

# **FSC Ireland SC Meeting**

*Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup> 2009, ENFO, Dublin*

## **MEETING REPORT**

**Present:** Sasha Bosbeer, Maria Cullen, John Jackson, Ruth McGrath, Tony Mannion, Anja Murray, Oisín Naughton, Geraldine O'Sullivan, Declan Little, Mick Keane,

**Apologies:** Peter Sweetman

**Facilitation:** Harriet Emerson

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### **1. Signing of the Minute Book**

The Minute Book was not available at the meeting so this item was deferred to the next Steering Committee meeting.

It was noted that Aodhnait Carroll has had to withdraw from participation due to organisational requirements.

### **2. Dispute Resolution Procedure**

It was agreed to ask Peter for the Dispute Resolution Procedure by the 1<sup>st</sup> June and then to submit his document and the longer version, as revised previously by Ruth, to the solicitor for checking. If no document is received from Peter, Ruth's longer version is still to be sent for review, with the objective to have it returned in time for circulation to members prior to the Annual General Meeting.

### **3. Proposal to move company bank account**

It was proposed (by Tony Mannion, seconded by Ruth McGrath) that the bank account be moved from Tullamore to Greystones. This was unanimously agreed.

### **4. Treasurer's report**

The treasurer's report was presented and discussed. No outstanding issues were identified. The books are being prepared for forwarding to the auditor, in order to be returned prior to the Annual General Meeting.

### **5. Communications to funding bodies**

A brief monthly report is submitted to all funding bodies and this is a requirement of the funding agreements. Maria and Oisín agreed to take responsibility for ensuring that these reports are submitted from July onwards.

### **6. Memorandum and Articles of Association**

The proposed changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Association were reviewed at the meeting, and changes agreed. Ruth agreed to complete the reformatting of the documents, ensuring cross references to re-numbered articles are correct. The revised document will be referred for legal advice to ensure that the changes are in keeping with the Companies Acts, and to be returned in time to be circulated to members and then presented for adoption at the EGM.

### **7. Discussion of Draft Standard**

Following discussion it was agreed that a single threshold of 50 ha will be used for the time being, above which forest management units are considered to be large, and "L" indicators will apply to these units only. A working definition of High Conservation Value Forest was agreed as an Annex to the Draft Standard.

It was agreed that the Steering Committee will send the existing Draft for forest testing, less the introduction, and with a supplementary document containing all the comments/ feedback from the Steering Committee members. The cover letter will highlight Steering Committee concerns for small forest owners as addressed in FSC International GUI60-001.

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Simultaneously, the Steering Committee will ask the SDG to reconvene to consider changes to the existing draft in light of comments/ feedback from the Steering Committee and the new FSC International Guidance document 60-001.

The Steering Committee will also commission a desktop study to assess the additional cost/ha relative to size of the implementation of the proposed draft. A sub-group of Anja, Declan and Tony will draw up the tender document for this.

Members of the Steering Committee undertook to produce templates as proposed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> column of the FSC International GUI 60-001 document.

The aim is to arrange the above for completion by the beginning of July. When outputs from all of these exercises will be returned to the Steering Committee for discussion and agreement, before the Draft Standard is put out for public consultation.

It was agreed that the Draft Standard document remains solely within the Steering Committee, the Standard Development Group, the certifying bodies conducting the forest testing, and those carrying out the commissioned desktop study. It is not for distribution, release or other dissemination until it goes to public consultation. It was confirmed that Richard Robertson could be sent the document, once it is made clear that the document is not to be passed to anyone further.

#### **Next meeting(s)**

Please note that the Steering Committee will meet again, as previously agreed on the **17<sup>th</sup> June**.