



Forest Stewardship Council®

## FSC® STANDARD

Forest management requirements for Controlled Wood certification

FSC-STD-30-010 V 3-0 EN



<b>Title:</b>	Forest management requirements for Controlled Wood certification
<b>Document reference code:</b>	FSC-STD-30-010 V 3-0 EN
<b>Approval body:</b>	FSC Board of Directors
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**DRAFT 2-0**

The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) is an independent, not for profit, non-government organization established to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

FSC's vision is that the world's forests meet the social, ecological, and economic rights and needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations.

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## A Objective

Compliance with this standard allows The Organization to demonstrate that forest resources included in the scope of certification do not fall under the definition of 'unacceptable sources' and can be supplied as 'FSC Controlled Wood'.

The five 'unacceptable sources' or FSC Controlled Wood categories are:

- 1) Illegally harvested wood;
- 2) Wood harvested in violation of traditional and human rights;
- 3) Wood from forests in which high conservation values are threatened by management activities;
- 4) Wood from forests being converted to plantations and non-forest use; and
- 5) Wood from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted.

Certification according to this standard may additionally be utilized as a step towards FSC certification against the FSC Principles and Criteria (*FSC-STD-01-001 V 5-0 FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship*) for those Organizations that participate in the FSC Modular Approach Program.

## B Scope

This standard specifies the rules and regulations for Organizations to demonstrate compliance with FSC Controlled Wood requirements at the Supply Unit (SU) level.

This standard may also be applied by group entities according to the standard *FSC-STD-30-005 FSC standard for group entities in forest management groups*.

All aspects of this standard are considered to be normative, including the scope, standard effective date, references, terms and definitions, tables and annexes, unless otherwise stated.

NOTE: The scope of this standard does not apply to manufacturers and timber traders. Such entities should refer to *FSC-40-004 FSC standard for Chain of Custody certification* and *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*. This standard can also be used by the FSC-accredited certification body at the discretion of Organization(s) certified according to the *FSC-STD-40-005* for verification of supply areas not covered by National Risk Assessments or Centralized National Risk Assessment (unassessed risk areas).

## C Effective and validity dates

Approval date	Target: September 2014
Publication date	Target: 01 October 2014
Effective date	Target: 01 January 2015
Period of validity	until 31 December 2019 (or until replaced or withdrawn)

## D References

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are relevant for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

*FSC-STD-50-001 Requirements for use of the FSC trademarks by Certificate Holders*

## E Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this standard, the terms and definitions provided in *FSC-STD-01-001 FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship*, *FSC-STD-01-002 FSC Glossary of terms*, *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*, and the following apply:

**Centralized National Risk Assessment (CNRA):** National Risk Assessment or part thereof centrally developed by FSC International. (Source: *FSC-PRO-06-002 Development and approval of Controlled Wood National Risk Assessments*)

**Controlled Wood (CW):** Material that has been assessed to be in conformance with the requirements of the standard *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood* or requirements of the standard *FSC-STD-30-010 Forest management requirements for Controlled Wood certification* to avoid 'unacceptable' sources. (Source: *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*)

**Due diligence:** Actions taken by an Organization to minimize risk to 'low risk' of sourcing wood and wood-based material from 'unacceptable' sources. (Source: *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*)

**Due Diligence System (DDS):** A framework of procedures and measures taken in order to ensure that due diligence is exercised, based on available written guidelines and procedures approved by The Organization, that describe the due diligence process in detail. A DDS usually contains the following three elements: obtaining information, risk assessment, risk mitigation. (Source: *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*)

**Forest conversion:** Rapid or gradual removal of natural forest, semi-natural forest or other wooded ecosystems such as woodlands and savannahs to meet other land needs, such as plantations (e.g. pulp wood, oil palm or coffee), agriculture, pasture, urban settlements, industry or mining. This process is usually irreversible. (Source: *FSC-POL-01-004 Policy for the Association of Organizations with FSC*)

**FSC Controlled Wood:** Material with an FSC claim supplied by a supplier which has been assessed by an FSC-accredited certification body for conformance with Controlled Wood requirements according to the standard *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood* or *FSC-STD-30-010 Forest management requirements for Controlled Wood certification*. (Source: *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*)

**FSC Modular Approach Program (MAP):** The FSC Modular Approach Program (MAP) is a stepwise program of FSC aimed at moving non-certified forests to FSC certification<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Under development

**Indicator:** A quantitative or qualitative variable which can be measured or described, and which provides a means of judging whether a Supply Unit complies with the requirements of a criterion provided in the standard. Indicators and the associated thresholds thereby define the requirements for responsible forest management at the level of the Supply Unit and are the primary basis of forest evaluation.

