



FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Secretariat

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Final Motions and Results from the FSC General Assembly 2002

Statutory Motions

Statutory-1:	Motion to diversify FSC's source of funding	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed.
<p>Motion: The General Assembly authorises the Secretariat to AMEND the FSC By-laws (additions below in capital letters). The proposed amendment is conditional on the Secretariat developing sufficient safeguards to protect FSC from real or perceived conflicts of interest, or negative impacts on FSC's independence, integrity, or credibility resulting from grants or donations. After prior consultation with the membership, these safeguards shall be endorsed by the FSC Board:</p> <p>FINANCE</p> <p>10. FSC shall have SIX sources of revenue:</p> <p>A. Evaluation fees paid by certification bodies to cover the costs of the accreditation process;</p> <p>B. ACCREDITATION fees charged to accredited certification bodies;</p> <p>C. FEES FOR USE OF THE FSC TRADEMARKS;</p> <p>D. Grants and donations. FSC will accept contributions from non-governmental organizations, foundations, governmental sources, multilateral agencies, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COMPANIES and individuals, as long as no restrictions are attached which would affect the independence or integrity of FSC;</p> <p>E. Membership dues;</p> <p>F. Returns from investments and CHARGES FOR FSC PRODUCTS AND services (E.G. FSC STANDARDS, TECHNICAL REPORTS, ETC). It is determined in these By-laws that any surplus existing at the end of each fiscal term shall be dedicated to improving and increasing the programs of the Association.</p>		

Statutory-2:	Motion to allow participation of government owned or controlled companies	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 73.07%. Votes against 26.93%.	Passed
<p>Motion to change clause 7th of the Statutes and paragraph 28 of the By-Laws to reflect the following:</p> <p>The General Assembly recognises that many of the world's forests are owned and managed by government owned or controlled companies and that they are legitimate stakeholders and should not be prohibited from participating in FSC AC.</p> <p>Government owned or controlled companies should be eligible to be members of the economic chamber. Guiding eligibility criteria should be established by FSC secretariat to define what type of government owned or controlled companies are eligible and what the conditions are they have to comply with in order to be able to join.</p> <p>The guiding eligibility criteria shall be further defined at the national level by NIs to reflect national circumstances. These national criteria will be those upon which membership will be granted.</p> <p>The secretariat will consult with the membership when developing the guiding eligibility criteria and the conditions to which eligible government owned or controlled companies have to comply with in order to be able to join. The decision about guiding eligibility criteria and the conditions in order to be able to join will be taken by the membership.</p> <p>NIs will consult with the national membership when developing the national level criteria.</p> <p>Changes to the Statutes: Statutes, clause 7th, last paragraph Government owned legal entities or entities with governmental participation will not be admitted as members of the association <u>except for</u></p>		

government owned or controlled companies which can be admitted under specific conditions.

Changes to the By-Laws:

By-Laws 28 (about economic interest chamber)

Organisations and individuals with a commercial vested interest in commercial forest production organisations, including employees, consultants or representatives of forest product companies, certification bodies, industry associations (whether for profit or non profit), wholesales, retailers, traders, end users, consulting companies and government owned or controlled owned companies may apply for membership of this chamber.

