

Sustainable forest management

Criteria and indicators of the management unit

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* Corresponds to the revision of the first edition, which this second edition supersedes.



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Preface

The Argentine Institute for Standardization and Certification (IRAM) is a non-profit civil association whose specific purposes, as the Standardization Agency of the Argentine Republic, are to establish technical standards, without limitations in the areas they cover, in addition to promoting to the knowledge and application of standardization as a basis for quality, promoting product certification activities and quality systems in companies to provide consumer safety.

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This document is the result of technical consensus among the various sectors involved, which through their representatives have intervened in the corresponding standards study bodies.

Corresponds to the revision of the first edition (2010), which this second edition supersedes.

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Sustainable forest management

Criteria and indicators of the management unit

INTRODUCTION

Sustainable forest management is the management of forests in accordance with the criteria of sustainable development. Sustainable development implies a form of use of resources that aims to meet human needs while preserving environmental values, so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for generations to come.

Verifying and monitoring a forest activity that is coherent and in balance with the economic, social and environmental needs and values of the forest and with the legal requirements and forest policy defined for the forest management unit, implies complying with and establishing a set of requirements and procedures that are integrated into a properly structured management system. This Standard is based on the criteria of the Montreal Process that integrates the Argentine Republic and on the best practices agreed globally for sustainable forest management.

Given the nature of forestry activity in the Argentine Republic, it was considered necessary to include in this version of the Standard the requirements for a management system for sustainable forest management, in this case a Sustainable Forest Management System that incorporates the Plan-Do-Verify-Act (PDVA) cycle. This cycle allows the organization to ensure that its processes are resourced and properly managed, and that opportunities for improvement are identified and acted upon, while constituting a simple and systematic approach that will allow compatibility with international standards for management systems.

The objective of this Standard is to promote sustainable forest management, that is, to promote the use of the forest without compromising its economic, social and environmental functions. At the same time, by specifying the requirements of the sustainable forest management system, or in other words, the requirements that can be audited for the certification of that system, it allows the organization to demonstrate to other stakeholders that a sustainable forest management system has been implemented.

This standard includes performance requirements for the sustainability of forest management, beyond the commitment, established in the organization's policy, to comply with Argentine legislation, comply with applicable regulations as well as other requirements subscribed by the organization and comply with the criteria for sustainable forest management established therein.

In this Standard, the following verb forms are used

- "shall" indicates a requirement;
- "should" indicates a recommendation;
- "may" indicates a permit, a possibility or a capacity.

The information identified as "NOTE" is presented as guidance for the understanding or clarification of the corresponding requirement.

1 SCOPE

This standard specifies the planning requirements and establishes specific criteria and performance indicators for sustainable forest management in relation to native forests and planted forests in the Argentine Republic.

The requirements of this standard are applicable to the forest management unit and cover the full range of forest management objectives defined for it, including the provision of wood and non-wood forest products and other ecosystem services, and to all activities implemented in the forest management unit to achieve those objectives.

2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES

Any normative document mentioned below is indispensable for the implementation of this document.

When the list mentions normative documents indicating the year of publication, it means that this edition shall be applied. Otherwise, the current edition shall be applied, including all its modifications.

IRAM - ISO 9000 Quality Management Systems — Fundamentals and Vocabulary

PEFC ST 2001 – Rules for PEFC Marks – Requirements

3 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this standard, the following definitions apply:

3.1

corrective action

action to eliminate the cause of a nonconformity and to prevent recurrence

NOTE 1. There may be more than one cause for a nonconformity.

NOTE 2. Adopted from section 3.12.2 of IRAM ISO 9000:2015 Quality management systems — Fundamentals and vocabulary.

3.2

audit

systematic, independent and documented process for obtaining objective evidence and evaluating it objectively to determine the extent to which the audit criteria are fulfilled.

Note 1: The fundamental elements of an audit include the determination of the conformity of an object according to a procedure carried out by personnel not being responsible for the object audited.

Note 2: An audit can be an internal audit (first party), or an external audit (second party or third party), and it can be a combined audit or a joint audit

Note 3: Internal audits, sometimes called first-party audits, are conducted by, or on behalf of, the organization itself for management review and other internal purposes, and can form the basis for an organization's declaration of conformity. Independence can be demonstrated by the freedom from responsibility for the activity being

Note 4: External audits include those generally called second and third-party audits. Second party audits are conducted by parties having an interest in the organization, such as customers, or by other persons on their behalf. Third-party audits are conducted by external, independent auditing organizations such as those providing certification/registration of conformity or governmental agencies.

3.3 forest

Community of plants, predominantly trees and other woody vegetation growing together, their soil, flora and fauna, their mutual relationships, and the resources and values attributed to it.

NOTE. Forests vary markedly around the world depending on the climate, soils, history and culture of the country involved. Many countries have a definition of forests included in legislation.

3.4 planted forest

Forest obtained by seeding or planting native species, or exotic species, or both species ecologically adapted to the site, mainly commercial or industrial purposes, on lands that due to their natural conditions, their location and their suitability are susceptible to afforestation or reforestation

NOTE 1. Adapted from Article 4 of National Law No. 25,080.
<http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/verNorma.do?id=55596>.

NOTE 2. Planted forests are also called forest plantations or afforestation.

3.5 degraded forest

Forest that presents a functional and/or structural alteration of anthropic or natural origin of the forest that causes a decrease in the capacity to provide ecosystem services, below thresholds with respect to a forest or reference state and according to a fixed time scale

NOTE. Adapted from Resolution 267/19 MAdS.
<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/nacional/resoluci%C3%B3n-267-2019-325486>.

3.6 native forest

All natural forest ecosystems in different stages of development, of primary or secondary origin, which have an arboreal coverage of native species greater than or equal to 20% with trees that reach a minimum height of 3 meters and a continuous occupation greater than 0.5 ha, including palm trees.

NOTE 1. Adapted from COFEMA Res 230/12.
https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/resolucion_no_230_-_mapeo_de_los_bosques_nativos_-_taller.pdf.

NOTE 2. Resolution 230/12 of the Federal Council for the Environment (COFEMA) complies with the terms of Law No. 26331.

3.7 local community

Human communities of any size that are within or adjacent to the forest management unit, and also those that are close enough to have a significant impact on the economy or environmental values of the forest management unit or for their economies, rights or surroundings to be significantly affected by the activities of the forest management unit.

3.8 fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO)

The eight conventions (ILO 29, 87, 98, 100, 105, 111, 138 and 182) identified by the ILO Governing Body as "fundamental" in terms of principles and rights at work: freedom of association and effective

recognition of the right to collective bargaining; the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour; the effective abolition of child labour and the elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation

3.9

forest conversion

Direct change introduced by man, from native to planted forests or to a non-forest use of the land

NOTE. Regeneration by seeding or planting and/or human-induced regeneration, from natural seed sources, to the same dominant species that was harvested or other species that were present in the historical species mix is not considered a conversion.

3.10

criterion

A category of conditions or processes by which sustainable forest management can be assessed.

NOTE. Adapted from Section 2 Definitions of the Montreal Process.

https://montreal-process.org/The_Montreal_Process/Criteria_and_Indicators/index.shtml.

3.11

biological diversity

Variability of living organisms from any source, including but not limited to terrestrial and marine ecosystems and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; comprises diversity within species, between species and eco-systems.

NOTE 1. Adopted from Article 2 of the Convention on Biological Diversity

<https://www.cbd.int/convention/text/>

NOTE 2. Biological diversity is also called biodiversity.

3.12

document

Information and the medium in which it is contained.

NOTE 1. The medium of support can be paper; magnetic, optical or electronic disc, photographs or shows pattern or combination thereof.

NOTE 2. Adopted from section 3.8.5 of IRAM ISO 9000:2015 Quality management systems — Fundamentals and vocabulary.

|

3.13

ecosystem

Dynamic complex of plants, animals, microorganisms, fungi and their abiotic environment, interacting as a functional unit

NOTE. Adopted from article 2 of the Convention on Biological Diversity. <https://www.cbd.int/convention/text/>.

3.14

PEFC labels

PEFC labels comprise the PEFC logo along with additional elements such as the label name, message, website, and frame. Additional elements complete the logo by providing information about what the PEFC logo represents. The PEFC logo is always used as part of PEFC labels.

NOTE 1. PEFC is the English acronym for the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

NOTE 2. In certain circumstances described in the PEFC ST 2001:2020 standard – PEFC Trademark Rules – Requirements, some elements of PEFC labels may be omitted in such a way that the final design of the label is the PEFC logo itself, without additional elements.

NOTE 3. Adopted from section 3.11 of the PEFC ST 2001:2020 – RULES of THE PEFC Marks – Requirements

3.15

afforestation

The establishment of forest by planting and/or deliberate seeding on land, which, until then, had a different land use, involves a transformation of land use from non-forest to forest.

NOTE. Definition based on FRA 2020. <https://www.fao.org/3/l8661Es/i8661es.pdf>.

3.16

sustainable forest management

Dynamic and evolving management which aims to maintain and enhance the economic, social and environmental value of all types of forests, for the benefit of present and future generations and consisting of the following characteristic aspects: extent of forest resources, forest biological diversity, health and vitality of forests, productive functions of forest resources, forest resource protection functions, socio-economic functions of forests and policy, institutional and policy framework

NOTE. Adapted from UN Resolution 62/98, UN 2008.
https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/62/98&Lang=S.

3.17

indicator

A quantitative or qualitative variable that can be measured or described and when observed periodically demonstrates trend

NOTE 1. Adopted from Section 2 of the Montreal Process..
https://montreal-process.org/The_Montreal_Process/Criteria_and_Indicators/index.shtml.

NOTE 2. An indicator is a qualitative or quantitative parameter that is evaluated in relation to a criterion. The indicator describes, in an objectively verifiable and unambiguous manner, the status of an aspect of the criterion to which it refers.

3.18

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Careful consideration of all available pest control techniques and the subsequent integration of appropriate measures that reduce the development of pest populations and keep the use of plant protection products and other interventions at economically justified levels and minimize risks to human, animal health or the environment. IPM emphasizes the growth of healthy crops, disturbing ecosystems as little as possible and promoting natural pest control mechanisms

NOTE. Adopted from the International Code of Conduct for Pesticide Management - World Health Organization Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, 2014. <https://www.fao.org/pest-and-pesticide-management/pesticide-management/codigo-internacional-de-conducta-para-el-manejo-de-plaguicidas/es/>

3.19

PEFC trademarks

PEFC trademarks are symbols that represent the visual identity of PEFC. They are registered and belong to the PEFC Council. There are two PEFC trademarks:

(a) the initials "PEFC"; and

b) the PEFC logo consisting of an elliptical arrow surrounding two trees and the initials "PEFC" are below it. The PEFC logo is always used as part of PEFC labels.

NOTE 1. PEFC is the English acronym for the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

NOTE 2. Adopted from section 3.14 of PEFC ST 2001:2020 – PEFC Trademark Rules – Requirements.

3.20

nonconformity

non-fulfilment of a requirement

NOTE. Adopted from section 3.6.9 of IRAM ISO 9000:2015 Quality management systems — Foundations and vocabulary.