**Means of verification:** A potential source of information that allows an auditor to evaluate compliance with an indicator. Means of verification are not normative and the certification body may justifiably use alternatives to those listed.

**Managerial control:** Responsibility of the kind defined for corporate directors of commercial enterprises in national commercial law, and treated by FSC as applicable also to public sector organizations (Source: *FSC-STD-01-001 FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship*).

**National Risk Assessment (NRA):** A designation of the risk of sourcing from unacceptable sources in a given country/region developed according to the *FSC-PRO-60-002 The Development and approval of Controlled Wood National Risk Assessments*. (Source: *FSC-PRO-06-002 Development and approval of Controlled Wood National Risk Assessments*)

**The Organization:** The person or entity holding or applying for certification and therefore responsible for demonstrating compliance with the requirements upon which FSC certification is based. (Source: *FSC-STD-01-001 FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship*)

**Quality Management System (QMS):** The organizational structure, policies, procedures, processes and resources needed to implement quality management.

**Scale, Intensity and Risk (SIR):**

**Scale:** A measure of the extent to which a management activity or event affects an environmental value or a Management Unit (*here: Supply Unit*), in time or space. An activity with a small or low spatial scale affects only a small proportion of the forest each year, an activity with a small or low temporal scale occurs only at long intervals.

**Intensity:** A measure of the force, severity or strength of a management activity or other occurrence affecting the nature of the activity's impacts.

**Risk:** The probability of an unacceptable negative impact arising from any activity in the Management Unit (*here: Supply Unit*) combined with its seriousness in terms of consequences.

(Source: *FSC-STD-01-001 FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship*)

**Significant conversion:** Conversion is considered significant in any case of:

- Conversion of High Conservation Value Forests
- Conversion of more than 10% of the forest areas under the organization's responsibility in the past 5 years
- Conversion of more than 10,000 ha of forests under the organization's responsibility in the past 5 years.

(Source: *FSC-POL-01-004 Policy for the Association of Organizations with FSC*)

**Supply area:** The total geographical area from which material is sourced. The supply area does not need to be defined as a single contiguous area; it may comprise multiple separate areas that span multiple political jurisdictions including countries or multiple forest types. (Source: *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*)

**Supply Unit (SU):** A spatial area with clearly defined boundaries managed to a set of explicit long term forest management objectives. This area or areas includes all facilities and areas within or adjacent to this spatial area or areas under legal title or management control of, or operated by or on behalf of a forest manager, for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives.

**Unacceptable sources:** Sources of material that do not meet the requirements of FSC standards and/or Controlled Wood categories. (Source: *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*)

**Unassessed risk area:** An area or areas not covered by National Risk Assessment(s) or areas formally designated as 'unspecified' risk in approved NRAs. (Source: *FSC-STD-40-005 Requirements for sourcing Controlled Wood*)

#### **Verbal forms for the expression of provisions**

[Adapted from *ISO/IEC Directives Part 2: Rules for the structure and drafting of International Standards*]

“*shall*”: indicates requirements strictly to be followed in order to conform to the standard.

“*should*”: indicates that among several possibilities one is recommended as particularly suitable, without mentioning or excluding others, or that a certain course of action is preferred but not necessarily required. A FSC-accredited certification body can meet these requirements in an equivalent way provided this can be demonstrated and justified.

“*may*”: indicates a course of action permissible within the limits of the document.

“*can*” is used for statements of possibility and capability, whether material, physical or causal.

## **Part I Quality Management System**

### **1 System requirements**

- 1.1 The Organization shall have procedures and/or work instructions covering all applicable requirements of this standard.
- 1.2 The Organization shall identify the person(s) (or position(s)) responsible for implementing each procedure and/or work instruction related to this standard.
- 1.3 The Organization shall ensure that relevant staff have the required competence to implement the requirements of this standard.
- 1.4 In cases where The Organization applies for FSC Controlled Wood certification as a group entity, the requirements of the standard *FSC-STD-30-005 FSC Standard for group entities in forest management groups* also apply.
- 1.5 The Organization shall maintain complete and up-to-date records covering all applicable requirements of this standard.
- 1.6 The Organization shall keep all records as per Clause 1.5 (above) for at least five (5) years.