Statutory-3:	Motion to change the term of Board members	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 31.13%. Votes against 68.87%.	not passed
Motion: Whereas the elections to the FSC Board occur annually; and, Elections consume time and resources of FSC, National Initiatives and members.		
The General Assembly resolves to make the term for Board Members four years so as to reduce the number of elections by 50% and to revise the Statues as follows:		
NINETEENTH. The members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for a four-year term from the date of their respective appointment. Notwithstanding the above, three members of the Board shall be appointed every two years in order to substitute the members of the Board ending their office. The members of the Board of Directors may be removed at any time by the General Assembly, and in such case the General Assembly shall appoint their successors to complete the term of those removed. Directors are allowed to serve two consecutive four-year terms, subject to re-election by the membership according to the existing statutes.		
Change the By-Laws as follows:		
50. The Board of Directors is made up of nine individuals who are elected for a four-year term. They shall either be individual members of FSC or duly designated delegates of member organizations. Directors shall seek to represent the views and concerns of the category which they represent (e.g. South/Social) in Board deliberations rather than simply reflecting the views of the organization with which they are affiliated. Directors who are duly designated representatives of member organizations may not be substituted or replaced by another person.		
If a Director leaves an FSC member organization and becomes affiliated with another organization in the same category, the Director may remain a member of the Board if both organizations agree to this in writing. If the Director becomes affiliated with an organization in another category he or she must resign from the Board. Commercial interests not demonstratively committed to FSC, certification bodies and industry Associations may not be represented on the Board. Individuals shall not simultaneously hold a staff position in the Secretariat and retain a seat on the Board of Directors.		
54. Directors are allowed to serve two consecutive four-year terms, subject to re-election by the membership according to the existing Statutes. If a Board member ends his or her term prematurely for whatever reason, a new member will be elected by postal ballot from the appropriate category (e.g. Northern/ Environmental), using the process described in paragraph 58.		
Results: Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 31.13%. Votes against 68.87%. Not passed.		
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Statutory 4: Motion to Change the Structure of the Board of Directors		
Result: Motion withdrawn		
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Statutory-4:	Motion to Change the Structure of the Board of Directors	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Statutory-5:	Motion to give equal Board representation to all three chambers	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed

Motion: Change the Statutes title four paragraph eighteenth:

Remove: Two Board members shall represent the economic interests, the other seven members shall represent social and environmental entities. The General Assembly will be entitled to amend, every three years counted as of the appointment date, the proportions of Board of Directors members representing northern and southern members of the social and environmental entities.

Replace with: Three Board members shall represent each chamber. There shall be at least one northern and one southern representative on the Board within each chamber. The additional positions will alternate between northern and southern representatives.

Statutory-6:	Motion to Clarify FSC Decision-Making	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 76.68%. Votes against 23.32%.	Passed
Motion: Whereas FSC is an association made up of three equal chambers; FSC members seek the goal of decision-making by consensus; and, Consensus requires, at a minimum, the consent of each of the three chambers.		
The General Assembly resolves to encourage decision making by consensus and to revise the By-Laws as follows:		
Change the By-Laws as follows:		
15. General Assembly decisions, including decisions by postal ballot, with the exception of Board elections (see paragraph 58), are adopted by consensus.		
Consensus is defined as the absence of sustained opposition but does not require unanimity. In the case of a vote, decisions shall require both the affirmative vote of a simple majority of members within each sub chamber, and 66.6% of the total voting power registered by Associates in good standing (calculated as provided for in these By-laws) with exception of Board elections. Abstentions shall not count as votes cast. A <i>quorum</i> of 50% + 1 of votes from Associates in good standing (calculated as provided for in these By-laws) in each chamber is required for a decision to be taken in a first ballot. In case such <i>quorum</i> or voting percentage is not obtained in any first ballot, the motions on the agenda shall be voted on by the Associates by postal ballot within two months. In the case of a second ballot, a <i>quorum</i> shall not be required and the resolutions shall be considered as validly adopted when approved by both the affirmative vote of a simple majority of members within each sub chamber, and 66.6% of the total voting power registered by Associates in good standing.		
56. The Board shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chair by majority vote at the first meeting each calendar year and may also elect a Treasurer and Secretary. The Board will take decisions by consensus. In the case a vote is taken, decisions shall require both the affirmative vote of six members and at least one favorable vote from each chamber representative. Votes will be recorded in the Minutes. The <i>quorum</i> for Board meetings is seven. Minutes from Board meetings will be distributed to all members in English and Spanish.		
FSC shall encourage and support national and regional initiatives which are in line with the FSC mission. The objectives of this are to decentralize the work of FSC and to encourage local participation in a manner consistent with the structure and purpose of FSC. Guidelines and minimum requirements for national and regional initiatives that are consistent with the vision of the Founding Assembly shall be published by FSC and shall require that national initiatives will seek consensus in their decisions. These decisions shall be taken in a manner which demonstrates the support of each chamber following the model described in paragraph 15 and as defined by FSC.		