3.21

organization

Natural or legal person responsible for the management operations of the resource and the forestry company, as well as the system and structure of management, planning, field work and control.

NOTE 1. The organization is the applicant for the certification of sustainable forest management in accordance with the requirements of this standard and of the CERFOAR – PEFC Argentina and can be responsible or holder of several management units.

NOTE 2. CERFOAR – PEFC Argentina is the Argentine Forest Certification System.

3.22

genetically modified organism (GMO)

any biological entity, including genetically modified trees, capable of transferring or replicating genetic material that possesses a novel combination of genetic material that has been obtained through the application of modern biotechnology

NOTE 1. By modern biotechnology is meant:

- a) in vitro nucleic acid techniques, including recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and direct injection of nucleic acid into cells or organelles; or,
- b) the fusion of cells beyond the taxonomic family, which overcome the natural physiological barriers of reproduction or recombination and which are not techniques used in traditional reproduction and selection.

NOTE 2. Adopted resolution 39/2003 of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food of the Nation. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/nacional/resoluci%C3%B3n-39-2003-86871/texto>

3.23

landscape

A socio-ecological system consisting of a mosaic of natural and/or human-modified ecosystems, with a characteristic configuration of topography, vegetation, land use and settlements that is influenced by the ecological, historical, economic and cultural processes and activities of the area.

NOTE. Adapted from Scherr et al. 2013. Defining Integrated Landscape Management for Policy Makers.

3.24

stakeholder

Person, group of people or entity that expresses interest or is known to have an interest in the implementation of the organization's forest management system.

3.25

affected stakeholder

An interested person or groups of interested persons, who could experience a direct change in living and/or working conditions caused by the implementation of the organization's forest management

sys-tem, or an interested person who could be a user of this standard and is therefore subject to the requirements of the same.

NOTE. Affected stakeholders include local communities, indigenous peoples, workers, etc. However, having an interest in the subject of the standard (e.g. NGO, scientific community, civil society) does not equate to being affected.

3.26

plan

Continuous and documented process, which establishes objectives and goals and implements programs to achieve them.

3.27

sustainable forest management plan

Instrument that regulates the rational use of renewable natural resources of the forest management unit, to obtain benefits from them, while ensuring the preservation, conservation, improvement and enhancement of these resources and their ecosystem.

3.28

procedure

A specified way to carry out an activity or process.

NOTE 1. Procedures may or may not be documented.

NOTE 2. Adopted from section 3.4.5 of IRAM ISO 9000:2015 Quality management systems — Functions and vocabulary.

3.29

process

A set of mutually related or interacting activities, which transform input elements into results

3.30

phytosanitary product

Any substance or mixture of substances intended to prevent, control or destroy any harmful organism, including unwanted species of plants or animals, which cause harm or negative interference in the production, processing or storage of plants and their products. The term includes adjuvants, phytoregulators, desiccants and substances applied to plants before or after harvest to protect them against spoilage during storage and transport

NOTA. Adopted from the Regional Standard on Plant Protection, Section II – Reference 2.7. Glossary of materials related to the registration of plant protection products, v.1.2 Committee on Plant Health of the Southern Cone. COSAVE, November 1996. http://www.cosave.org/sites/default/files/erpfs/st20700v000102_esp.html.

3.31

indigenous people

People in independent countries, considered indigenous by the fact that they are descended from populations that inhabit the country or in a geographical region to which the country belongs at the time of conquest or colonization or the establishment of the current State borders and who, whatever their legal status, retain all their own social institutions, economic, cultural and political, or part of them.

NOTE 1. Adopted from Article 1 (b) of Law No. 24.071/1992.
<http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/verNorma.do?id=470>.

NOTE 2. Indigenous people are also called native people

NOTE 3. Communities and or people that inhabit or depend directly on the forest are recognized as persons who identify themselves as belonging to an indigenous people, develop in their territory with ancestral practices and in a community way, and take advantage of the resources of the forest and are dependent of it for their spiritual development, social, cultural and

subsistence. MAYDS. (2021). Technical Manual for consultation with indigenous people in forest management and climate change: Guidelines on the process of prior, free and informed consultation with Indigenous Peoples. Tools for the implementation of REDD+ guards in the field. Buenos Aires: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/cambio-climatico/herramientas-implementacion-salvaguardas>.

3.32

program

Orderly series of actions aimed at achieving particular objectives. It shall specify roles, responsibilities, processes, resources, deadlines and priorities.

3.33

forest resources

They include resources found in forests and other forested lands, and trees outside the forest.

NOTE. Adapted from the Global Forest Resources Assessment Update to 2005. Terms and definitions (final version), FAO 2004. <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/es/c/473e4de9-fdc4-5f00-9a8e-5eb56e987950/>.

3.34

reforestation

Re-establishment of forest through planting and/or deliberate seeding on land classified as forest.

3.35

record

Document stating results achieved or providing evidence of activities performed

NOTE. Adopted from section 3.8.10 of IRAM ISO 9000:2015 Quality management systems — Functions and vocabulary.

3.36

monitoring

Continuous evaluation that allows to determine the occurrence, size direction and importance of the changes that occur in key indicators of forest management.

3.37

ecosystem services

Contributions that ecosystems make to human well-being, and that depend on the structure, biodiversity and biophysical process that exist in each ecosystem. These contributions include: provision services (related to raw materials obtained from ecosystems and linked to nutrition, provision of materials or energy); regulatory and maintenance services (mediation of waste, toxic substances, or other mass, liquid or gaseous flows; and maintenance of the physical, chemical or biological conditions of the ecosystem) and cultural services (refer to goods and services obtained from interaction with nature, either directly, through the use and enjoyment or observation thereof; or indirectly, through environmental education or the legacy or existence value of species or landscapes).

NOTE 1. Adapted from the International Common Classification of Ecosystem Services (CICES), developed by the European Environment Agency (EEA), 2018. <https://cices.eu/>

NOTE 2. Provision services can be considered: biotic (living) resources, when they are related to living organisms as a food source, materials for textile production, timber and non-timber products, or those organisms or parts of organisms that can be used to produce energy (e.g. plant biomass). There are provision services that are obtained from non-living elements (abiotic), such as water or mineral materials, which can be consumed directly, as building materials or as a source of fossil or renewable energy.

NOTE 3. Regulation and maintenance services can be considered: pest and disease control; composition and formation of the soil; water conditions and flow regulation; regulation of climate and atmospheric composition; erosion control; noise attenuation; fire protection; pollination services; regulation of biogeochemical cycles and carbon sequestration capacity; provision of habitat and protection of genetic material, etc.

NOTE 4. Physical and intellectual interactions (educational, research) with terrestrial ecosystems and landscapes can be considered as cultural services; and/or spiritual, recreational, ethical, symbolic or other cultural interactions with terrestrial ecosystems and landscapes.

3.38

silvicultural system

Planned program of treatments throughout the life of the stand to achieve the structural and dynamic objectives of the stand, whether to produce wood or other goods or services, based on integrated resource management goals.

NOTE. A silvicultural system includes harvesting, regeneration y/o plantation and intermediate treatments of the stand and encompasses all activities for the full extension of a rotation or cutting cycle.

3.39

priority site for conservation

Area that has ecological, biological or socio-cultural values, considered of great or critical importance on a local, regional or global scale. In the identification of these forest and non-forest areas, the presence of any of the following attributes shall be considered:

- areas with concentrations of biodiversity values (species of restricted distribution, endangered and vulnerable species at local and international level, wildlife refuges, resting place for migratory birds, nesting sites, unique species assemblages, among others);
- areas constituting rare, threatened, endangered ecosystems or any combination of these conditions;
- areas providing environmental services of conservation value (significantly high carbon stocks/stocks, protection of watersheds, protection of recharge zones, protection of margins of bodies and watercourses, protection of slopes, among others),
- areas of critical cultural, religious and/or economic value for local communities, including indigenous people.

3.40

forest worker

Worker who acts in the forest management unit, as a freelancer or with a direct employment relationship with the organization or with companies providing forest services

3.41

management unit

The forest management unit is the area or set of land areas covered predominantly by forests and with clearly demarcated boundaries, managed by an organization, with a series of explicit objectives, according to a management plan and subject to a common monitoring and control program

4 CONTEXT OF THE ORGANIZATION

4.1 Understanding stakeholder needs and expectations

4.1.1 The organization shall determine:

- a) the affected stakeholders who are relevant to forest management;
- b) the relevant needs and expectations of these affected stakeholders.

4.2 Determining the scope of the forest management system

4.2.1 The organization shall determine the limits and applicability of the forest management system to establish its scope. To determine this scope, the organization shall consider:

- a) the objectives defined for the forest management system: production of goods, wood and non-wood, and/or other services; and
- b) the forest management unit(s) and their physical limits.

4.2.2 The organization shall implement all the requirements of this standard, where applicable, within the given scope of its forest management system.

4.2.3 The organization shall document the scope of its forest management system and make it available to stakeholders.

4.3 Forest management system

4.3.1 To achieve the defined objectives, including the improvement of its performance, the organization shall establish, implement, maintain and continuously improve a forest management system, including the necessary processes, their interactions and the level of performance required, in accordance with the requirements of this standard.

4.3.2 The organization's forest management system shall comprise at a minimum the cycle of inventory and planning, implementation of planned activities, monitoring and evaluation, including an appropriate assessment of the social, environmental and economic impacts of forest management. This forms the basis of a cycle of continuous improvement.

5 LEADERSHIP

5.1 The organization shall demonstrate leadership and make a long-term commitment to the forest management system:

- a) complying with the criteria and requirements of this sustainable forest management standard; and
- b) contributing to the continuous improvement of the sustainable forest management system.

5.2 The organization shall document and make public its long-term commitment to comply with the criteria and requirements of this sustainable forest management standard.

5.3 The organisation shall communicate its long-term commitment to comply with the criteria and requirements of this sustainable forest management standard to forest workers and forest service providers operating in the management unit(s) within the scope of the forest management system.

5.4 The organization shall define, document and assign responsibilities for the implementation of sustainable forest management.

6 PLANNING

6.1 Generalities

6.1.1 The organization shall plan and implement forest management in a sustainable manner, to maintain or increase the forests of the forest management unit and to maintain or increase its capacity to produce a variety of wood and non-wood forest goods and other ecosystem services, in accordance with a long-term forest management plan, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and applicable to the forest management unit.

6.1.2 The organization shall plan and implement forest management while maintaining and/or improving the economic, ecological, cultural and/or social functions and values of the forests of the forest management unit.

6.1.3 The organization shall plan and implement forest management in such a way as to achieve sound economic performance, taking into account the possibilities of new markets and economic activities in relation to all existing goods and services in the forest management unit.

6.1.4. The organization shall plan and implement forest management to maintain, conserve or improve biodiversity in the landscape, ecosystem, species and genetic levels.

6.1.5 The organization shall plan, establish, and maintain adequate infrastructure, such as the road network, irrigation network, drainage network, collection areas and roads work, to ensure the efficient delivery of goods and services.

