

**Minutes # 96**

**Executive Board Conference Call**

**April 17, 2013**

**Minutes taken by:** Cecilia Garcia Nistor

**Minutes reviewed by:** Veronica Chorkulak

**Representatives of the Industry Constituency,** 3 out of 4: Guillermo Prone (Acsoja) – David Pendlington (Unilever) – Olaf Brugman (Rabobank)

**Representatives of the Producers Constituency,** 3 out of 5: Alex Ehrenhaus (Los Grobo) – John Landers (APDC) – Joao Shimada (Maggi) -

**Representatives of the Civil Society Constituency,** 4 out of 4: Gert van der Bijl (Solidaridad)- Ashis Mondal (ASA) – Cassio Franco Moreira (WWF) – Oswaldo Carvalho (IPAM)

**RTRS Secretariat:** Agustín Mascotena, Veronica Chorkulak, Mariana Seghezso, Cecilia Garcia Nistor, Daniel Meyer.

**A#**= Action to the Action list

**1. Opening and expectations of the meeting**

The meeting is opened.

The agenda is presented.

Modifications in the agenda are announced and explained.

The agenda is approved.

**2. Bylaws**

Agustín Mascotena presents a document containing the amendments in the bylaws.

Modifications are voted.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Agreed?</b>	<b>Further comments</b>
Compulsory progress report in art. 1	YES	
Wording in participation art. 2	YES	Gert makes a statement on the need of showing the sense of urgency about making concrete plans available and visible. Also that this should be in the Bylaws even knowing that it won't be used in the short time to expel a member but to

		<p>build a sense of future.</p> <p>Guillermo, express the doubt about if this change will turn RTRS from a voluntary scheme into a compulsory one, and he do not agree with this last option.</p> <p>Joao, points that the report should have a simple standardize form to be able to be easily completed.</p> <p>Olaf comment that this change is in line with other RT (i.e. Palm)</p> <p>Dave, stress the doubt about chances for companies to fulfil commitments when the markets do not allow it.</p> <p>Alex, the plans should admit flows in the progress towards volumes of certified soy.</p> <p>Gert, doesn't agree that this makes compulsory the RTRS but reflects the spirit and ambition of becoming mainstream.</p>
Wording in art. 8	YES	
Proposals presented to the EB and wording in art. 11	YES	
Wording in art. 14	YES	Members are allowed to ask for a show of hands vote
Wording in art. 15	YES	Add "as far as possible"
Wording in art. 16 1	NO	
Wording in art. 16 2	YES	
Wording in art. 18 5	YES	
Wording in art. 18 6 I	YES	Make reference to the Mediation Committee
Wording in art. 18 6 II	YES	
Wording in art. 24 1 I	YES	
Wording in art. 24 1 II	YES	
Deletion of art. 24 4 and 5	YES	

The final version of the bylaws will be sent out.

### 3. Mapping Project

Daniel Meyer continues his presentation on the Mapping Project after the physical meeting in Cuiabá.

Final decisions on the project will be taken in China. **A2**

The RTRS categories for soy expansion are revised.

Items to be solved

Item	Comments
Should producers have the possibility of a rectification over RTRS map categories for their property?	Cassio: Producers should have the right to challenge RTRS maps. Oswaldo also agrees, he says there are different scales, so it should be possible to make verification at local scale. John agrees but the cost should be discussed. Oswaldo suggests to contact Alianca da terra to analyse what the real cost is. The possibility of being included on the SFTF is commented.
Should conversion between May-2009 and the launch of RTRS maps (2013) be allowed in Category 3?	John Landers suggests reminding that the RTRS is against the clearance of forests.
Should RTRS include antropized areas in the Amazon or align RTRS maps to the Soy Moratorium (2006)?	Cassio suggests making a statement on the RTRS support of the Soy Moratorium, which will be accepted as long as it exists. Gert believes this decision should be made during the GA John Landers suggests changing the conversion date to 2006. Besides, there should be a better use of the terms "conversion" and "expansion". Dave suggests making a plain statement explaining that no conversion is allowed. The maps should be hidden until the Soy Moratorium is over.

#### **4. Pesticides Use WG**

Cecilia Gabutti sums up the performance of the working group and introduces the debate on the remaining decisions.

In first instance, Endosulfan was prohibited by the Stockholm Convention and its due date it's June 2012. Therefore for this particular agrochemical, as the RTRS standard follows the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, this prohibition also applies from June 2012 to all producers already certified or willing to certify under the RTRS Standards for responsible soy production.

For the case of the other 2 agrochemicals, Paraquat and Carbofuran, the debate was long and given the extreme position it was hard to find a proposal that could be accepted by all the members.

There were 3 rounds of voting, the most relevant are the last 2, which the ones are presented in this case.

The first vote is on the reference of US EPA in the use of agrochemicals document.

There are two options:

1. Eliminating the reference of US EPA
2. Accepting the current text with the 2 references that show different results

The vote could not reach a decision on this subject. It ended in a tie.

Guillermo Prone believes the information is not clear and more technical information is needed. He votes for the elimination of the wording.

Cynthia Cominesi votes for option 2.

Ashis Mondal does not vote, as his microphone is muted.

Gert van der Bijl votes for its deletion.

Joao Shimada votes for its deletion.

John Landers votes for Alex Ehrenhaus as well, and prefers option 2.

Olaf Brugman votes for David Peddlington as well, and prefers to leave the text as it is now.

Oswaldo Carvalho votes for option 2.

Conclusion: the text will be kept as it is.

The second vote is on the proposals for the new 5.6. There are two options, which are explained.

Option 1 was the most voted among the members of the WG.

John Landers, Joao Shimada, Olaf Brugman and Oswaldo Carvalho vote for option 2.

Cynthia Cominesi will contact Cassio Franco, who will send his comments by e-mail. A3

Conclusion: the WG will act pursuant to option 2.

The possibility of discussing this issue during the GA is analysed.

It was suggested by the PUWG he CONTINUITY of a permanent working group.

## **5. Any other business**

### **Credit trading**

#### **PES WG**

John Landers explains the current situation of global credit trading. He advises to rethink the whole process and suggests having a permanent Outreach staff in Europe.

He explains the PES WG has never started.

Ashis Mondal recommends taking small farmers into account.

Agustín Mascotena comments the RTRS has participated in the RT REDD consortium.

John Landers suggests carrying out a study of the benefits of the RTRS soy for the society. Value on products should be added.

Ashis Mondal suggests working on different ways of compensating producers. The RTRS should be more engaged in the market and governmental activities.

Ashis Mondal will send an e-mail to formally ask for the discussion of this topic during the GA. A4

## 6. Closing of the meeting

The meeting is closed.

<b>Action</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>
A1	Send a letter to members	Secretariat (helped by Gert)	Not specified time
A2	Final decisions on the mapping project.	EB	GA
A3	Cassio Franco will send an e-mail commenting on the Pesticides WG	Cassio Franco	
A4	Ashis Mondal will send an e-mail to formally ask for the discussion of this topic during the GA.	Ashis Mondal	Before the GA