



**PEFC Council (PEFC
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General Assembly Minutes

Movenpick Hotel, Geneva, Switzerland

Wednesday 14 November 2018

23rd General Assembly

PRESENT:

- Peter Latham - Chair
- Natalie Hufnagl-Jovy - 1st Vice Chair

National Governing Bodies from:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovak Republic, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Uruguay, United States of America

By proxy:

Republic of Congo

International Stakeholder Members:

ATIBT, Double A, BWI, Arauco, APRIL Group, European Panel Federation, Mondi, Metsa Group OLAM, PT Purinusa Ekapersada (Asia Pulp & Paper), Smurfit Kapa, Stora Enso, Suzano,

By proxy:

WestRock

Members of the Board

Genevieve Chua, Peter Crook, David Ford, Nurudeen Iddrisu, Riikka Joukio, Brian Kernohan, Hervé Le Boulter, Gerard Pfiffinger, Eduardo Rojas-Briales.

APOLOGIES:

- ***National Governing Bodies***
 - Bulgaria
 - Cameroon
 - Hungary
 - Lithuania
 - Macedonia
 - Poland
 - Slovenia
 - Thailand

- **International Stakeholder Members**

- APP Timber,
- Bioenergy Europe - formerly known as the European Biomass Association (AEBIOM)
- Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF)
- Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI)
- Connecting Natural Values and People (CNVP)
- European Confederation of Agricultural, Rural and Forestry Contractors (CEETTAR)
- European Timber Trade Federation (ETTF)
- European Tissue Symposium (ETS)
- Fibria
- International Council of Forest and Paper Associations (ICFPA)
- International Family Forestry Alliance (IFFA)
- International Paper
- RECOFTC
- Union of Silviculturists of Southern Europe (USSE)
- Weyerhaeuser

- **Extra-ordinary members:**

CEI-Bois, ELO, FECOF, MECSEA, and UEF

- **Members of the Board**

Juan Carlos Jintiach

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Ben Gunneberg - Secretary General and CEO- PEFC International
- PEFC International Staff.

Of a total of 136 eligible votes, 110 votes were present (80.9%)

The Chairman noted that this General Assembly meeting was correctly convened in terms of notice and documentation as set out in Article 5 of the PEFC Statutes and that the quorum (as defined in Article 5.12) was achieved.

1. AGENDA

Unanimously agreed:

To approve the Agenda of the 23rd General Assembly.

2. MINUTES OF THE 22ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Unanimously agreed:

To approve the minutes of the 22nd General Assembly held Wednesday 15 November 2017 Scandic Park Hotel, Helsinki, Finland, (as amended) as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. PEFC UPDATE VERBAL

The Chairman and Secretary General presented reflections on the role of the board and other governance issues in addition to a reflection on the challenges facing the soft commodities certification movement in general and how the recently approved PEFC Strategy and structure will help PEFC address these.

4. FINANCES

4.1 YEAR-END ACCOUNTS 2017

Ms Genevieve Chua, Chair of the PEFC Board's Management Accounts Committee, presented the audited accounts for the year 2017.

Unanimously agreed:

To approve the audited accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 2017, as prepared by Interexperts.

4.2 BUDGET AND MEMBERSHIP FEES 2019

Agreed:

To approve the Budget and Membership Fees for 2019.

*Out of 110 possible votes: 0 votes against
3 votes abstain (Indonesia) and 107 votes in favour*

4.3 Appointment of Auditor

Unanimously agreed:

To appoint "Interexperts sa" as the PEFC Council Auditor for the year end accounts (as at 31 December 2018), in accordance with the PEFC Council Statutes, Article 5, Chapter 10, section V.

5. ELECTIONS

5.1 Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chair and Members of the Board

Ms Natalie Hufnagl-Jovy assumed the Chair for this agenda item and Mr Esa Härmälä presented the Nominations Committee report 2018 on behalf of Dato Freezailah, Chairman of the PEFC Council 2018 Nominations Committee.

Unanimously agreed:

To appoint:

- Mr. Peter Latham – as Chairman 2018-2021 (re-election)
- Mrs. Genevieve Chua - as 2nd Vice Chairman 2018-2020
- Mr. Gerald Pfiffinger – as Board Member 2018-2021 (re-election)
- Mr. Brian Kernohan – as Board Member 2018-2021 (re-election)
- Mrs Jin Sook Lee – as Board Member 2018-2021
- Mrs Suzette Weeding – as Board Member 2018- 2019

It was noted that: in April 2018, Mr Fermín Olabe Velasco resigned, with one year left on his term, due to work commitments. The Assembly takes notice of this resignation.