Statutory-7:	Motion to Reform the Governance of FSC to Support its Growth	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
The By-Laws shall be revised as follows:		
50. The Board of Directors is made up of nine individuals who are elected for a three year term. They shall either be individual members of FSC or duly designated delegates of member organizations. Directors shall seek to take decisions which benefit the association as a whole and represent the views and concerns of the category which they represent (e.g. South/Social) in Board deliberations rather than simply reflecting the views of the organization with which they are affiliated.		
Directors who are duly designated representatives of member organizations may not be substituted or replaced by another person. If a Director leaves an FSC member organization and becomes affiliated with another organization in the same category, the Director may remain a member of the Board if both organizations agree to this in writing.		
If the Director becomes affiliated with an organization in another category he or she must resign from the Board. Commercial interests not demonstratively committed to FSC, certification bodies and industry Associations may not be represented on the Board.		
Individuals shall not simultaneously hold a staff position in the Secretariat and retain a seat on the Board of Directors.		

Statutory-8:	Motion to give the Board of Directors access to necessary technical expertise	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: Whereas the FSC board of directors is elected by the membership to represent their interests and to provide strategic leadership to the organization; and there are times when the Board of Directors would benefit from access to outside expertise and advice.</p> <p>The General Assembly resolves to give the FSC Board of Directors the mandate to seek outside expertise and advice as needed and to add the following to the Statutes:</p> <p>EIGHTEENTH: The Board of Directors shall be able to appoint technical advisors to support the board both during meetings and at other times. These technical advisors shall be selected by the elected Board of Directors on the basis of essential additional skills required at the time; e.g. fundraising, organisational development, legal issues, consensus decision making, etc. The technical advisors shall be selected based on their relevant skills, experience and commitment to FSC's mission and goals. A north-south balance will be maintained in the selection and use of the technical advisors. The technical advisors will be appointed on an as-needed basis and their terms will be variable according to needs and availability. The technical advisors shall be non-voting.</p>		

Statutory-9:	A Motion to Revise Language in the By-Laws with Respect to National Initiatives	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Statutory-10:	Motion to establish a nomination committee for nominating Board position candidates	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: Add to the By- Law Paragraph 53 the following wording:</p> <p>A nomination committee will be appointed by the General Assembly to seek sufficient candidates for all Board positions. This committee should be made up by of three experienced members e.g. ex-Board members, one from each chamber and at least one from each North and South. The committee may not exclude potential candidates nominated by other members but are charged with ensuring that at least two candidates stand for each position vacant</p>		

Statutory-11:	Motion to add a tenet to the Introduction to the FSC Principles and Criteria regarding the precautionary approach	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority against	Not passed
<p>Motion: The General Assembly authorizes the addition of the following statement to the introduction of the Principles and Criteria. "Interpretation of FSC Standards should reflect an understanding that they are intended to be precautionary in nature."</p>		

Statutory-12:	Motion to add gender equality to the Principles and Criteria	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: This motion seeks to add gender equality to the Principles and Criteria.</p> <p>Suggested new wording for criteria 4.4 in the Principles and Criteria:</p> <p>4.4 Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups (both men and women) directly affected by management operations.</p>		

Statutory-13:	Motion to move part of Criterion 10.7 to a new Criterion in Principle 6	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy Motions

Policy-01:	Motion to endorse the recommendations of the Mutual Recognition Working Group	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-02:	Motion to reduce the FSC membership requirement on Working groups	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 58.82%. Votes against 41.18%	Not passed
<p>Motion: This motion seeks to modify the National Initiatives Manual requirement on the Working groups.</p> <p>Suggested new wording for the manual section 6.1:</p> <p>Membership of a National Initiative and its committees (if any) is open to all stakeholders. Working Groups, Advisory Boards and National Offices must have a composition similar in balance to that of the FSC Board of Directors.</p> <p>There shall be only one National working group recognized by the FSC in each country or sub country. The National working group shall have a majority of FSC members or be supported by a majority of FSC members in the country in question. Members of any National working group shall commit in writing to the mission and goals of the FSC and to develop a standard to be endorsed by FSC. The FSC board shall take the final decision on endorsement of the National working group, taking the special situation of the country in question into account.</p>		

Result: Motion withdrawn

Policy-03:	Motion on the review of the percentage based claims policy	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour	Passed
<p>The General Assembly requests the Secretariat review how larger, highly mechanised sawmills and related industries in environments where they have to deal with small amounts of certified wood can participate in the FSC system in an economically viable manner. The review shall identify existing bottlenecks and recommend to the board options including, but not limited to, whether and/or how to modify the Percentage Based Claims Policy regarding solid wood within the first six months of 2003. The board shall conduct a broad consultation with the membership and, no later than the end of 2003, make a decision regarding such modification.</p> <p>This motion also directs the board to seek funding from the proponents of this motion.</p> <p>Options related to reducing the content thresholds on solid wood products shall be only considered when it is clear that other options are inadequate.</p>		