6.1.6 The organization shall consider in planning the risks and opportunities related to meeting the requirements for sustainable forest management, taking into account the size and scale of the organization's operations

6.2 Sustainable forest management plan

6.2.1 The organization shall develop and document a sustainable forest management plan that:

- a) is periodically updated and adjusted;
- b) is appropriate to the size and uses of the forest management unit;
- c) is based on applicable local, national and international legislation, as well as on the use, tenure and/or ownership of the land of the forest management unit; and
- d) includes all types of forest present in the forest management unit.

6.2.2 The sustainable forest management plan shall take into account the different uses and/or functions of the forest management unit.

6.2.3 The sustainable forest management plan shall contain at least:

- a) description of the forest management unit including the type of rights to tenure and/or use of land and forest resources, the continuous inventory, the characterisation of forest types and the identification and characterisation of priority conservation sites present therein;

- b) long-term management objectives;
- d) the forestry system consistent with the management objectives;
- e) the activities to be carried out contained in the silvicultural treatment;
- f) the average annual rate of harvest of all wood and/or non-wood forest products and their technical justification;

NOTE: The average annual harvest or extraction rate does not exceed the possibility of the forest so that its vitality and productivity are maintained or improved.

- g) specifications, technical requirements and environmental and watershed protection measures necessary to protect soil, watercourses and bodies of water, flora and fauna;
- h) protective measures to prevent damage by harmful biological agents, fires, and other disturbances;

NOTE: pests, weeds, pathogens and livestock (overgrazing and ramoneo) are considered harmful biological agents, when this affects the health and vitality of forest resources.

- i) identification and assessment of the relevant aspects and impacts of activities in the forest management unit;
- j) cartography appropriate to the size and use of the forest management unit;
- k) economic and financial planning and financial statements

6.2.6 The sustainable forest management plan shall consider where relevant the results of scientific research.

6.2.7 The sustainable forest management plan shall consider the socio-cultural context, taking as a reference the experience and traditional knowledge related to the forest of local communities, indigenous people and other stakeholders. Where appropriate, traditional management practices that create valuable ecosystems at suitable forest management unit sites shall be supported.

6.2.8 The sustainable forest management plan shall cover the traditional activities carried out in the forest management unit by indigenous people and other members of the local community that have been agreed.

6.2.9 A summary of the sustainable forest management plan, appropriate to the scope and scale of sustainable forest management, shall be publicly available and shall include information on the general objectives and criteria for sustainable forest management.

NOTE: The publicly available summary of the sustainable forest management plan excludes confidential commercial and personal information and other information that has been made confidential by applicable law or for the protection of cultural sites or sensitive features of natural resources..

6.3 Compliance requirements

6.3.1 Legal compliance

6.3.1.1 The organisation shall identify and have access to all updated legislation applicable to its forest management and shall determine how these compliance obligations apply to the organisation.

NOTE. The legislation identified includes, but is not limited to, forest management practices; protection of nature and the environment; protected and endangered species; property rights and use of the land and resources of the forest management unit; land tenure and use of indigenous peoples, local communities or other affected stakeholders; health, work and safety issues; anti-corruption and payment of royalties and applicable taxes.

6.3.1.2 The organization shall comply with all local and national legislation and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements applicable to its forest management.

6.3.1.3 The organization shall comply with the obligations of the social rights of health, welfare and social security of forest workers.

6.3.1.4 The organization shall comply with obligations related to the occupational health and safety of forest workers.

6.3.1.5 The organization shall take effective anti-corruption measures appropriate to the risk of corruption.

6.3.1.6 The organization shall take effective measures to protect the forest from unauthorized activities such as hunting, fishing and illegal logging; illegal use of land; unauthorized or illegal settlements; illegally started fires and other illegal activities.

6.3.1.7 The organization shall comply with the policies, procedures, instructions and codes of good practice subscribed or defined for the forest management unit.

6.3.1.8 The organization shall comply with the obligations established by the regulatory bodies of health protection.

6.3.1.9 Forest service providers shall comply with the laws and regulations applicable to their activity and the policies, procedures, instructions and codes of good practice subscribed to or defined for the forest management unit.

6.3.2 Legal, traditional and usage rights related to the tenure of the forest management unit

6.3.2.1 The organization shall have a suitable and up-to-date document attesting to its right to use the land or forest resources of the forest management unit and the right of use is for a period consistent with the long term planning of the sustainable forest management plan. The boundaries of the forest management unit shall be legally determined and clearly documented in the mapping of the forest management plan.

NOTE. Accreditation is carried out through one of the titles recognized by Argentine legislation (property title; lease or concession contract; real right of surface; recognition of traditional rights; customary rights, etc.).

6.3.2.2 The organization shall conduct forestry practices and operations in recognition of the established framework of legal and traditional rights, as described in Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

NOTE 1: Convention 169 was ratified by Law No. 24.071/92

NOTE 2: Argentina adheres to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on September 13, 2007.

6.3.2.3. When the scope of the legal and traditional rights of indigenous peoples is not resolved or is in dispute, the organization shall implement processes for a fair and equitable resolution and in such

cases, the organization shall, in the meantime, provide significant opportunities for the parties to engage in forest management decisions, respecting the processes, roles and responsibilities established in the policies and laws where the certification is carried out.

6.3.2.4 The organization shall implement forestry practices and operations in compliance with human rights as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

NOTE. The Argentine Republic has signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights since 1948 and in 1994 incorporated into the National Constitution (in article 75, paragraph 22), all declarations, treaties and International Covenants on human rights, consequently, in Argentina, the Human Rights Treaty System has the force of law.

6.3.3 Fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization.

6.3.3.1 The organization shall implement forestry practices and operations in compliance with the fundamental ILO Conventions.

NOTE. The Argentine Republic ratified the eight fundamental labour Conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO)

6.3.4 Health, safety and working conditions.

6.3.4.1 The organisation shall plan, organise and carry out its activities in a manner that makes it possible to identify the risks of occupational accidents and diseases, and shall implement all necessary measures to protect workers from work-related risks. The organization shall inform forest workers about the risks involved in their work and about preventive measures.

NOTE: The organization can obtain guidance for the planning and implementation of safe working conditions in the ILO Code of Good Practice: Safety and Health in Forestry Work and in the Manual of Good Practices for Forestry of the Superintendence of Occupational Risks.

6.3.4.2 The organization shall verify that the risk analyses are carried out by job position and keep the updated payroll of workers with the Occupational Risks Insurer (ART) or Self-Insured Employer.

6.3.4.3 The organization shall ensure and verify that working conditions are safe and shall provide first aid and transfer in the event of a health emergency and occupational accidents.

6.3.4.4 The organization shall ensure the correct state of the tools, machinery, and vehicles that operate within the forest management unit, in their relationship with the modality and state of use, so that they do not generate work accidents or occupational diseases.

6.3.4.5 The organization shall provide forest workers with personal protection elements appropriate to the task they perform and in good condition, and shall take measures to ensure their use, protection and maintenance.

6.3.4.6 The organization, where appropriate, shall provide workers with adequate conditions of transport, food, lodging and rest.

6.3.4.7 The organization shall ensure and verify that the salaries of permanent and temporary forest workers, as well as of forest service providers operating in the forest management unit, meet or exceed the legal standards of the forest sector or, where appropriate, collective labour agreements.

6.3.4.8 The organisation shall ensure and verify that working hours and holidays comply with the relevant legislation and/or applicable collective agreements.

6.3.4.9 The organization shall demonstrate its commitment to equal opportunities for hiring, training and promotion, promoting non-discrimination, the absence of workplace harassment and gender equity.

7 SUPPORT

7.1 Resources

7.1.1 The organization shall determine and provide the necessary resources for the establishment, implementation, maintenance and continuous improvement of the forest management system.

7.2 Competence

7.2.1 The organization shall ensure that all forest workers, including forest service providers, receive sufficient information and are kept up to date with ongoing training in relation to sustainable forest management, as a precondition for all planning and implementation of the management practices set out in this standard.

7.2.2 The organization shall document, implement and keep up to date an effective training programme for forest workers, according to their roles and responsibilities, covering at least the following topics:

- a) criteria and indicators and sustainable forest management policy established by the organisation and in accordance with this standard;
- b) the law applicable to management activities and how these compliance obligations apply to the respective organisation and activities;
- c) proper implementation of the tasks it performs and of the forestry operations, the occupational risks to which they are exposed and the preventive measures to preserve the health and safety of forestry workers in the performance of their activities;
- d) measures to protect identified priority conservation sites;
- e) identification, monitoring, prevention and management of harmful biological agents;

NOTE: pests, weeds, pathogens and livestock (overgrazing and ramoneo) are considered harmful biological agents, when this affects the health and vitality of forest resources.

- f) management of phytosanitary products and other chemicals and specific safety, personal and environmental measures;
- g) management of waste of all kinds generated in the forest management unit;
- h) prevention, early detection and control of forest fires;
- i) ILO fundamental labour Conventions and the rights and obligations of forest workers in the performance of their activities;
- j) the organization's commitment to equal opportunities for recruitment, training and promotion, the promotion of non-discrimination, the absence of workplace harassment and gender equity;

- k) unpermitted and/or illegal activities, preventive measures thereof and complaint mechanisms;
- l) procedure for resolving complaints and disputes relating to forest management operations, land use rights and working conditions;
- m) preventive and/or mitigation measures for negative social and environmental impacts of management activities on local communities and/or indigenous people; and
- n) changes in forest planning and operations, because of monitoring, where applicable.

7.2.3 The organization shall identify and define which training topics reach each job according to the responsibilities and functions.

7.2.4 The organization may define a methodology to evaluate the effectiveness of training.

7.3 Communication

7.3.1 Organization shall establish effective channels of communication and exchange of information with local communities, indigenous people and other affected stakeholders, related to the sustainable forest management it implements.

7.4 Complaints

7.4.1 The organization shall establish and implement an appropriate procedure for resolving complaints and disputes related to forest management operations, land use rights and working conditions. The organization shall keep records of the management of complaints and disputes.

7.5 Documented information

7.5.1 The organization's forest management system shall include the documented information required by this standard and determined by the organization itself as necessary for the effectiveness of the sustainable forest management system.

7.5.2 Documented information from the forest management unit shall include:

- a) the sustainable forest management plan;
- b) the procedures and other documents necessary to carry out sustainable forest management;
- c) the records.

7.5.3 Documented information shall be relevant and updated as appropriate to the activities of the organization.

7.5.4 The organization shall establish a procedure that allows the updating and approval of documents when necessary.

7.5.5 All documentation necessary for forest management shall be available at the places of use.

7.5.6 The organization shall identify and maintain records that provide evidence of compliance with the requirements of this sustainable forest management standard.

8 OPERATION

8.1 Criterion 1: Adequate maintenance or improvement of forests and their contribution to the global carbon cycle

8.1.1 The organization shall safeguard the quantity and quality of the forest resources of the forest management unit and their ability to store and sequester carbon in the medium and long term, using appropriate silvicultural treatment.

Indicators:

- a) the silvicultural treatments applied are based on the ecology of each site and on information obtained through the forest inventories of the forest management unit and ensure the productivity of the forest and its capacity to store and sequester carbon;
- b) in the absence of sufficient technical information on the ecology of the site, silvicultural treatments are defined on the basis of the precautionary principle and these promote that forest resources are sustainable in the long term..