Following the election, the new Board Members introduced themselves.

5.2 Election of Nominations Committee 2019

It was noted that an additional call for a third member of the committee would be made following the General Assembly as

there was a desire by the Board to ensure better gender balance on the nominations committee

Unanimously agreed:

To appoint

- Mr William V. Street, Jr. and
- Mr. Esa Härmälä

as the PEFC Nominations Committee 2019.

6. TECHNICAL

6.1 PEFC ST 1003:2018 - Sustainable Forest Management Standard Requirements

This document had been extensively presented and discussed during PEFC Week prior to the General Assembly. Malaysia congratulated the working group and the board in achieving consensus on the standard and stated that it would support the motion. Nevertheless, Malaysia wanted to sound a note of caution that PEFC would need to revisit several issues surrounding conversions including the cut-of-date as Malaysia and other countries needed flexibility to ensure sustainable livelihoods and development in line with national plans. Malaysia therefore welcomed the announcement of the Board's intention to create a permanent working group on the sustainable forest management standard, which would allow ongoing consideration of the challenges. Concerning Trees outside forests, some members strongly welcomed the opportunities provided (Italy) whilst others wanted to register their concerns (Russia).

Agreed:

To approve the revised PEFC ST 1003:2018, Sustainable Forest Management - Requirements.

Out of 110 possible votes: 4 votes against (Russia), 0 votes abstain and 106 votes in favour

6.2 PEFC ST 1002:2018 - Group Forest Management Certification - Requirements

Unanimously agreed:

To approve the revised PEFC ST 1002:2018, Group Forest Management Certification – Requirements.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

8. PEFC COUNCIL MEETING DATES & SUBMISSION DEADLINES 2019

The General Assembly noted the PEFC Council Board of Directors agreed meeting dates and submission deadlines for 2019.

8.1 Date and venue of 24th PEFC General Assembly - Wednesday 13th November 2019 in Wurzburg, Germany, Switzerland.

REPORT ON RESULTS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY POSTAL BALLOT VOTES HELD IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN SENDING OUT PAPERS (17TH OCTOBER 2017) FOR THE 23RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY (14TH NOVEMBER 2018) AND 16TH OCTOBER 2019

GA Postal Ballot 4/2018 (9th November 2018)

Motion 1: To endorse the South African Forestry Assurance Scheme (SAFAS)

In accordance with the Statutes (Art. 5, para.12): Quorum was reached with 72 in favour, 0 abstain, 0 against

GA Postal Ballot 1/2019 (30th January 2019)

Motion 1: To endorse the IFCC Procedures for Group Forest Management, IFCC PD 1005, as part of the PEFC endorsed IFCC forest certification scheme.

In accordance with the Statutes (Art. 5, para.12): Quorum was reached with 59 in favour, 0 abstain, 0 against

Motion 2: To endorse the NCCF forest certification scheme.

In accordance with the Statutes (Art. 5, para.12): Quorum was reached with 58 in favour, 1 abstain, 0 against

PEFC GA PB 2-2019 (2nd May 2019)

Motion 1: To endorse the IFCC Sustainable Community Forest Management Certification Scheme, as a part of the PEFC endorsed IFCC forest certification scheme.

In accordance with the Statutes (Art. 5, para.12): Quorum was reached with 62 in favour, 1 abstain, 0 against

Motion 2: To endorse the TFCS (not including TIS 2861), on the condition that the non-conformities identified in the assessment report are resolved within six months of endorsement.

In accordance with the Statutes (Art. 5, para.12): Quorum was reached with 62 in favour, 1 abstain, 0 against

Motion 3: To approve the application of Vietnam Forest Certification Office – Administration of Forestry (VNFOREST) for PEFC NGB membership in Vietnam.

In accordance with the Statutes (Art. 5, para.12): Quorum was reached with 58 in favour, 1 abstain, 0 against

Motion 4: To approve the application of Myanmar Forest Certification Committee (MFCC) for PEFC NGB membership in Myanmar.

In accordance with the Statutes (Art. 5, para.12): Quorum was reached with 59 in favour, 4 abstain, 1 against

Motion 5: To approve the application by SAPPI Limited for PEFC International Stakeholder membership

In accordance with the Statutes (Art. 5, para.12): Quorum was reached with 61 in favour, 2 abstain, 0 against

Signed 13th November 2019:

Peter Latham, Chairman

Ben Gunneberg, Secretary General