Minutes

Present:
- Peter Latham (Chair)
- David Ford (1st Vice Chair)
- Riikka Joukio (2nd Vice Chair)
- Brian Kernohan
- Eduardo Rojas y Briales
- Kurt Ramskogler
- Nurudeen IdDrisu
- Lena Ek
- Dradjad Wibowo
- Gerald Pfiffinger
- Fatimah Mohammad
- Sara Khatib
- Suzette Weeding

Apologies:
- Josien Tokoe

In attendance:
- Ben Gunneberg (Secretary General)
- Michael Berger (Deputy General Secretary)
- Esa Härmälä (Chair of Nominations Committee)
- Lise Favre (item 5.3)
- Maja Drča (item 4.2)
1. **AGENDA**

**BOD/40/2021** Unanimously agreed:
- To approve the agenda.

1.1 Declarations of potential conflicts of interest with agenda
- There were none.

1.2 Affiliations update
- Noted as amended.

2. **MINUTES**

**BOD/41/2021** Unanimously agreed:
- To approve the minutes of the last PEFC Board conference call held on Thursday 07 and Friday 08 October 2021.

3. ** MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 Risk items to be considered
- Noted that these would be considered item by item.

3.2 Q3 Progress report and Board Follow-up
- Ben Gunneberg updated members on the key highlights of Q3.

3.3 PEFC Week preparations
- Board members reviewed the preparations for PEFC week

3.4 “Members Only” meeting preparations
The Board
- Noted the papers to be presented to the “Members Only” session.

4. **STRATEGIC ITEMS**

4.1 Membership fee outreach - Board feedback
- Board member provided feedback from the calls they had made with members. There had been a general appreciation by members that the Board had reached out to them.
- The issue of the structure of membership fees need to be resolved in 2022.

4.2 EU Deforestation Regulation – Impact on PEFC
The Board:
- Noted and discussed the implications of the summary brief of the developments of the EU Deforestation Regulation and considered the potential impact on PEFC.

5. **OPERATIONAL ITEMS**

5.1 Membership

5.1.1 Vietnam NGB membership Transfer

**BOD/42/2021** Unanimously agreed:
- To note the request for the membership transfer from the VIETNAM Administration of Forestry (VNFOREST) to the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Science (VAFS) as of 1st January 2022.
- To recommend to the PEFC General Assembly via a postal ballot the acceptance of the application of VAFS to be the new NGB for Vietnam as of 1st January 2022.
- To reject the request for additional reduction in fees.

5.2 Integrity / Quality Assurance programme update
- Michael Berger reported on the presentation he would give to the members only meeting the following day and it was noted that a costed action plan should be presented to Board members before its implementation.

5.3 PEFC project concerning GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations)
- Lise Favre reported on the work PEFC International had undertaken under the advice of PwC to put in place all the requirements of the EU’s General Data Protection Regulations as well as the Swiss Data Protection Regulations. It was noted
that members had been invited to a webinar on this on 1st December.

6. COMMITTEE UPDATES (Verbal)
   • There were none.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
   • The Board noted that Peter Crook had resigned from the Board following his retirement from Kingfisher. The Nominations Committee would be asked to set in motion the process for his replacement.
   • The Board thanked Peter for his contribution to the Board and as Chair of the MAC.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Dates and deadlines for 2022 PEFC Council meetings:
   • February Conference call (tbd)
   • Wednesday 11 May – Thursday 12 May 2022 in person in Ireland

BOD/43/2021 Unanimously agreed:
   • To approve the amended dates for the Board meeting of May 2022
   • That the 2022 General Assembly would be in Geneva to allow optimal interaction between all staff and members

Signed:

Peter Latham, Chairman

Ben Gunneberg, Secretary General