8.1.2 The organization shall promote positive environmental practices in forestry operations, which aim at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and efficient use of resources.

Indicators:

- a) program implemented to prevent, detect and control early the occurrence of forest fires;

NOTE: A program involves an orderly series of actions aimed at achieving objectives. It shall specify roles, responsibilities, processes, resources, timelines, and priorities.

- b) avoidance of the use of fire for the treatment of forest residues;
- c) maintenance procedures of the vehicle fleet and all types of machinery used in the management of the forest that minimize the risks of environmental pollution.

8.1.3 The organization shall not carry out forest conversion unless it is carried out in justified and verified circumstances in which the forest conversion:

- a) complies with provincial and national legislation applicable to land use and forest land use, including consultation with stakeholders; and
- b) involves a small proportion (not exceeding 5%) of forest type within the certified area; and
- c) has no direct or indirect negative impacts on priority conservation sites or other protected areas; and
- d) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stocks; and
- e) makes a long-term contribution to economic, social and conservation benefits.

Indicators:

- a) planted forests established on a forest conversion carried out after 31 December 2010 in circumstances other than those set out in paragraph 8.1.3 as "justified and verified circumstances" are not eligible for certification;
- b) no forest conversion is carried out except where such forest conversion takes place in justified circumstances in which it is verified that
 - i. the organisation holds a land-use change authorisation granted by the enforcement authority which included consultation of stakeholders; and
 - ii. implies a small proportion (not exceeding 5%) of forest type within the certified area, and
 - iii. no direct and indirect negative impacts are identified in forest areas of ecological importance, areas of cultural and social importance or other protected areas; and
 - iv. no destruction of significantly high carbon stock areas is identified; and
 - v. a contribution to long-term conservation with economic, social and sustainable forest management benefits is identified.

8.1.4 The organization, in considering the conversion of degraded forests to planted forests, shall verify that such conversion adds economic, ecological, social and/or cultural value. It is a precondition for the addition of this value that the following circumstances in which the conversion is verified:

- a) complies with local, provincial and national legislation applicable to land use and territorial planning of forests; and
- b) is established on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to decision-making on this conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and
- c) has a positive impact on the long-term carbon sequestration capacity of forest vegetation; and
- d) has no negative impacts on priority conservation sites; and
- e) safeguards the socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services; and
- f) has a land use history of the forest management unit that has evidence that degradation is not the result of deliberate forest management malpractice; and
- g) is based on verifiable evidence showing that the area is not recovered or in the process of recovery.

Indicators

- a) the conversion of degraded native forests to planted forests is not carried out except where such conversion occurs in justified circumstances in which it is verified that:
 - i. holds a land-use change authorisation granted by the enforcement authority which included consultation of stakeholders; and

- ii. there are records of consultations with affected stakeholders where it is verified that they had opportunities to contribute to decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and
- iii. there is a positive impact on the long-term carbon sequestration capacity of forest vegetation; and
- iv. no negative impacts are verified on priority conservation sites; and
- v. the protective functions of forests for society and other regulatory or ecosystem support services are safeguarded; and
- vi. the socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services, are safeguarded; and
- vii. there is evidence that degradation is not the consequence of deliberate forest management mal-practices by the organization; and
- viii. there is credible evidence showing that the area is neither recovered nor in the process of recovery.

8.1.5 The organisation shall not carry out afforestation at priority conservation sites unless it is in justified and verified circumstances where the conversion:

- a) complies with local, provincial and national legislation applicable to land use; and
- b) is established on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and
- c) has no negative impacts on other threatened non-forest ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare or endangered), culturally and socially significant areas, important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas; and
- d) involves a small proportion of the existing priority conservation site within the forest management unit; and
- e) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stocks; and
- f) makes a long-term contribution to economic, social and conservation benefits.

Indicators:

- a) planted forests established on a conversion of priority sites for conservation carried out after 31 December 2010 in circumstances other than those set out in paragraph 8.1.5 as "justified and verified circumstances" are not eligible for certification;
- b) the conversion of priority conservation sites to planted forests is not carried out except where such conversion occurs in justified circumstances in which it is verified that:
 - i. holds, if applicable, a land-use change authorisation granted by the implementing authority which included consultation of stakeholders; and

- ii. involves a small proportion of the existing priority conservation site within the management unit; and
- iii. there are records of consultations with affected stakeholders where it is verified that they had opportunities to contribute to decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and
- iv. no negative impacts are identified on other threatened non-forest ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare or endangered ones), culturally and socially significant areas, important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas; and
- v. the conversion of significantly high carbon stock areas is not identified; and
- vi. identifies a contribution to long-term conservation with economic, social and sustainable forest management benefits.

8.1.6 The organization shall ensure adequate regeneration and/or reforestation in any area of forest harvested from the forest management unit in order to maintain the quality and quantity of forest resources.

Indicators:

- a) adequate regeneration, or adequate reforestation or adequate regeneration and reforestation is ensured throughout the area of forest harvested in the forest management unit;

NOTE. It is considered appropriate when it is verified that the regeneration of native forests and the establishment of plantations are effective and timely.

- b) the regeneration and/or reforestation of the harvested area is carried out at the appropriate time in such a way as to protect the environmental values of the area affected by the harvest;
- c) the species composition and density of regeneration of native forests and the degree of establishment of forest plantations are assessed and corrective measures are taken, when necessary, to ensure effective regeneration, or effective establishment or regeneration and establishments;

NOTE. Planted forests are also called forest plantations or afforestation.

- d) where appropriate, adequate measures are implemented to control livestock pressure on the regeneration of native forests and/or establishment of forest planting.

8.2 Criterion 2: Maintaining the health and vitality of forest ecosystems

8.2.1 The organization shall maintain or improve the health and vitality of forest ecosystems and should recover or restore degraded forests where and when technically possible and economically feasible, making the best use of natural structures and processes and using preventive biological measures.

Indicators:

- a) identification of the different forests present in the forest management unit, and their state of health and vitality;

- b) definition and implementation of actions to restore degraded forests, and to maintain the health and vitality of those that are not degraded.

8.2.2 The organization shall promote or maintain genetic, species and structural diversity appropriate to improve the stability, vitality and resistance of forests to adverse biotic and abiotic factors and strengthen natural regulatory mechanisms.

Indicators:

- a) planning and management promote the diversity of genotypes, species and ecosystems;
- b) management planning and implementation includes a diverse patchwork of ages, areas and/or cycles of regeneration or reforestation, appropriate to the size and uses of the forest management unit and the objectives set out in the forest management plan.

8.2.3 The use of fire shall be limited to regions where fire is an essential tool in forest management for re-generation, protection against forest fires and habitat management or a recognized practice of indigenous people. In these cases the organization shall implement all appropriate management and control measures for the use of fire.

Indicators:

- a) authorisation of the use of fire by the enforcement authority;
- b) documented and implemented procedure for the use of fire as a forest management tool that includes at least the technical justification, control measures, safety measures of workers assigned to this activity, identification and verification of compliance with applicable legal requirements and monitoring of affected areas;
- c) prior communication to the affected stakeholders concerned.

8.2.4 The organization shall implement forestry practices appropriate to local and justified peculiarities throughout management that ensure the health and vitality of forest resources.

Indicators:

- a) the definition of the silvicultural system used is based on the results of studies and research carried out under conditions similar to those of the forest management unit and ensures the maintenance of the health and vitality of forest resources;
- b) documented, updated and implemented procedures for forest production processes that include measures to minimize damage to the remaining forest and/or soil;
- c) the equipment, machinery and inputs used are appropriate to the local conditions of topography, soil, climate and characteristics of the forest resources managed and ensure the maintenance of the health and vitality of forest resources.

8.2.5 The organization shall implement a program for the reduction, reuse or proper treatment of waste of all kinds.

Indicators

- a) documented and implemented waste management procedure of all kinds including identification, sorting, transport and final disposal;
- b) hazardous waste, and other waste, including liquid effluents, generated by management, are treated in accordance with current legislation.

8.2.6 The organization shall plan and carry out the management of harmful biological agents following the guidelines of an integrated management, in order to evaluate and prefer appropriate forestry alternatives and other cultural and/or biological management measures, seeking to minimize the use of phytosanitary products.

Indicators:

- a) Identification of present and/or potential harmful biological agents that require management actions in the forest management unit.

NOTE. In the identification of potential harmful biological agents, pests, diseases and livestock (overgrazing and ramoneo) are considered when this affects the health and vitality of forest resources.

- b) documented and implemented procedure for the monitoring, prevention and management and control of harmful biological agents that considers the best available practices and ensures the maintenance of health and vitality of forest resources;

NOTE: The best practices available for the prevention and control of harmful biological agents include, but are not limited to giving preference, biological control measures, selection of forestry or mechanical systems / practices, compared to the use of phytosanitary products, according to the regulations established by the regulatory body of sanitary protection.

- c) actions and strategies to minimise the risks of introduction of harmful biological agents into the forest management unit and to prevent the increase in the incidence of existing ones;

NOTE. Strategies to minimize the risk of introduction of harmful biological agents may include but are not limited to the active participation of the organization in local and regional monitoring programs together with other forest producers and/or the enforcement authority, early communication to the enforcement authority when harmful biological agents are detected, etc.

- d) the use of phytosanitary products is limited to situations where there is no other economically and technically viable and effective management alternative.

8.2.7 The organization shall adopt a program of responsible use of phytosanitary products that ensures the maintenance of the health and vitality of forest resources.

Indicators:

- a) No WHO Type 1A and 1B phytosanitary products and other highly toxic phytosanitary products are used;
- b) no phytosanitary products, such as chlorinated hydrocarbons, the derivatives of which remain bio-logically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use, and any other phytosanitary products prohibited by international agreement;

NOTE: "Phytosanitary products prohibited by international agreements" are defined in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, to which Argentina is a signatory, ratified by Law No. 26,011.

- c) up-to-date registration of all phytosanitary products purchased, stored and used in the forest management unit including the product safety sheet;
- d) documented and implemented procedure for the transport, handling, use and appropriate storage of phytosanitary products and maintenance and cleaning of equipment used in accordance with the laws and regulations in force and the manufacturer's instructions, which ensures the maintenance of the health and vitality of forest resources;

NOTE: The organization may use as reference documentation for the development of this procedure the ILO Guide "Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work" for the transport, storage, handling, application and emergency procedures for the cleaning of active spills.

- e) the procedures implemented for the use of phytosanitary products consider the climatic, edaphic and topographic conditions and include actions to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts caused by their use.

8.2.8 When the use of fertilisers is justified, the organisation shall apply them in a controlled manner and with due regard for the environment. The use of fertilizers shall not be an alternative to the proper management of soil nutrients.

Indicators:

- a) the use of fertilisers is limited to situations where there is no other economically and technically viable and effective alternative;
- b) up-to-date record of fertilisers purchased, stored and used in the forest management unit.

NOTE. The record includes at least the following information: brand name, active ingredient, place of application and total area under application, total dose and quantity used, date of application, and frequency of use.