Policy-04:	Motion Affirming 70% Certified Wood in Collections of Solid Wood Products	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 46.57%. Votes against 53.43%	Not passed
<p>The FSC re-asserts that 70% is the minimum acceptable volume of certified wood that must be used in the production of a collection of solid wood products that are to be sold with the FSC logo, and requires approval by a vote of the membership prior to lowering this minimum volume below 70%.</p>		

Policy-05:	Motion to label recycled timber/ fibre	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: The FSC General Assembly mandates the Secretariat to proceed with a one year pilot project/study to develop standards and procedures for an FSC recycled label and statement. This study shall be conducted in full consultation with the FSC membership.</p>		

Policy-06:	Motion to focus communication strategies on the FSC attributes that differentiate it from other certification systems	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed

Motion: While the FSC's mission is to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests, the FSC shall, as a means of differentiating itself from other certification systems, focus its public relations and promotional efforts on the high level of environmental and social performance of both the FSC's systems and standards, and its certified operations. This should include, but not be limited to, highlighting significant social and environmental success stories.

Policy-07:	Motion to develop stepwise or modular approaches towards full FSC certification	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-08:	Motion on availability of standards used	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: The GA recognises the importance of transparency in FSC certifications and that this includes the standards used. Given the persistent problems that stakeholders have in getting access to the standards used for any particular certification (where there is no endorsed national standard) the GA requests the secretariat to amend the accreditation manual to require that all certifiers make the locally adapted generic standards used for each certification available on their web sites as well as "on request".</p> <p>Specifically the accreditation manual is to be amended as follows, adding the text in capital letters.</p> <p>FSC Accreditation Requirements Part 3.1: Organisational structure and systems Section 15: Public information</p> <p>15.2 Threshold requirements 15.2.2 A list of publicly available documentation must be available on request. 15.2.3 The list must include the following: 15.2.3.5 the Forest Stewardship Standard used for the evaluation of each certified forest management enterprise TO BE MADE AVAILABLE ON THE CERTIFIER'S WEB PAGE;</p>		

Policy-09:	Motion to Establish Technical Committees	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-10:	Motion to support small and low intensity forest management	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour	Passed
<p>The General Assembly resolves that increasing access to FSC certification for small and low intensity managed forests through policy changes within the FSC system and the development of standards should continue to be given high priority within the FSC. Activities to achieve this include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adequate support for the FSC small forest/low intensity managed forest technical drafting committee and review committee. 2. Timely consideration and implementation of the technical committee's recommendations through member input, policy changes, and definition of eligibility criteria at the national initiative level. 3. Policy changes and eligibility requirements are considered not only for small, individual forest management operations but also to include group and community forest management operations. 4. Initiate field testing as soon as feasible. 5. Any new policies adopted or implemented need to include safeguards for ensuring access to certification to small or low intensity managed forests. 		

Policy-11:	Motion on specifying and harmonizing procedures on suspension and withdrawal of FSC-certificates	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed

Motion: A task force of the secretariat shall review existing procedures for suspension or withdrawal of certificates with the goal to recommend how to improve the accreditation manual to set consistent measures for uniform handling of certification suspension and withdrawal and thereby uphold the credibility of FSC. The review and the recommendations will be decided by Board accreditation committee by Sept 2003 after a broad consultation with the membership. This will be included in the FSC accreditation manual and/or FSC guidelines for certification bodies. The review could involve evaluation of current certification bodies procedures and / or case studies. The review and recommendations should consider contractual agreements and timelines, which are as short as possible.

