

# United Kingdom Woodland Assurance Standard UKWAS

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## UNITED KINGDOM WOODLAND ASSURANCE STANDARD

### PROCEDURES FOR APPLYING TO FSC INTERNATIONAL FOR DEROGATIONS FOR USE OF CHEMICALS CLASSIFIED AS 'HIGHLY HAZARDOUS' BY FSC

#### Introduction

Section 5.2.4 of the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) requires that pesticides classified as 'highly hazardous' by the Forest Stewardship Council can only be used when a specific UK derogation has been granted by FSC International.

The Forest Stewardship Council's procedures for processing pesticide derogation applications are set out in an FSC Procedure Document. Under these procedures it is the responsibility of the FSC-accredited certification bodies to make applications to FSC International.

#### Scope and purpose

This document defines the procedures that the UKWAS Steering Group and other parties have jointly agreed to meet the requirements of the FSC process for making derogation applications.

#### Effective date

24<sup>th</sup> October 2007

#### References

- UKWAS – The UK Woodland Assurance Standard Second Edition (September 2006)
- FSC Procedure Processing Pesticide Derogation Applications (FSC-PRO-01-004) (Version 2)

#### Background

The FSC Procedures document sets out the requirements and responsibilities of the FSC National Initiative - FSC-UK - and the FSC-accredited Certification Bodies in taking forward applications for derogation.

There are no specific requirements relating to the UKWAS Steering Group but it wishes to provide appropriate support for the benefit of the wider UK forestry sector. The Steering Group will therefore support the Certification Bodies in preparing and making derogation applications subject to its resource constraints.

#### Roles

The Certification Bodies' role shall be to undertake the following actions in accordance with the requirements of FSC International:

- To prepare a consultation document.
- To collect and collate responses from client stakeholders.
- To prepare derogation applications taking into account comments from stakeholders.
- To submit the derogation applications to FSC International.

- To settle any fees levied by FSC International – Certification Bodies will normally recover these costs from their clients.

The UKWAS Steering Group shall support the Certification Bodies by undertaking the following roles:

#### Facilitation of joint working

- Upon notification by one or more FSC-accredited Certification Bodies that they intend to submit an application for derogation to FSC International, the UKWAS Support Unit will notify all FSC-accredited Certification Bodies operating in the UK and invite them to consider working together with the applicant on a joint application.
- The UKWAS Steering Group will provide the support set out below to that Certification Body or to a group of Certification Bodies working together but will not support more than one derogation process for the same chemical.

#### Preparation of documents

- To provide input and comment, especially through the Chemicals Working Group, to the Certification Bodies to assist them in the preparation of the consultation document and the derogation application document.

#### Consultation process

- To post the consultation document and a covering letter from the UKWAS chair on the UKWAS website and invite comments from the wider stakeholder community.
- To collect and collate responses from general (rather than client) stakeholders.
- To provide publicity on the consultation to relevant trade publications.

Other partners may also be willing to offers support and will consider their positions on a case by case basis.

**UKWAS Support Unit**  
**24<sup>th</sup> October 2007**