- c) documented and implemented procedure for the transport, handling, use and proper storage of fertilisers and maintenance and cleaning of equipment used in accordance with the laws and regulations in force, which ensures the maintenance of the health and vitality of forest resources;

NOTE: The organisation may use as reference documentation for the development of this procedure the ILO Guide "Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work" for the transport, storage, handling, application and emergency procedures for the cleaning of active spills.

- d) the procedures implemented for the use of fertilisers consider the climatic, edaphic and topographic conditions and include actions to prevent and mitigate the negative impacts caused by their use.

8.3 Criterion 3: Maintenance and promotion of the productive functions of forests

8.3.1 The organization shall maintain the capacity of forests to produce a variety of products and other services in a sustainable manner.

Indicators:

- a) identification of the products and other services generated by the forests present in the forest management unit.
- b) the management plan, based on the range of products and other services existing in the forest management unit, considers and foresees for mechanisms for their diversification;

- c) planning and implementation of actions aimed at maintaining or increasing the future value of the products and other services of the forest management unit..

8.3.2 The organisation shall implement forestry operations, including harvesting and forestry, reforestation and/or regeneration at a time and in a manner that does not reduce the productive capacity of the site.

Indicators:

- a) updated and implemented procedures for forest production processes, including harvesting and afforestation, reforestation and/or regeneration, which ensure the maintenance of the productiveness of the site;
- b) the equipment, machinery and inputs used are appropriate to the local conditions of topography, edaphic, climate and characteristics of the forest resources produced and ensure the maintenance of the productivity of the site;
- c) implementation of techniques and/or actions to minimize damage from forestry operations to the remaining forest;
- d) on-site harvest and processing residues are disposed of in the forest in such a way as to facilitate the natural cycling of nutrients, prevent erosion and maintain the productivity of the site.

8.3.3 The organisation shall establish levels of harvest or extraction of both wood and non-wood forest products that do not exceed a rate that can be maintained in the long term, and optimal use shall be made of the harvested products.

Indicators:

- a) the defined and used harvest rate maintains or increases the production of goods (wood and non-wood);

NOTE. The rate of harvest or extraction does not exceed the possibility of the forest, so that its quality and productivity are maintained or improved.

- b) the defined and used harvest rate is based on valid technical information and periodic inventory records;
- c) documented and implemented procedure for carrying out forest inventories;
- d) adoption of techniques to minimise residues of forest products associated with on-site harvesting and processing operations and to prevent losses.

8.4 Criterion 4: Maintenance, conservation and/or adequate enhancement of biological diversity in forest ecosystems

8.4.1 The organisation shall identify the priority sites for conservation present in the forest management unit.

Indicators:

- a) documented and implemented procedure for the identification of priority sites for conservation in the forest management unit;

NOTE: When the identification of priority sites for conservation is carried out, the protected areas already established, of any domain or jurisdiction, adjacent or that include in part or in whole the forest management unit are also considered.

- b) identification of sites defined as priorities for conservation in the mapping of the management plan and in the field.

8.4.2 For the identified priority conservation sites, the organisation shall define the conservation objectives and implement specific requirements, included in the management plan and based on the precautionary approach, that ensure the maintenance or increase of their values.

Indicators

- a) each priority site for conservation has specific management objectives that ensure the maintenance or increase of its values;
- b) buffer areas adjacent to priority conservation sites in the forest management unit;
- c) the presence of invasive tree and shrub species is monitored at priority conservation sites;
- d) the presence of livestock and invasive animal species is monitored at priority conservation sites.

8.4.3 The organisation shall define and implement specific non-harvesting measures for commercial purposes and protection for rare, vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered species, as well as their habitats, that contribute to their conservation.

NOTE: The requirement does not preclude trade in accordance with CITES requirements.

Indicators:

- a) procedures in place for the identification and registration of rare, vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered species and their habitats present in the forest management unit;

NOTE. In the identification of rare, vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered species for conservation, what is indicated by the red books or what is declared by the competent authority, among others, is taken into account.

- b) identification in the mapping of the management plan of rare, vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered species for conservation and their habitats;
- c) adoption of practices for the protection of rare, vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered species and their habitats during forestry operations;
- d) the extraction, cutting, hunting of any rare, vulnerable, endangered and critically endangered species for conservation is controlled;
- e) implemented procedure of registration and reporting to the competent authority, of the presence of unauthorized hunters, fishermen or gatherers within the forest management unit

8.4.4 The organisation shall use for afforestation and reforestation native or introduced species that are adapted to the conditions of the site. Only those introduced species, provenances or varieties

whose impacts on the ecosystem and on the genetic integrity of native species and local origins have been scientifically assessed shall be used, and whether the negative impacts can be avoided.

NOTE: The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for the prevention, introduction and mitigation of the impacts of alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species can be used as a guide to avoid invasive species.

Indicators:

- a) records of experience in the locality or region that the genetic material used for afforestation and reforestation is well adapted to the site and has not presented significant negative environmental impacts;
- b) records of all genetic material used in the forest management unit;
- c) updated and implemented procedure to monitor and evaluate the productive potential and possible environmental and economic impacts of the introduced genetic material;
- d) the use of genetically modified trees is expressly prohibited.

NOTE 1. The genetically modified tree is included in the definition of genetically modified organism (see 3.23)

NOTE 2. The restriction on the use of genetically modified trees has been adopted by the General Assembly of the PEFC Council based on the Precautionary Principle. Until there is sufficient scientific data on genetically modified trees to indicate that the impacts on human and animal health and the environment are equivalent to or more positive than those of genetically improved trees using traditional methods, genetically modified trees shall not be used.

NOTE 3. PEFC is the English acronym for the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

8.4.5 The organisation shall plan and execute afforestation, reforestation and other activities of the forest management unit in a manner that contributes to the maintenance, improvement and/or restoration of ecological connectivity.

Indicators:

- a) the planning and execution of planted forests and infrastructure works and services identify and respect the areas suitable for each use;
- b) the planning, design and management of planted forests and infrastructure works and services contributing to the maintenance, improvement and/or restoration of the connectivity of the natural systems of the forest management unit and the areas adjacent to it;

NOTE. The connectivity of natural systems or design of an interconnected landscape is achieved through adequately sized (functional) corridors that communicate patches remnants of the original native system and protected areas or priority sites for conservation, among themselves.

- c) in areas under management, the maintenance of native forest attributes is promoted, such as the presence of dead wood standing and falling, hollow trees, old groves and / or with rare tree species, as a habitat and refuge of biodiversity.

NOTE. These native forest attributes are called and known as legacy elements.

8.4.6 The organisation shall carry out forest operations in such a way as to minimize damage to the ecosystems present in the forest management unit and when technically and economically feasible practical measures are taken to maintain or improve biological diversity.

Indicators:

- a) procedures implemented for forestry operations including actions to minimise damage to biodiversity and ecosystems present in the forest management unit;
- b) evidence that areas bordering those covered by the management plan are not adversely affected by forestry operations.

8.4.7 The organization must plan and build infrastructure in a way that minimizes damage to priority sites for conservation, native ecosystems and forest resources present in the forest management unit.

Indicators

- a) in the planning and building of the infrastructure, such as the road network, the irrigation network, the drainage network, the storage areas, the buildings and works of art, prescriptions are adopted to minimize the damage to the priority sites for the conservation, native ecosystems and forest resources present in the forest management unit.

8.5 Criterion 5: Adequate maintenance or improvement of the protective functions of forests in forest management, in particular soil and water

8.5.1 The organisation shall identify and maintain or improve the forest protective functions of the forest management unit.

Indicators:

- a) identification in the mapping of areas of the forest management unit that perform specific protection functions;

NOTE 1: Among the protective functions of forests can be identified among others, their potential role in erosion control, flood prevention, water purification, climate regulation, carbon sequestration and other regulatory or supportive ecosystem services.

NOTE 2: The scale and level of detail of the cartography is appropriate to the size and use of the forest management unit.

- b) forestry operations are planned and implemented to maintain or improve the identified protective functions.

8.5.2 The organisation shall adopt effective measures to maintain and/or improve the soil quality of the forest management unit.

Indicators:

- a) adoption of techniques that consider the maintenance and / or improvement of soil quality;
- b) forestry operations are planned and equipment and technologies appropriate to the characteristics of slope, soil fragility and rainfall are planned and selected in order to minimise soil erosion and compaction and maintain its quality;

- c) damage to the ground caused by forestry operations that shall lead to erosion is mitigated or repaired prior to the closure of the task;
- d) taking measures to minimise livestock pressure on sensitive soils and areas prone to erosion and compaction;
- d) in the use of chemical products, measures are taken to minimise soil contamination;

NOTE. Chemical products include, but are not limited to, the variety of phytosanitary products, herbicides, fuel and lubricants that are used in the forest management unit.

- e) response procedures to soil pollution emergencies resulting from forestry operations, which provide for mechanisms to mitigate negative impacts.

8.5.3 The organisation shall plan and implement forestry operations to maintain the quality and availability of water resources.

Indicators:

- a) the organisation knows and considers in the planning of forestry operations the water uses of local communities in the area of influence of the forest management unit;
- b) the planning, construction and maintenance of the road network, irrigation network, drainage network, roadworks and any works involving significant earth and water movements, including, where appropriate, requirements for:
 - i. minimise exposure to bare soil,
 - ii. minimize erosion and sediment entrainment into streams and bodies of water, and
 - iii. preserve the natural level and function of water courses and their beds;
- c) installation and maintenance of energy dissipaters and/or other facilities for the proper drainage of forest roads;
- d) buffer strips on the banks of water courses or bodies of water which contribute to the maintenance of the quality of water resources;
- e) procedures to prevent or mitigate the fall of crop waste into streams or bodies of water that contribute to the maintenance of the quality of water resources;
- f) in the use of chemicals products, measures are taken to minimize contamination of water resources;

NOTE. Chemical products include, but are not limited to, the variety of pesticides, herbicides, fuels and lubricants that are used in the forest management unit.

- g) response procedures to water pollution emergencies resulting from forestry operations, which provide for mechanisms to mitigate negative impacts

8.6 Criterion 6: Maintenance or adequate improvement of socio-economic functions and conditions

8.6.1 The organisation shall know and respect the uses, customs and rights of the local community and/or the indigenous people where the forest management unit is inserted and shall seek to improve the quality of life of forest workers, the local community and indigenous people.

Indicators:

- a) the organisation is aware of the social situation of local communities and/or indigenous people and respects their customs and rights;
- b) the organisation identifies, respects and protects sites of special cultural, spiritual and/or historical significance for local communities and/or indigenous people;
- c) the organisation identifies and evaluates the social aspects and impacts associated with the activities of the forest management unit;
- d) the organisation implements procedures to prevent and mitigate negative impacts on the local community and/or indigenous people, associated with the activities of the forest management unit;
- e) the organisation implements a procedure for compensation for direct damages to individuals, local communities and/or indigenous people resulting from the activities of the forest management unit;
- f) the organisation implements a procedure for communicating to the local community and/or the indigenous people about the realization and risks associated with forestry operations;
- g) the organisation implements conflict resolution procedures in a participatory manner, where all the interests involved are considered.

8.6.2 The organisation shall know and respect the rights of possession and management of the lands and resources of the indigenous people who inhabit the area of influence of the forest management unit.

