been completed.

**2) Who will take part**

- a. The SDG will have four Chambers: Economic, Environmental, Social, Maori.
- b. Each Chamber has two representatives selected on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009 or before the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2010. The Social Chamber has three representatives who carry the same 'voting' weight as the other Chambers with two representatives.
- c. Technical Expert Groups providing recommendations on outstanding technical issues will include membership from outside the SDG.
- d. All organisations and individuals who may be affected by the implementation of the standard will have the opportunity to provide feedback through a consultative forum after the SDG has approved the first revised draft of the November 2003 document.

**3) How it will be achieved**

- a. Each Chamber aims to reach consensus, to be respectful of one another, to share information and to build long term benefits.
- b. Each Chamber has equal weighting and will have two representatives except the social Chamber which will have three representatives to recognise their diversity.

- c. Subgroups working on technical issues will provide recommendations to the SDG on:
  - Information to use that builds understanding of the issues.
  - Potential wording of the standards principles and indicators.
- d. Membership of subgroups working on technical issues will include representatives from the Chambers and any other expertise invited to join the subgroups.
- e. Consultative email forum feedback will be considered by the SDG and will influence the development of the final document of proposed standards to be submitted to FSC.
- f. Chamber members can provide their own views when speaking to others but do not speak on behalf of the SDG without the SDG's prior approval. Any media queries will be referred to the facilitator and coordinator.

#### **4) When it will happen**

- a. In order to have specific New Zealand standards the intention is to have a proposed set of standards to FSC for approval before December 2010 when FSC anticipates applying an international generic set of indicators.
- b. April 2010 is anticipated as the month for stakeholder consultation.

Gay Pavelka  
Facilitator

Terms of reference approved on 16/12/2009