Policy-12:	Motion to Improve Guidance to National Initiatives	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-13:	Motion to revise membership structure of FSC	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-14:	Motion on harmonization of regional or national standards	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority against.	Not passed
<p>Motion: Understanding that harmonization is intended to address differences between standards, reduce unnecessary differences, and respect diverse social, environmental and economic contexts; and,</p> <p>Recognizing that harmonization does not require identical standards;</p> <p>Harmonization should not be considered as a precondition for the endorsement of standards for those working groups who do not have enough funding.</p> <p>The process of harmonizing national and/or sub-national standards shall not result in a reduction of performance rigour in standards supported by a standards working group.</p> <p>On the basis of the above, FSC shall develop clear harmonization protocols to guide national initiatives in the harmonization process.</p>		

Policy-15:	Motion that regional standards should explicitly identify those elements of standards that are major failures	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-16:	Motion to develop a single consistent scoring system for use by all certification bodies	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>The FSC shall in consultation with FSC's accredited certification bodies, develop a generic scoring structure, require that this structure be appropriately incorporated into the certification bodies decision making protocols and be consistently utilised.</p>		

Policy-17:	Motion prohibiting support for non-certified forest management operations	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-18:	Motion to develop policy regarding best practice for consultation during certification evaluation	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-19:	Motion on Stakeholder consultation procedure	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 72.84%. Votes against 27.16%.	Passed
<p>Motion: FSC shall review stakeholder consultation procedures of certification bodies to identify best practices and, in consultation with the membership, develop recommendations for Board approval that will strengthen the quality, consistency, continuity and effectiveness of the FSC system's stakeholder consultation mechanisms and procedures.</p> <p>Strategic decisions for the establishment and guidance of regional offices should be made based on open and transparent consultation with FSC members and the National Initiatives of the region. This includes the following decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - location of regional offices; - terms of reference for consultants for strategic studies; - terms of reference for the selection of regional directors; - fundraising and FSC core funding allocation for the regional offices and national initiatives <p>Note: This single motion combines 18, 19 and 20 by agreement of the proponents of each of these.</p>		

Policy-20:	Motion on stakeholder consultation	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-21:	Motion to require certified forest managers to apply for certification on all of their forest management units within the same region	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority against.	Not passed
<p>Motion: Certified forest owners and/or licensees with the exception of small, low impact managed forest owners and/or licensees, must demonstrate long-term commitment to the FSC by presenting a timetable for achieving certification on all of their forest management units that are located in the area covered by the same standards or standards development processes.</p>		

Policy-22:	Motion on certification for operations that are part of a group	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-23:	Motion to improve FSC dispute resolution processes	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: The General Assembly requests that the Secretariat give high priority to reviewing and improving the current dispute resolution process. A revised dispute resolution process should resolve complaints in a timely manner, be more user-friendly, with clear roles and responsibilities for complainants and the FSC, and including a much needed and meaningful role for the National Initiatives. Clear timelines and a system for tracking complaints from cradle to grave are needed to ensure that the process is consistently applied, more predictable, fair, and provides timely resolution to disputes. Experience to date can provide valuable insights into the specific needs for revision of the existing protocol to ensure that it is more effective, credible, practical and efficient, and can be used with confidence.</p>		

Policy-24:	Motion on complaints procedure	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-25:	Motion regarding voluntary submission to WTO rules	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 65.94%. Votes against 34.06%	Not passed
<p>Motion: Given current market dynamics and the role played by the WTO in globalization, there is concern that its policies might have negative social and ecological impacts in forest areas/regions.</p> <p>Thus, before FSC establishes a position regarding the WTO, the membership must be consulted and vote on what position to adopt. To this end, the FSC shall first conduct an analysis of the implications of WTO policies on trade in certified forest products and forest management, particularly for countries of the South, forest-based communities, workers, indigenous people, small operations and the FSC. This analysis shall draw on a variety of perspectives and national contexts.</p>		