Indicators:

- a) the organisation knows and respects the rights of indigenous people living in the area of influence of the forest management unit;
- b) the organisation recognizes the lands and territories achieved by the rights of the indigenous people and these are clearly demarcated in the mapping of the management plan and in the field;
- c) identification and measures of protection, agreed between the parties, of the places of special cultural, religious and economic significance of the indigenous people and these are clearly delimited in mapping and in the field;
- d) the organisation identifies and respects the traditional knowledge of indigenous people;
- e) the organisation only uses the knowledge identified in paragraph 8.6 2.1d) when the recognized owners of the traditional knowledge, having gone through a process of consultation and participation, have given their free, prior and informed consent formalized through a documented binding agreement;

- f) the organization adequately compensates the indigenous peoples for any use of this knowledge in accordance with the provisions of previous binding agreements;
- g) the organisation allows access to the lands of the forest management unit to indigenous people and other members of the local community, when they have traditionally had access to the same, for their traditional and subsistence activities;
- h) traditional activities carried out in the management unit by indigenous people and other members of the local community are agreed upon and take into account respect for the organisation's property rights, the security and rights of individuals, the effects on forest and non-forest resources and ecosystems; as well as compatibility with the other functions of the forest.
- i) the organisation implements procedures to avoid and resolve conflicts with the indigenous people where the particular negotiating characteristics of the parties involved are respected.

8.6.3 The organisation shall promote actions that lead to the development of local communities and/or indigenous people.

Indicators:

- a) actions that promote or support development enterprises, health programs and education in forestry and environmental issues together with local communities and / or indigenous people;
- b) members of the local community and/or indigenous people, under equal conditions of suitability, have priority in recruitment and employment and opportunities for promotion and training;
- c) the organisation supports the maintenance and improvement of local infrastructure;
- d) on equal market terms, priority is given to the sale of forest products from the forest management unit to local processing industries, where this does not affect the commercial objectives of the forest management unit..

8.6.4 The organisation shall contribute to and/or support research activities and data collection necessary for sustainable forest management or support relevant research activities carried out by other organisations, as appropriate.

Indicators

- a) registration of actions to support and/or support research activities.

9 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

9.1 Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation

9.1.1 The organisation shall implement a program of periodic monitoring of the forest resources of the forest management unit and its management, which includes at least the following elements:

- a) compliance with the applicable legal requirements and with the policies, procedures, instructions and codes of good practice subscribed or defined for the forest management unit;
- b) compliance with the management plan and its objectives;

- c) the yield of all forest products (wood and non-wood) harvested and/or produced;
- d) the health and vitality of forests, especially key biotic and abiotic factors that potentially affect the health and vitality of forest ecosystems, such as pests, diseases, overgrazing and overpopulation, fires and climate damage;
- e) the most significant environmental, social and economic aspects and impacts of forestry operations;
- f) the priority sites for conservation and the specific protective functions identified for the forests of the forest management unit;
- g) working conditions and the training plan;
- h) the performance of forest service providers, including compliance with legal requirements and policies, procedures, instructions and codes of good practice subscribed to or defined for the forest management unit;
- i) economic and financial performance.

9.1.2 The organisation shall evaluate and use the results of the monitoring program to adjust the planning process.

9.1.3 The organisation shall implement a procedure for the traceability and quantification of all forest products from their origin, whether from the organisation's own forests or from third parties, which includes at least:

- a) the unique and precise identification and recording of the identity, quantity and origin of all forest products (wood and non-wood) harvested and/or produced;

NOTE: The register includes the description of the products, the quantity, the origin of the material used (forest and forest management unit) and the date of harvest or production.

- b) verification of origin and volume in proportion to planned annual production;
- c) the tracking of forest products from their point of harvest to their place of sale or destination;;
- d) the registration of transport and/or sales documents.

9.2 Internal audit

9.2.1 Objectives

9.2.1.1 The organisation shall establish and implement an internal audit program at planned intervals that provides information on whether the forest management system:

- a) is in accordance with::
 - i. the organisation's requirements for its forest management system, and
 - ii. the requirements of this sustainable forest management standard; and

b) is effectively implemented and maintained.

9.2.1.2 The organisation that integrates a forest management certification group may comply with the requirements defined in 9.2.1 and 9.2.2 with the internal audit program established and implemented for that forest management certification group.

9.2.2 Internal audit programme

9.2.2.1 The organisation shall:

- a) plan, establish, implement and maintain an audit programme that includes the frequency, methods, responsibilities, planning requirements and reporting, and which shall take into account the importance of the processes concerned and the results of the previous audits;
- b) define the audit criteria and the scope of each audit;
- c) select auditors and conduct audits in such a way as to ensure the objectivity and impartiality of the audit process;
- d) ensure that the results of the audits are reported to the relevant management;
- e) retain documented information as evidence of the implementation of the audit program and the results of the audit.

9.3 Management review

9.3.1 The organisation shall conduct an annual management review that includes at least:

- a) the status of the actions of the reviews by the above management;
- b) changes in external and internal matters that are relevant to the forest management system;
- c) information on the performance of the organisation, including trends in:
 - i. non-conformities and corrective actions;
 - ii. monitoring and measurement results (monitoring programme);
 - iii. the results of the audit where applicable;
- d) opportunities for continuous improvement.

9.3.2 The organisation shall include in the results of the management review decisions related to opportunities for continuous improvement and any need for changes in the forest management system.

9.3.3 The organisation shall record and retain the information resulting from the reviews by the management.

10 IMPROVEMENT

10.1 Non-conformity and corrective action

10.1.1 The organisation, when a non-conformity occurs, shall:

- a) react to the non-conformity and, where appropriate:
 - i. take measures to control and correct;
 - ii. deal with the consequences;
- b) assess the need for action to eliminate the causes of non-conformity, so that it does not recur or occur elsewhere, by:
 - i. assess the non-conformity;
 - ii. determine the causes of the non-conformity;
 - iii. determine whether similar non-conformities exist, or that may potentially occur;
- c) implement any necessary action;
- d) review the effectiveness of any corrective action taken;
- e) make changes to the management system, if necessary.

10.1.2 The organisation shall implement corrective actions that are appropriate for the purposes of the nonconformities found.

10.1.3 The organisation shall maintain records of:

- a) the nature of the non-conformities and any subsequent action taken;
- b) the results of any corrective action.

10.2 Continuous improvement

The organisation shall continuously improve the adequacy, adequacy and effectiveness of the forest management system and sustainable forest management.

Annex A (Normative)

PEFC Declarations

A.1 PEFC Declarations

A.1.1 The organization that holds a PEFC-recognized and current certificate of sustainable forest management in accordance with the requirements of this standard can communicate to its clients the origin of the products included in the scope of its certificate using the declarations “100% PEFC certified” and/or or “100% PEFC origin”.

NOTE 1. PEFC is the English acronym for the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

NOTE 2. A PEFC recognized certificate of sustainable forest management is a valid accredited certificate issued by a notified certification body against a forest management system/standard that is recognized by PEFC.

NOTE 3. The forest certification schemes recognised by PEFC can be found on the PEFC website <http://pefc.org/>

A.1.2 The organization shall verify and record that only the products included within the scope of its valid and recognized certificate, issued in accordance with the requirements of this sustainable forest management standard, are marketed with the PEFC claim.

A.2 PEFC declaration of output products

A.2.1 For output products for which the organization makes a PEFC declaration to a client, it shall provide the client with documentation containing the following information for each delivery:

- (a) identification of the PEFC client;
- b) the name of the organisation as the supplier of the material;
- c) identification of the product;
- d) quantity of product(s);
- e) delivery date / delivery period / accounting period;
- f) the PEFC declaration applicable specifically for each declared product covered by the documentation;
- g) the certificate number of the organisation's recognised PEFC certificate

NOTE. The certificate number is a numeric or alphanumeric combination that is a unique identifier of the certificate.

A.2.2 The organisation shall specify the type of documentation in which PEFC declarations are made for output products

A.3 Use of the PEFC trademark

A.3.1 The use of PEFC trademarks, i.e. the PEFC logo and labels, PEFC declarations and initials PEFC, shall comply with the international standard PEFC ST 2001 – Rules for PEFC Marks – Requirements, in force.

A.3.2 In order to allow the organization to use the PEFC trademarks in accordance with the PEFC Trademark Rules, the organization shall sign a valid license for the PEFC trademark with CERFOAR PEFC Argentina – Association.

NOTE 1. The CERFOAR PEFC Argentina - Association is the non-profit civil association responsible for the administration of the Argentine Forest Certification System.

NOTE 2. CERFOAR - PEFC Argentina is the Argentine Forest Certification System.

Annex B (Informative)

National Legal Framework applicable to the forest management unit

This Informative Annex presents a non-exhaustive list of the legal requirements, at the level of national laws and decrees, applicable to the forest management unit and does not remove the responsibility of the organization that implements this standard to identify and apply all applicable laws or regulations as appropriate or the updates thereof.

NOTE. To highlight the aspect inherent to the forest management unit in some of the laws listed, the titles, summaries or part of the articles are indicated.

B.1 National Constitution

- **Law Nº 24.430.** Publication of the official text of the National Constitution sanctioned in 1853 with the reforms of the years 1860, 1866, 1898, 1957 and 1994). Enacted: January 3, 1995.

B.2 National Forest Legislation

- **Law Nº 13.273/48.** Law for the defence of forest wealth.
- **Law Nº 24.857/97.** Fiscal stability law for forest plantations.
- **Law Nº 25.080/99.** Investment Law for planted forests

NOTE 1. Decree No. 133/99. Regulates Law No. 25.080

NOTE 2. Modified by Law No. 26.432/08

NOTE 3. Modified by Law No. 27.487/19.

- **Law Nº 26.331/07.** Law of Minimum Specifications for Environmental Protection of Native Forests.

NOTE. Decree 91/09. Regulates Law No. 26.331.

- **Resolution 230/2012 COFEMA.** Native Forests: Mapping of Native Forests. Federal Environment Council (COFEMA)

B.3 National legislation related to land tenure and use rights

- **Law Nº 25.509/01.** Law that creates the real right of forest area.
- **Law Nº 26.737/11.** Law for the protection of the national domain over the property, possession or tenure of rural lands.

NOTE: Decree No. 274/12. Regulates Law No. 26.737.

B.4 National tax and commercial legislation

- **Law Nº 19.550/72.** Commercial companies.
- **Law Nº 20.247/73.** Seeds and phytogenetic creations.

NOTE. Decree 2.183/91 New regulation of Law No. 20.247. Registration in the National Registry of Cultivars of new or unpublished varieties according to Article 18 of this decree.

- **Law Nº 22.415/81.** Custom code.
- **Law Nº 23.349/86.** Value Added Tax Law.

NOTE. Decree No. 280/97. Approves the ordered text of Law No. 23.349 on value added tax (VAT).

- **Law Nº 25.784/03.** Income tax law.

NOTE. Decree No. 649/97. Approves the ordered text of Law No. 25.784 on income tax.

- **Law Nº 26.994/14.** Civil and Commercial Code of the Nation.
- **Resolution General Nº 631/14.** National Value Commission. Cooperation in tax matters between the Argentine Republic and other countries.