### **2 Specification of scope of certification**

- 2.1 The Organization shall fully disclose the Supply Unit(s) under its managerial control and the Supply Unit(s) to be included in the scope of certification.
- 2.2 The Organization shall have and implement a tracking and tracing system for forest products in case not all Supply Unit(s) under its managerial control are included in the scope of certification.

### **3 Sales documentation**

- 3.1 The Organization shall include the following information on all invoices issued for sales of FSC Controlled Wood products:
  - a) Name and address of The Organization;
  - b) Name and address of the buyer;
  - c) Date on which the invoice was issued;
  - d) Product description(s) / type of product(s);
  - e) Common and scientific name(s) of species;
  - f) Quantity of the product(s) sold;
  - g) Reference to the product's batch and/or to related shipping documentation;
  - h) The FSC Controlled Wood code issued by the FSC-accredited certification body.
- 3.2 Invoices and shipping documents for the sale of FSC Controlled Wood shall include the claim 'FSC Controlled Wood' in case material is supplied to FSC certified

Organization<sup>2</sup>. Where sale or transport documents cover material it shall be specified which products are sold or transported as 'FSC Controlled Wood'.

## Part II: Specific requirements for FSC Controlled Wood categories

NOTE: Requirements for each of the five Controlled Wood categories in this Standard are provided as a set of criteria. Indicators for each criterion will be developed by the responsible FSC-accredited certification body for the purpose of evaluation, addressing local conditions in the area that this standard is to be used.

### Stakeholder consultation note:

Where applicable, criteria language used in this standard is aligned with the language used in the 5th version of the FSC Principles & Criteria for Forest Stewardship (FSC-STD-01-001).

It is assumed that indicators for evaluation according to this standard will be developed by relevant certification body, according to revised accreditation standard. Stakeholders are requested to provide feedback on whether national adaptation of this Standard shall be conducted by the Standard Development Groups and approved by the FSC. In that case process requirements for national adaptation and the following approval of the national version(s) of this International Standard will be developed separately.

## 4 Category 1: Illegally harvested wood

- 4.1 The Organization shall be a legally defined entity with clear, documented and unchallenged legal registration, with written authorization from the legally competent authority for specific activities.
- 4.2 The Organization shall demonstrate that the legal status of the Supply Unit, including tenure and use rights, and its boundaries, are clearly defined.
- 4.3 The Organization shall have legal rights to operate in the Supply Unit, which fit the legal status of the Organization and of the Supply Unit, and shall comply with the associated legal obligations in applicable national and local laws, and regulations and administrative requirements. The legal rights shall provide for the harvest of products from within the Supply Unit. The Organization shall pay the legally prescribed charges associated with such rights and obligations.

For lists of groups of laws and regulations that shall be considered for Controlled Wood evaluation, see Table 1: Scope of applicable legislation for FSC certification. The table consists of sub-groups of laws (indicators 1.1 – 1.21) that the Supply Unit shall be evaluated against. An additional description of sub-categories is provided to support the identification of applicable legislation for a given area.

<sup>2</sup> For sale of FSC Controlled Wood, requirements of *FSC-STD-50-001 Requirements for use of the FSC trademarks by Certificate holders* also apply.

For countries and/or regions for which a list of applicable laws has been published on the FSC Global Forest Registry, this list may be used for identification of applicable legislation.

NOTE: The scope of applicable legislation consists of indicators used across the FSC system. The numbers of indicators given in brackets refer to relevant numbers of legality framework as provided in *FSC-STD-01-004 FSC International Generic Indicators* (Principle 1, Annex A).

NOTE: Elements specified in Table 1 apply only if they are applicable for areas evaluated according to this standard and the Organization's scope of activity. If no relevant legislation exists, there is no legal violation.

4.4 The Organization shall comply with all applicable national laws, local laws, ratified international conventions and obligatory codes of practice, relating to the transportation and trade of forest products within and from the Supply Unit, and/or up to the point of first sale.

NOTE: Conflict(s) between requirements of this Standard and applicable legislation are to be identified by the responsible FSC-accredited certification body. Such cases are to be considered on a case by case basis.

