Motion to reform the certification: no direct economic links between the CB and their clients

Category and number Policy

PROPOSED BY:

Name: Jonas Rudberg

Organisation: Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)

Chamber: North Environmental

Email address: jonas.rudberg@naturskyddsforeningen.se

1) SECONDED BY:

Name: Matti Liimatainen

Organisation: Greenpeace Nordic Chamber: North Environmental

Email address: matti.liimatainen@greenpeace.org

2) SECONDED BY:

Name: Saskia Ozinga Organisation: FERN

Chamber: North Environmental Email address: saskia@gn.apc.org

Policy Motion:

Background / rationale: The existing FSC system allows the certified land owners/forestry operations to choose which CB to certify them. All forest certification, including evaluation, reporting and issuing CARs etc is performed within the framework of a business relation between the client and their chosen CB. Over the years this system has been much criticised as not being credible and reliable. The existing system is questioned by many stakeholders, both inside and outside the FSC, thus creating an overall credibility problem for the FSC certification. In order to strengthen the certification itself as well as the credibility of FSC we propose the existing system to be improved.

Proposed:

- FSC shall reform its certification in order to de-link the economic relation between the certification bodies (CBs) and their clients;
- FSC shall implement the new certification structure as soon as possible and within a time period of 36 months

Purpose and/or additional information (optional):

This motion is also seconded by the following FSC members: Birdlife Sweden (Åke Persson), BirdLife Bulgaria/BSPB (Veronika Ferdinandova), Robin Wood, Germany (Rodulf Fenner), The Wilderness Society, Australia (Sean Cadman)

Link to FSC Global Strategy: FSC will Ensure Integrity, Credibility and Transparency of the FSC System (GOAL 3)

Accreditation, monitoring and auditing systems are credible and transparent, with regular external performance assessment (Objective 3 (b))

Cost implications:

Cost to FSC: (to be finalised by FSC)