B.5 National legislation linked to protected sites and species

- **Law Nº 20.961/75.** Prohibition of the hunting of the rhea and the guanaco.
- **Law Nº 22.351/80.** Areas of the territory of the republic may be declared national reserves, natural monuments for their beauty, flora or fauna, or due to scientific interest. National Parks.
- **Law Nº 22.421/81.** Wildlife conservation. Legal system throughout the territory of the republic.

NOTE. Decree No. 691/81. Regulates Law No. 22.421.

- **Law Nº 24.702/96.** Establishes as natural monuments various species of Andean deer.
- **Law Nº 25.463/01.** Declared a Natural Monument to *Panthera onca* known as Yaguareté, jaguar, overo tiger, painted onca.
- **Law Nº 25.679/03.** Declares of national interest the breeding of the shorty rhea and choique and the Andean choique or suri throughout the nation's territory.
- **Law Nº 25.743/03.** Protection of the archaeological and paleontological heritage.

B.6 National environmental legislation

- **Law Nº 20.284/73.** Plan for the prevention of critical situations of air pollution.
- **Law Nº 22.428/81.** Promotion of soil conservation
- **Law Nº 23.879/90.** The executive power will proceed to carry out the evaluation of the environmental consequences that each of the dams built, under construction and/or planned, whether national or extra-national, produce or could produce in Argentine territory.
- **Law Nº 24.051/92.** Hazardous Waste Law.

NOTE. Decree No. 831/93. Regulates Law No. 24.051/92.

- **Law Nº 24.430/95.** National Constitution. Art. 41 “All inhabitants enjoy the right to a healthy, balanced environment, suitable for human development and for productive activities to satisfy present needs without compromising those of future generations; and they have a duty to preserve it. Environmental damage will give priority to the obligation to repair, as established by law. The authorities will provide for the protection of this right, the rational use of natural resources, the preservation of the natural and cultural heritage and biological diversity, and environmental information and education. It corresponds to the Nation to dictate the norms that contain the minimum protection budgets, and to the provinces, those necessary to complement them, without altering the local jurisdictions”.
- **Law Nº 25127/99.** Ecological, biological or organic production.
- **Law Nº 25.675/02.** General environmental law.

NOTE 1. Decree No. 2413/02. Enacts Law No. 25.675/02.

NOTE 2. Decree No. 481/03. Designates the enforcement authority of Law No. 25.675.

- **Law Nº 25.688/02.** Minimum environmental specifications for the preservation of water, its use and rational use. Use of the waters. Surface water basin. River basin committees.
- **Law Nº 25.831/04.** Free access regime to environmental public information.
- **Law Nº 25.841/04.** Approves the framework agreement on the environment of MERCOSUR.
- **Law Nº 25.916/04.** Minimum specifications for environmental protection for the comprehensive management of household waste. General disposition. Competent authorities. Generation and Initial Disposition. Re-collection and Transport. Treatment, Transfer and Final Disposition. Interjurisdictional coordination. Application authority. Infringements and sanctions. Supplementary Provisions.
- **Law Nº 26.562/09.** Minimum specifications for environmental protection to control burning activities throughout the national territory.
- **Law Nº 26.815/13** Federal Fire Management System. Creation. National Fire Management Law.
- **Law Nº 27.233/15** Animal and Plant Health.
- **Law Nº 27.279/16.** Minimum specifications for environmental protection for the management of empty phytosanitary containers, due to the toxicity of the product they contained, requiring differentiated and conditioned management.

NOTE: Decree No. 134/2018. Regulates Law No. 27.279/16.

- **Law Nº 27.353/17.** Incorporates into Law No. 26.815 Art. 22 bis: In case of fires of native forest surfaces, no modifications may be made in the use and destination that said surfaces had prior to the fire, according to the conservation categories assigned by the territorial ordering of the corresponding jurisdiction.

B.7 National Legislation Linked to Indigenous Peoples

- **Law Nº 23.302/85.** Law on Indigenous Policy and support for Indigenous Communities. Goals. Indigenous communities. National Institute of Indigenous Affairs. Land Allocation. Education, Health and Housing Plans.

NOTE 1. Regulatory Decree No. 155/89. Regulates Law No. 23.302.

NOTE 2. Article 5 of Law No. 23.302 establishes the creation of the National Institute for Indigenous Affairs (INAI) as a decentralized entity with indigenous participation. INAI is the entity responsible for developing and coordinating public policies to guarantee community development, the right to health and education, access to land, and the preservation of indigenous cultural identities. In turn, it promotes the participation of communities in the design and management of State policies that involve them, respecting their forms of traditional organization and their values. INAI promotes and protects the rights of the indigenous peoples of Argentina.

– **Law Nº 24.430/95.** National Constitution article 75:

ARTICLE 17: Recognize the ethnic and cultural pre-existence of the Argentine indigenous peoples. Guarantee respect for their identity and the right to a bilingual and intercultural education; recognize the legal status of their communities, and the communal possession and ownership of the lands they traditionally occupy; and regulate the delivery of others suitable and sufficient for human development; none of them will be alienable, transferable or subject to liens or attachments. Ensure their participation in the management of their natural resources and other interests that affect them. The provinces can concurrently exercise these powers.

ARTICLE 22: Approve or reject treaties concluded with other nations and with international organizations and concordats with the Holy See. Treaties and concordats have a higher hierarchy than laws. The American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man; the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the American Convention on Human Rights; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocol; the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; in the conditions of their validity, they have constitutional hierarchy, do not repeal any article of the first part of this Constitution and must be understood as complementary to the rights and guarantees recognized by it.

– **Law Nº 26.160/06.** Indigenous communities. Emergency in terms of possession and ownership of land.

NOTE. Decree No. 1,122/07. Regulates Law No. 26.160.

– **Law Nº 26.554/09.** Extension of the terms established in Law No. 26.160.

– **Law Nº 26.894/13.** Extension of Law No. 26.160.

– **Decree Nº 700/10.** Commission for the analysis and instrumentation of indigenous community property.

– **Law Nº 26.994/14** Approval of the Civil and Commercial Code of the Nation:

ARTICLE 14.- Individual rights and collective incidence. This Code recognizes:

a) individual rights;

b) rights of collective incidence.

The law does not protect the abusive exercise of individual rights when it may affect the environment and the rights of collective incidence in general.

ARTICLE 18.- Rights of indigenous communities. The recognized indigenous communities have the right to communal possession and ownership of the lands they traditionally occupy and of those others suitable and sufficient for human development as established by law, in accordance with the provisions of article 75, paragraph 17 of the National Constitution. .

ARTICLE 225.- Property by its nature. The soil, the things incorporated into it in an organic way and those found under the ground without the act of man, are immovable by their nature.

ARTICLE 240.- Limits to the exercise of individual rights over assets. The exercise of individual rights over the goods mentioned in Sections 1 and 2 must be compatible with the rights of collective incidence. It must comply with the national and local administrative law regulations dictated in the public interest and must not affect the functioning or sustainability of the ecosystems of flora, fauna, biodiversity, water, cultural values, landscape, among others, according to the criteria established in the special law

- **Decree 700/2010** Create the Commission for the Analysis and Instrumentation of Indigenous Community Property.
- **Law Nº 27.118/14.** Family, Peasant and Indigenous Farming is declared of public interest. Historical Repair Regime. Creation.

B.8 National legislation linked to social and labour rights

- **Law Nº 20.392/73.** Prohibition of establishing differences in remuneration between female and male work.
- **Law Nº 20.744/74.** Labour contract regime.

NOTE. Decree 390/76. Approves the ordered text of Law No. 20.744.

- **Law Nº 23.592/88.** Measures for those who arbitrarily prevent the full exercise of the fundamental rights and guarantees recognized in the national constitution.
- **Law Nº 23.660/89.** Social work system.
- **Law Nº 23.661/89.** National health insurance system.
- **Law Nº 24.241/93.** Integrated retirement and pension system.
- **Law Nº 24.415/95.** National Institute against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism.
- **Law Nº 24.576/95.** Law employment contract.

NOTE. Amends Title II of Law No. 20.744/74 on Employment Contracts, adding Chapter VIII.

- **Law Nº 25.191/99.** Creates the national registry of rural workers and employers. The use of a rural worker passbook is declared compulsory.

NOTE 1: Decree 453/01. Approve the regulations of Law No. 25.191. Regulation of Law No. 25.191, modified by Law No. 26.727 on the agrarian work regime. Modification of the National Registry of Agricultural Workers and Employers (RENATEA)).

- **Law Nº 25.608/02.** Amends Law No. 23.592 on measures for those who arbitrarily prevent the full exercise of fundamental rights and guarantees recognized in the national constitution.
- **Decree Nº 1086/05.** Approves the national plan against discrimination.
- **Law Nº 26.088/06.** Replaces article 66 of Law No. 20744 (t.o. 1976), in relation to the employer's power to introduce changes related to the form and modalities of the provision of work.
- **Law Nº 26.222/06.** Amends Law No. 24.241, establishing the free option of the Retirement Regime.
- **Law Nº 26.390/08.** Prohibition of child labour and protection of adolescent labour.
- **Law Nº 26.727/11.** Agricultural work regime.

NOTE. Decree No. 301/13. Approves the regulations of Law No. 26.727.

- **Decree Nº 1.014/16.** Declares the reorganization of the National Registry of Agricultural Workers and Employers (RENATEA), and the reestablishment of the National Registry of Rural Workers and Employers (RENATRE) as of 01/01/2017.
- **Decree Nº 1.117/16.** Determines the types of work, activities, occupations and tasks that constitute hazardous work for people under eighteen (18) years of age.
- **Decree Nº 698/2017.** National Agency for Disability and National Institute for Women (INAM) – Creation

B.9 National legislation related to occupational health and safety

- **Law Nº 19.587/72.** Health and safety at work.

NOTE. Decree No. 351/79. Regulates Law No. 19.587 on hygiene and safety at work.

- **Decree Nº 351/79.** Hygiene Conditions in Work Environments.
- **Law Nº 24.557/95.** Job risk.

NOTE 1. Decree No. 170/96. Regulates Law No. 24.557 on occupational risks. Obligations of the social actors in terms of prevention.

NOTE 2. Decree No. 1278/2000. Amends Law No. 24.557. In terms of prevention, art. 1 replaces sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of art. 4 of Law No. 24.557.

NOTE 3. Decree No. 410/2001. Regulation of Law No. 24.557 on work risk. Its article 1 (regulatory to article 4 of the Occupational Risk Law and its amendments) establishes: "The Occupational Risk Superintendence (SRT) is empowered to determine the criteria and parameters for rating companies or establishments considered critical, providing , for this purpose, the implementation of special programs on the prevention of labour misfortunes".

NOTE 4. Decree No. 762/2014. Regulates Law No. 24.557 on occupational hazards and its amendments, temporary service companies and user companies.

- **Law Nº 25.212/2000.** Ratification of the general labour agreement.
- **Law Nº 26.773/14.** Repair of damages derived from work accidents and professional illnesses.

NOTE. Decree No. 472/14. Approves the regulations of Law No. 26.773. Empowers the Superintendence of Occupational Risk (SRT) to dictate the complementary regulations.