**Table 1: Scope of applicable legislation for FSC certification**

<b>Indicator (Applicable legality categories and sub-categories)</b>
<b>Legal rights to harvest</b>
1.1 Land tenure and management rights <i>Legislation covering land tenure rights, including customary rights, as well as management rights that include the use of legal methods to obtain tenure rights and management rights. It also covers legal business registration and tax registration, including relevant legal required licenses. (1.1)</i>
1.2 Concession licenses. <i>Legislation regulating procedures for issuing forest concession licenses, including use of legal methods to obtain concession licenses. Especially bribery, corruption and nepotism are well-known issues in connection with concession licenses. (1.2)</i>
1.3 Management and harvesting planning. <i>Any national or sub-national legal requirements for Management Planning, including conducting forest inventories, having a forest Management Plan and related planning and monitoring, as well as approval of these by Competent Authorities. (1.3)</i>
1.4 Harvesting permits. <i>National or sub-national laws and regulations regulating the issuing of harvesting permits, licenses or other legal document required for specific harvesting operations. It includes the use of legal methods to obtain the permit. Corruption is well-known issue in connection with the issuing of harvesting permits. (1.4)</i>
<b>Taxes and fees</b>
1.5 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees. <i>Legislation covering payment of all legally required forest harvesting specific fees such as royalties, stumpage fees and other volume based fees. It also includes payments of the fees based on correct classification of quantities, qualities and species. Incorrect classification of forest products is a well-known issue often combined with bribery of officials in charge of controlling the classification. (2.1)</i>
1.6 Value added taxes and other sales taxes. <i>Legislation covering different types of sales taxes which apply to the material being sold, including selling material as growing forest (standing stock sales). (2.2)</i>
1.7 Income and profit taxes. <i>Legislation covering income and profit taxes related to the profit derived from sale of forest products and harvesting activities. This category is also related to income from the sale of timber and does not include other taxes generally applicable for companies or related to salary payments. (2.3)</i>

<b>Timber Harvesting</b>
<p>1.8 Timber harvesting regulations.  <i>Any legal requirements for harvesting techniques and technology, including selective cutting, shelter wood regenerations, clear felling, transport of timber from felling site and seasonal limitations etc. Typically this includes regulations on the size of felling areas, minimum age and/or diameter for felling trees and elements that shall be preserved during felling etc. Establishment of skidding or hauling trails, road construction, drainage systems and bridges etc. shall also be considered, as well as planning and monitoring of harvesting activities. Any legally binding codes for harvesting practices shall be considered. (3.1)</i></p>
<p>1.9 Protected sites and species.  <i>International, national, and sub national treaties, laws, and regulations related to protected areas allowable forest uses and activities, and/or, rare, threatened, or endangered species, including their habitats and potential habitats. (3.2)</i></p>
<p>1.10 Environmental requirements.  <i>National and sub national laws and regulations related to the identification and/or protection of environmental values including but not limited to those relating to or affected by harvesting, acceptable level for soil damage, establishment of buffer zones (e.g. along water courses, open areas, breeding sites), maintenance of retention trees on felling site, seasonal limitation of harvesting time, environmental requirements for forest machineries, use of pesticides and other chemicals, biodiversity conservation, air quality, protection and restoration of water quality, operation of recreational equipment, development of non-forestry infrastructure, mineral exploration and extraction, etc. (3.3)</i></p>
<p>1.11 Health and safety.  <i>Legally required personal protection equipment for persons involved in harvesting activities, use of safe felling and transport practice, establishment of protection zones around harvesting sites, and safety requirements to machinery used. Legally required safety requirements in relation to chemical usage. The health and safety requirements that shall be considered relevant to operations in the forest (not office work, or other activities not related to actual forest operations). (3.4)</i></p>
<p>1.12 Legal employment.  <i>Legal requirements for employment of personnel involved in harvesting activities including requirement for contracts and working permits, requirements for obligatory insurances, requirements for competence certificates and other training requirements, and payment of social and income taxes withhold by employer. Furthermore, the points cover compliance to the minimum working age and minimum age for personnel involved in hazardous work, legislation against forced and compulsory labour, and discrimination and freedom of association. (3.5)</i></p>
<b>Third parties' rights</b>
<p>1.13 Customary rights.  <i>Legislation covering customary rights relevant to forest harvesting activities including requirements covering sharing of benefits and tenure rights. (4.1)</i></p>
<p>1.14 Free, Prior and Informed Consent.  <i>Legislation covering 'free, prior and informed consent' in connection with forest management rights, and customary rights to the organization in charge of the harvesting operation. (4.2)</i></p>
<p>1.15 Indigenous Peoples' rights.  <i>Legislation that regulates the rights of indigenous people as far as it's related to forestry activities. Possible aspects to consider are land tenure, right to use certain forest related resources or practice traditional activities, which may involve forest lands. (4.3)</i></p>
<b>Trade and transport</b>
<p>1.16 Classification of species, quantities, qualities.  <i>Legislation regulating how harvested material is classified in terms of species, volumes and qualities in connection with trade and transport. Incorrect classification of harvested material is a well-known method to reduce/avoid payment of legality prescribed taxes and fees. (5.1)</i></p>
<p>1.17 Trade and transport.  <i>All required trading and transport permits shall exist as well as legally required transport document which accompany transport of wood from forest operation. (5.2)</i></p>
<p>1.18 Offshore trading and transfer pricing.  <i>Legislation regulating offshore trading. Offshore trading with related companies placed in tax havens combined with artificial transfer prices is a well-known way to avoid payment of legally prescribed taxes and fees to the country of harvest and considered as an important generator of</i></p>