Policy-26:	To give the membership a voice in FSC decisions on mutual recognition	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: Recalling approved motion #11 from the Second FSC General Assembly which acknowledged that “the FSC’s primary means of formal endorsement or recognition of consistency are within and through the FSC’s system of accreditation, standard-setting, certification and labeling,” and which established a working group to develop policy regarding whether and/or how the FSC should collaborate with, endorse or recognize a wide range of other entities;</p> <p>Emphasizing that the FSC’s name, brand, logo, credibility and reputation are of the highest and most fundamental value to FSC members, and thus should be strongly protected;</p> <p>Noting that there is a significant difference between relatively straightforward relationships involving the FSC and an individual certification body or standard-setting process, and the process known as “mutual recognition”;</p> <p>Further noting that the aforementioned FSC working group has defined “mutual recognition” as “an agreement between organizations carrying out similar activities whereby the parties recognize all or parts of each others’ systems and results as being of substantive equivalence. Substantive equivalence shall be determined by comparing all technical elements, organizational components, procedures, levels of quality, performance requirements and outputs that the systems have in common, to the extent that compliance with one system assures compliance with the other system”; and</p> <p>Clarifying that, for the purposes of this motion, “mutual recognition” is a term that does not apply to FSC’s customary relationships involving FSC-accredited certification bodies, FSC-endorsed standards, FSC National Initiatives, or similar relationships within the FSC system;</p> <p>The FSC resolves that, in order to best protect and maintain FSC’s highly-valued brand name and position in the global marketplace, approval by formal vote of the FSC membership is required in order for the FSC to make a formal commitment to engage in any process designed to lead to mutual recognition involving another organization or programme that:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">governs or requires, in an integrated fashion, either directly or indirectly through affiliations, licenses or formal agreements with entities that participate in the system, all of the following activities: (a) accreditation of certification bodies, (b) setting or endorsement of forest management standards, (c) assessment of forest management operations against such standards, (d) determination of compliance with such standards, and (e) awarding of certificates of compliance.</p> <p>The FSC encourages the working group established under Motion No.11 adopted at the Second General Assembly of the FSC to complete its work and make its recommendations to the membership as soon as possible.</p>		

Policy-27:	Motion regarding consistency in accreditation	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-28:	Motion on group certification	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-29:	Motion on transparency in policy development	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour	Passed
<p>Motion: FSC shall list and make available on the website copies of all existing policy documents. The FSC shall solicit feedback from the membership regarding FSC policy development. Taking this input into account, the FSC shall develop and implement a consistent process for members input on policies as they are being developed to improve transparency, participation and timelines. The new guidelines for policy development shall be subject to board approval.</p>		

Policy-30:	Motion on Certification Body Systems Standardisation	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: In the current revision of the accreditation manual, FSC shall seek to improve the consistency of certification bodies’ performance by incorporating harmonized and standardized requirements, including those relating to: hiring, qualification and training of auditors and subcontracted parties, stakeholder consultation, interim standards setting, peer review, certification decision rules (such as scoring, weighting and checklists), thresholds for preconditions or conditions, time requirements and transparency.</p>		

Policy-31:	Motion on Certification Body Auditor Qualifications and Training	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
Motion: The FSC shall review and strengthen its requirements to ensure that auditors for FSC endorsed certification assessments meet a consistent minimum standard of qualification and training in terms of their knowledge and experience of social and environmental certifications, and FSC procedures and standards.		

Policy-32:	Motion on Certification Body Website Updating	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour	Passed
Motion: The FSC shall require annual updates to be added to all Public Summary Reports posted to certification body websites (at latest March every following year), with at least the following information:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Who did the inspection of the forest area, when, and what has been inspected? ▪ What were the main outcomes? ▪ Have there been major changes in management/harvesting methods? ▪ Have all previous CAR's/ conditions been resolved? ▪ Which new CAR's/ conditions have been established? 		

Policy-33:	Motion on strengthening the proposed FSC Regional Office in Asia	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-34:	Motion to appeal to International Donor Agencies to fund sustainable forest management	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
Motion: Resolve that FSC will appeal to all international donor agencies to allocate significant financial support for the implementation of the FSC social strategy, the replenishment of the FSC social fund and the improvement of forest management and certification of indigenous peoples' and local communities' operations.		

Policy-35:	Motion defining the term 'economic viability'	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 58.10%. Votes against 41.90%.	Not passed.
Motion: The FSC shall interpret the term "economic viability" to include the long term ability of a community to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) develop and manage its material wealth b) provide stable societal benefits c) enable ongoing prosperity from a variety of forest related activities 		

Policy-36:	Motion to phase out the use of certifier's interim or generic standards	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 78.93%. Votes against 21.07%.	Passed
Motion: The General Assembly mandates the Secretariat to develop more detailed guidance on the development of Interim Standards. This guidance is to be approved by the FSC Board. This is to be more specific guidance on the interpretation of the FSC P&Cs at national and sub-national levels. This would lead towards an eventual phasing out of the use of individual CB Interim Standards. This effort must incorporate input from CBs, FSC Regional Offices and other stakeholders. Where there is an NI with a draft standard, the CB must incorporate input from the NI.		

