



Background Information on the Consultative Forum for the Review and Revision of the FSC Principles and Criteria

March 24, 2009

According to section 7 of FSC-PRO-01-001 (Version 2-0) for the Development and Approval of FSC International Environmental and Social Standards a Consultative Forum shall be established for the development of any such standard. The role of the Consultative Forum is to ensure that all possibly affected stakeholders can comment on a standard under development.

Due to the wide scope of the FSC Principles and Criteria with regards to affected and possibly affected stakeholders the Consultative Forum for the Review and Revision of the P&C will include

- all FSC members
- all National Initiatives
- all FSC accredited certification Bodies.

This means that all three groups above will be invited proactively (through email or where applicable regular mail) to comment on any revision draft of the Principles and Criteria as released for public consultation.

In addition the FSC will publish an invitation on the FSC website and in the FSC News and Notes to any interested party not belonging to the above groups to formally register for addition to the consultative forum. Any party registering for the consultative forum will also be invited proactively (via e-mail) to comment on any revision draft of the Principles and Criteria as released for public consultation.

All other interested parties will be invited indirectly (through announcements on the FSC website and other means, e.g. FSC News and Notes) to comment on any draft of the standard.

The membership of the Consultative Forum will be reviewed and when necessary, FSC will add to the Consultative Forum organizations and individuals in order to ensure that the full range of stakeholders affected by the revision of the FSC Principles and Criteria is consulted.