- **Law Nº 26.940/2014.** Promotion of registered work and prevention of labour fraud.

NOTE. Decree No. 1714/2014. Regulates Law No. 26.940. Public registry of employers with labour sanctions. Rates of the work risk regime, criteria and parameters on high accident rate. Functions of the monitoring committee.

- **Law Nº 26.727/11.** Approves the Agricultural Work Regime. Title VII: Safety and risks at work.
- **Decree Nº 658/96.** Approves the list of occupational diseases, provided for in art. 6th, inc. 2 of Law No. 24.557/95
- **Decree Nº 1.338/96.** Medicine and hygiene and safety services at work. Equivalent workers. Repeals Titles II and VIII of Decree No. 351/79. Art. 11 modified by article 24 of Decree 491/1997.
- **Decree Nº 617/97.** Approves the hygiene and safety regulations for agricultural activity.
- **Decree Nº 1167/03.** Modifies the list of occupational diseases provided for in art. 6th, inc. 2, app. a) of Law No. 24.557/95.
- **Resolution Nº 11/11** of the National Agricultural Work Commission (CNTA). General working conditions for temporary, cyclical and seasonal agricultural workers.
- **Decree Nº 49/14.** Modifies the list of occupational diseases provided for in art. 6th, inc. 2, app. a) of Law No. 24.557/95. Replaces annex I of decree 659/96 (work disability assessment table). Amends decree 590/97.
- **Decree Nº 1.475/15.** Determination of contingencies and disabilities. Intervention of the medical commissions. Procedure and resources. Amends Decree No. 717/96..
- **Resolution 299/11 SRT.** Adopt regulations that seek the provision of reliable personal protection elements to workers

B.10 National legislation related to transport

- **Law Nº 24.449/95.** National Traffic Law.

NOTE 1: Decree 646/95. Regulation of the National Traffic Law No. 24.449/95

NOTE 2. Decree 779/95. The regulations of Law No. 24.449/95 on Traffic and Road Safety are approved, in accordance with the following detail: Annex I, Annexes A to U and Annex II.

NOTE 3. Decree 779/95 - Annex N - Ñ. Regulates Traffic Law No. 24.449/95. Annex N - Ñ: Vehicles must comply with the limits on the emission of pollutants, noise and parasitic radiation.

B.11 National anti-corruption and access to information legislation

- **Law Nº 25.825/03.** Corruption penalty. Substitution of Art. 258 bis of the criminal code
- **Law Nº 27.401/17.** It establishes the Criminal Responsibility Regime for legal entities, and punishes corporate corruption for crimes of bribery, influence peddling, illegal exactions, illicit enrichment, among others.

NOTE. Decree No. 986/17. Enacts Law No. 27.401.

- **Law Nº 27.275/16.** Incorporates the Right of Access to Public Information, in order to guarantee the effective exercise of the right of access to public information, promote citizen participation and transparency of public management.

B.12 International conventions and treaties of which the Argentine Republic is a signatory

B.12.1 Conventions and treaties related to environmental issues

- **Law Nº 21.663/77.** Approves the agreement on prevention and control of professional risks caused by carcinogenic substances or agents.
- **Law Nº 22.344/80.** Approval of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

NOTE. Decree 522/97. Regulation of Law No. 22.344/80.

- **Law Nº 23.724/89.** Approval of the Vienna Convention for the protection of the ozone layer
- **Law Nº 23.778/90.** Approval of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer
- **Law Nº 23.918/91.** Approval of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals.
- **Law Nº 23.919/91.** Approval of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as habitats for waterfowl. (RAMSAR Convention).
- **Law Nº 23.922/91.** Approval of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.
- **Law Nº 24.295/93.** Approval of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- **Law Nº 24.375/94.** Approval of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- **Law Nº 24.701/96.** Approval of the United Nations Convention on combating desertification in countries affected by severe drought or desertification.
- **Law Nº 26.106/99.** Approval of the amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.
- **Law Nº 25.278/00.** Approval of the Rotterdam Convention on the prior informed consent procedure for pesticides.
- **Law Nº 25.335/00.** Approval of the amendments to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, Ramsar 1971, adopted by the Extraordinary Conference of the Contracting Parties in the city of Regina, Canada; and the ordered text of the Convention on Wetlands.
- **Law Nº 25.438/01.** Approval of the Kyoto Protocol of the United Nations framework convention on climate change.
- **Law Nº 26.011/05.** Approval of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

B.12.2 Conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO)

The Argentine Republic is a member of the International Labour Organization since June 28, 1919.

– **C011 - Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on May 26, 1936.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 23.551/88 Trade Union Associations.

– **C012 - Workmen's Compensation (Agriculture) Convention, 1921.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on May 26, 1936.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 22.248/81 National Agrarian Work Regime, Article 54.

– **C017 - Workmen's Compensation Convention, 1925.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on March 14, 1950.

– NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through Law No. 24.557/95 Accidents and risks at work.

– **C018 - Occupational Diseases Convention, 1925.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on September 24, 1956.

NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through Law No. 24.557/95 Accidents and risks at work, Article 1 – Subsection b).

– **C019 - Equality of Treatment (Accident Compensation) Convention, 1925**

NOTE 1. Ratified on March 14, 1950.

– NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through Law No. 24.557/95 Occupational Accidents and Risks, Article 6 – Subsection 3) and Law No. 22.248/81 Agricultural Work Regime, Article 6.

– **C029 - Forced Labour Convention, 1930.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on March 14, 1950.

NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through the National Constitution, Article 14 bis and Article 15.

NOTE 3. The Administrative Council of the International Labour Office has identified eight conventions qualifying them as fundamental to guarantee the rights of human beings at work and is known under the term "fundamental standards" at work. Convention 29 integrates the eight fundamental labour conventions.

– **C042 - Occupational Diseases Convention (Revised), 1934.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on February 17, 1955.

NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through Law No. 24.557/95 Accidents and risks at work, Article 1 – Subsection b).

– **C052 - Holidays with Pay Convention, 1936.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on March 14, 1950.

NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through Law No. 20.774/74. Employment contract regime, Title V, Chapter 1, Article 150 1 157.

– **C081 - Labour Inspection Convention, 1947.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on February 17, 1955.

NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through Decree 77/96. Assign the Ministry of La-bor and Social Security the functions of superintendence and central authority throughout the national territory.

– **C087 - Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on January 18, 1960.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through the National Constitution, Article 14 bis and Law No. 23.551/88 Trade Union Associations.

NOTE 3. The Administrative Council of the International Labour Office has identified eight conventions qualifying them as fundamental to guarantee the rights of human beings at work and are known under the term "fundamental standards" at work. Convention 87 integrates the eight fundamental labour conventions.

– **C098 - Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on September 24, 1956.

NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through Law No. 24.185/92 Collective labour agreements

NOTE 3. The Administrative Council of the International Labour Office has identified eight conventions qualifying them as fundamental to guarantee the rights of human beings at work and are known under the term "fundamental standards" at work. Convention 98 integrates the eight fundamental labour conventions.

– **C100 - Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on September 24, 1956

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework by means of the National Constitution, Article 14 bis, Law No. 20.392/73 Article and Law No. 24.576/95 of the Employment Contract Law, Title II, Chapter VIII.

NOTE 3. The Administrative Council of the International Labour Office has identified eight conventions qualifying them as fundamental to guarantee the rights of human beings at work and are known under the term "fundamental standards" at work. Convention 100 integrates the eight fundamental labour conventions.

– **C105 - Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on January 18, 1960.

NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through the National Constitution, Article 14 bis and Article 15.

NOTE 3. The Administrative Council of the International Labour Office has identified eight conventions qualifying them as fundamental to guarantee the rights of human beings at work and are known under the term "fundamental standards" at work. Convention 105 integrates the eight fundamental labour conventions.

– **C111 - Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on June 18, 1968.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through the National Constitution, Article 16, Law No. 20.744, Articles 17 and 18, Law No. 23.592/88 on criminalization of discriminatory acts and Law No. 25.877/04 , Article 41.

NOTE 3. The Administrative Council of the International Labour Office has identified eight conventions qualifying them as fundamental to guarantee the rights of human beings at work and are known under the term "fundamental standards" at work. Convention 111 integrates the eight fundamental labour conventions.

– **C129 - Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on June 20, 1985.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework by means of Law No. 25.877/04 on labour regulations, Chapter 4 and Law No. 22.248/81 on the national agrarian labour regime.

– **C138 - Minimum Age Convention, 1973.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on November 11, 1996.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 24.650/96, which approves ILO Convention 138 on minimum age, adopted at the 58th Meeting of the International Labour Conference, and Law No. 26.390/ 08 that prohibits child labour and establishes the protection of adolescent la-bor.

NOTE 3. The Administrative Council of the International Labour Office has identified eight conventions qualifying them as fundamental to guarantee the rights of human beings at work and are known under the term "fundamental standards" at work. Convention 138 integrates the eight fundamental labour conventions.

– **C150 - Labour Administration Convention, 1978.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on February 20, 2004.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 24.650/96, which approves ILO Convention 150 on Labour Administration: Mission, Functions and Organization.

– **C154 - Collective Bargaining Convention, 1981.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on January 29, 1993.

NOTE 2. Incorporated in the national legal framework through Law No. 24.185/92 Collective labour agreements.

– **C155 - Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on January 13, 2014.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 24.557/95 (Modified by Decree 1.278/00 and Law No. 26.773/12 and its supplements).

– **C156 – Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on March 17, 1998.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 23.451/86, which approves ILO Convention 156 on equal opportunities and treatment between male and female workers: Workers with family responsibilities.

– **C169 - Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989.**

NOTE 1. Ratified on July 3, 2000.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 24.071/92, which approves ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries.

- **C182** - Convention on the worst forms of child labour, 1999.

NOTE 1. Ratified on February 5, 2001.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 25.255/00, which approves ILO Convention 182 on the prohibition of the Worst Forms of Child Labour and Immediate Action for its Elimination.

NOTE 3. The Administrative Council of the International Labour Office has identified eight conventions qualifying them as fundamental to guarantee the rights of human beings at work and are known under the term "fundamental standards" at work. Convention 182 integrates the eight fundamental labour conventions.

- **C184** - Convention on safety and health in agriculture, 2001.

NOTE 1. Ratified on June 26, 2006.

NOTE 2. Incorporated into the national legal framework through Law No. 25.739/03, which approves ILO Convention 184 on Safety and Health in Agriculture.

B.12.3 International conventions and treaties on anti-corruption

- **Law Nº 24.759/97.** Approval of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption signed at the third plenary session of the Organization of American States. Sanctioned: December 4, 1996. Promulgated in Fact: January 13, 1997.
- **Law Nº 26.097/06.** Approval of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Annex C

(Informative)

Bibliography

In reviewing this standard, the following information has been taken into account:

IRAM - ARGENTINE INSTITUTE FOR STANDARDIZATION AND CERTIFICATION
IRAM 39801:2010 - Sustainable forest management. Principles, criteria and indicators of the management unit

Annex D

(Informative)

Members of the study body

The review of this standard has been in charge of the respective bodies, integrated as follows:

Forest Management Commission

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