

Questions and Answers on the current Schweighofer process

- **What is the FSC Board of Directors currently deciding?**

From the 5 to the 8 December 2017, FSC Board of Directors is holding a meeting in Bonn (Germany) to decide about multiple matters regarding the organization. One of the matters to be decided this week by the FSC Board is whether to approve the above mentioned *conditions* to be required of the Schweighofer Group (HS). These conditions have been developed by the FSC Secretariat following a structured stakeholder engagement process, which provided multiple opportunities for international and national stakeholders to provide input. (See here for further information about the [stakeholder engagement process](#)).

- **What is the ‘Conditions Framework’?**

The FSC ‘*Conditions Framework*’ stipulates the conditions that must be fulfilled by HS for correcting the identified shortcomings and wrongdoings, compensating for the environmental and social damages resulting therefrom, and preventing the reoccurrence of any previously identified, or ongoing, wrongdoings and/or violations of the FSC’s Policy for Association, in order for FSC to consider an ending of its disassociation from HS. The ‘Conditions Framework’ also defines how the fulfilment of the conditions will be verified (in the form of ‘Verification Indicators’).

A stakeholder working group composed of Romanian and international members - representing economic, social and environmental sectors - acted as a technical advisory group to FSC, for the development of the conditions included in the ‘Conditions Framework’. (See [here](#) for further details about the [stakeholder engagement process](#) followed for the development of these conditions).

- **What is the difference between ending disassociation of Schweighofer and obtaining certificates again?**

Ending a disassociation does not equate with issuing any new certificates. An end of a disassociation implies that the company is again allowed to enter the FSC certification system, if the company demonstrates its fulfilment of the requirements laid out in relevant FSC Standards and Policies. However, in order to achieve a new certification the company must go through a full certification process, demonstrating compliance with the requirements of FSC’s Principles and Criteria through an auditing process.