



To: FSC accredited Certification Bodies

Bonn, 01. October 2012

PSU ADVICE

Issue: Declaration of the commitment on the “*Policy for the Association of Organizations with FSC*” (FSC-POL-01-004)

Normative Reference: FSC-STD-40-004 V2-1 Clause 1.5 (Commitment to FSC Values)

Scope: COC certification in Canada and the United States of America

Background:

As of 01 October 2012, Version 2-1 of FSC-STD-40-004 became mandatory for all COC certificate holders. This version requires all certificate holders to sign a self-declaration committing to the values of FSC as expressed in the “*Policy for the Association of Organizations with FSC*” (FSC-POL-01-004).

FSC has been approached by certificate holders from Canada and the United States of America who expressed their legal concerns about the language of the self-declaration with regards to the ILO core conventions.

FSC is looking to find a solution to this problem in cooperation with the National Offices and the affected companies by 31 March 2013 at latest.

Advice:

FSC accredited Certification Bodies carrying out COC audits in Canada or in the United States of America between 01 October and 31 December 2012 are herewith authorized to extend the timeline of any major CAR issued in relation to a missing self-declaration until the 31 March 2013 (ref. FSC-STD-20-007 V3-0 Clause 8.10.2).

In case of questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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