Policy-37:	Motion regarding FSC plantations policy	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 75.30%. Votes against 24.70%.	Passed
<p>Motion: The current version of the FSC Plantation Policy Draft (30 May 2002) is not clear enough and needs improvement. After a broad consultation with the membership within 18 months the revised Plantation Policy should give concrete guidance on the interpretation of P10.</p>		

Policy-38:	Motion to improve balanced stakeholder governance of FSC	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>The FSC shall incorporate into the FSC Social Strategy a study with the intent to recommending improvements to ensure equitable participation of indigenous peoples in FSC governance at all levels.</p>		

Policy-39:	Motion for FSC Dispute Resolution Committee to consider complaints about members being involved in activities contrary to the Principles and Criteria	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Result: Motion withdrawn

Policy-40:	Motion on promoting economic independence of certification bodies from applicants for certification and certified operations	
Results:	Voted by ballot. Votes in favour 54.79%. Votes against 45.21%.	Not passed
<p>Motion: The General Assembly resolves that a study be done which identifies and analyses the potential for conflicts of interest that might prejudice the independence of certification bodies' decisions at any stage in their relationship with applicants for certification and certified operations.</p> <p>Within the next 12 months, recommendations will be made with regard to the most appropriate mechanisms that promote certification bodies' independence.</p> <p>The Secretariat shall develop a policy on the basis of the recommendations made, and the policy should be implemented after approval by formal vote by the membership.</p>		

Policy-41:	Motion on Annual Stipend for members of the Board of Directors	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Board members will receive an annual Stipend, which is to be paid at the end of the year. This stipend will be paid for work carried out as a FSC board member (preparation and evaluation, as well as holding board meetings, work carried out between the board meetings and as a representative of the FSC in the respective region for the board member concerned).</p> <p>The stipend will compensate BD for time spent on board meetings, committee meetings and other official events to which they have been invited by the FSC. This annual stipend will total: A: for chair person USD 7500 USD B: for board members USD 5000</p> <p>Any board member may waive this stipend at his or her sole discretion.</p> <p>To address participation issues of Southern environmental, social and economic and Northern social board members, the economic chamber and northern environmental sub-chamber commits to ensure the necessary funds are secured, in co-operation with the Board and Secretariat.</p>		

Policy-42:	Motion to strengthen the role of NIs in FSC	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour	Passed
<p>Motion: The GA mandates the board and Secretariat, together with NIs to recommend ways to better incorporate endorsed FSC NIs into the decision making structure and processes of FSC. This should be completed by November 2003.</p>		

Policy-43:	Motion to create a certification commission	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority against.	Not passed
<p>Motion: Since there have been serious and persistent breaches of the FSC's Principles and Criteria as well as not acceptable problems in upholding the FSC's Statutes and accreditation agreements, there is a clear need for better enforcement of existing guidelines as well as a need for new guidelines to be established. It is proposed that:</p> <p>a) A certification commission is established to oversee the proper implementation of the Principles and Criteria and the accreditation agreements. It should consist of 6 elected members of the FSC (two from the environmental chamber and two from social chamber and two from the economic chamber).</p> <p>b) Any certifier, company, organization or individual from the FSC found to be deliberately misusing the FSC label in any way, or persistently failing to use it properly (e.g. by making unjustified claims and certifications), be excluded from the FSC.</p> <p>Results: Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority against. Not passed.</p> <hr/>		

Policy-44:	Motion on strengthening FSC as a performance based certification system	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-45:	Motion on strengthening assessments to avoid endorsing corruption	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-46:	Motion to prepare FSC for its second decade	
Results:		Motion withdrawn

Policy-47:	Improving the participation of the Southern Sub-chamber in the preparation and presentation of motions for the next General Assembly.	
Results:	Voted by show of hands. Overwhelming majority in favour.	Passed
<p>Motion: The FSC membership mandates the Board of Directors and the Secretariat to promote preparatory and development processes for members of the Latin American, African, Asian and Pacific and central and Eastern European regions for the preparation of motions reflecting their needs for the next General Assembly. This should result in related activities carried out during the last semester of 2004 and the first of 2005.</p>		