*funds that can be used for payment of bribery and black money to the forest operations and personnel involved in the harvesting operation.*  
*Many countries have established legislation covering transfer pricing and offshore trading. It should be noted that only transfer pricing and offshore trading as far as it is legally prohibited in the country, can be included here. (5.3)*

1.19 Custom regulations.

*Custom legislation covering areas such as export/import licenses, product classification (codes, quantities, qualities and species). (5.4)*

1.20 CITES.

*CITES permits (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, also known as the Washington Convention). (5.5)*

#### **Due diligence/due care procedures and related documentation**

1.21 Legislation requiring due diligence/due care procedures, legislation establishing procedures to prevent trade in illegally harvested timber and products derived from such timber.

*Legislation covering due diligence/due care procedures, including e.g. due diligence/due care systems, declaration obligations, and /or the keeping of trade related documents etc.*

*Examples of such include: Legality Legislation (such as US Lacey Act, EU Timber Regulation, Australian Illegal Logging Prohibition Act (foreseen to enter into force 30/11/14))*

#### **Stakeholder consultation note:**

**Compliance with legislation requiring due diligence care/procedures and related documentation will be important in terms of timber regulations, such as the EUTR. This may require establishing a formal Due Diligence System for material originating from the certified SU(s). This new element is proposed due to further alignment with the EUTR and will be considered in other FSC documents.**

## **5 Category 2: Wood harvested in violation of traditional and human rights**

5.1 The Organization shall not be involved in trade of conflict timber<sup>3</sup>.

### **Workers' Rights and Employment Conditions**

5.2 The Organization shall uphold the principles and rights at work as defined in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998) based on the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions:

C-29 Forced Labour Convention, 1930

C-87 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1949

C-98 Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949

C-100 Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951

C-105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957

C-111 Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958

<sup>3</sup> The links between timber exploitation and conflict are essentially of two broad types:

First, revenues from the timber trade may be channelled towards activities that perpetuate conflict, such as the purchase of weapons. Thus, 'conflict timber' is defined as 'timber that has been traded at some point in the chain of custody by armed groups, be they rebel factions or regular soldiers, or by a civilian administration involved in armed conflict or its representatives, either to perpetuate conflict or take advantage of conflict situations for personal gain, conflict timber is not necessarily illegal' (Global Witness 2002 cited in Le Billon 2003).

Second, the exploitation of timber may itself be a direct cause of conflict (Thomson and Kanaan 2003). This may be because of disputes over, for example, ownership of forest resources, the distribution of benefits, local environmental degradation, or social conflicts caused by immigration of timber workers. In some countries, especially when other sources of income are lacking, there is little attempt to ensure that timber production is sustainable or socially responsible. (Source: UNEP, Africa Environment Outlook: <http://www.unep.org/dewa/Africa/publications/AEO-2/content/205.htm>; last access 14.01.2014)

Such cases however are assessed through other criteria and are not in the scope of Criterion 5.1.

C-138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973

C-182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999

(<http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>)

- 5.3 The Organization shall not discriminate in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement and management activities.
- 5.4 The Organization shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.

NOTE: In the context of this requirement, contractors are under The Organization's Occupational Health and Safety responsibility.

#### **Indigenous Peoples' and Traditional Peoples' rights**

- 5.5 The Organization shall identify the Indigenous Peoples and/or Traditional Peoples that exist within the Supply Unit or are affected by management activities. The Organization shall then, through engagement with these Indigenous Peoples and/or Traditional Peoples, identify their rights of tenure, their rights of access to and use of forest resources and ecosystem services, and their customary and legal rights and obligations that apply within the Supply Unit. The Organization shall also identify areas where these rights are contested.

NOTE: This Criterion requires identification of Indigenous Peoples and/or Traditional Peoples with a fair and legitimate claim to be allowed access to benefits, goods or ecosystem services from the Supply Unit. They include those who have affirmed their rights to land, forests and other resources based on long established use, and also those who have not yet done so (due for example, to a lack of awareness or empowerment).

Indigenous Peoples and/or Traditional Peoples affected by management activities include those neighboring the Supply Unit, and those that are more distant, who may experience negative impacts as a result of activities within the Supply Unit.

- 5.6 The Organization shall recognize and uphold the legal and customary rights of Indigenous Peoples to maintain control over management activities within or related to the Supply Unit to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, and lands and territories. Delegation by Indigenous Peoples of control over management activities to third parties requires Free, Prior and Informed Consent.
- 5.7 In the event of delegation of control over management activities, a binding agreement between The Organization and the Indigenous Peoples and/or Traditional Peoples shall be concluded through Free, Prior and Informed Consent.

NOTE: Binding agreements may be, but are not limited to, written agreements. They must reflect cultural requirements and may also be based on oral and honor systems, to be applied in cases where written agreements are not favored by Indigenous Peoples and/or Traditional Peoples, either for practical reasons or on principle.

- 5.8 The Organization shall recognize and uphold the rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples and/or Traditional Peoples as defined in the United Nations

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP, 2007) and ILO Convention 169 (1989).

NOTE: This Criterion refers to those articles of the UN Declaration and ILO Convention that cover explicitly the rights, customs and culture and spiritual relationship between *Indigenous Peoples* and the *Supply Unit*. This Criterion applies also in countries and jurisdictions that have not ratified the UN Declaration and/or ILO Convention 169.

NOTE: In cases where there are conflicts between the legal or customary rights of Indigenous Peoples and other resource users, such cases will be identified via indicator development and dealt on a case-by-case basis, in line with requirements of this standard.

5.9 Conflicts pertaining to the rights of Indigenous Peoples are recognized and managed by fair and equitable conflict resolution process.

**6 Category 3: Wood from forests in which high conservation values are threatened by management activities**

6.1 The Organization, through engagement with affected stakeholders, interested stakeholders and other means and sources, shall assess and record the presence of the following High Conservation Values (HCV) in the Supply Unit proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of impacts of management activities, and likelihood of the occurrence of the High Conservation Values:

HCV 1 – Species diversity. Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species, and rare, threatened or endangered species that are significant at global, regional or national levels.  
HCV 2 – Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics. Large landscape-level ecosystems and ecosystem mosaics that are significant at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.  
HCV 3 – Ecosystems and habitats. Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia.  
HCV 4 – Critical ecosystem services. Basic ecosystem services in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.  
HCV 5 – Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or Indigenous Peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.) identified through engagement with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.  
HCV 6 – Cultural values. Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or Indigenous Peoples, identified through engagement with these local communities or Indigenous Peoples.

6.2 The Organization shall demonstrate that management activities in the Supply Unit do not threaten High Conservation Values.

6.3 Where a High Conservation Value assessment framework developed by the National Office that meets Controlled Wood requirements for HCV presence and threat assessment as provided in *FSC-PRO-60-002a FSC National Risk Assessment Framework* OR as part of the NRA process exists it shall be applied to the SU. This does not preclude the use of local field assessment where necessary to determine the presence or absence of HCVs. In the absence of an HCV assessment framework

the forest manager will need to develop one appropriate for use in the SU(s) being certified.

**7 Category 4: Wood from forests being converted to plantations and non-forest use**

- 7.1 The Organization shall demonstrate that no significant conversion from forests to plantation or non-forest use has occurred in the last five (5) years in all forest areas under the Organization's responsibility, including Supply Unit(s) not included in the scope of certification.
- 7.2 Conversion to plantation or non-forest use is not occurring in Supply Unit(s) (included in the scope of certification, except in circumstances where conversion:
- a) Affects no more than 0.5% of the Supply Unit annually in the current or any future year and does not result in a cumulative total area converted in excess of 5% of the Supply Unit since a FSC certificate has been issued; and
  - b) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Supply Unit; and
  - c) Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values.

NOTE: Development of infrastructure that serves meeting management objectives of SU(s) included in the scope of the certificate is not considered as conversion.

**8 Category 5: Wood from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted**

- 8.1 The Organization shall not use tree species of genetically modified organisms (GMO) in the Supply Unit.