



FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL A.C.

Forest Stewardship Council dissociates with Asia Pulp and Paper

December 2007

The Forest Stewardship Council dissociated from working with Indonesian based Asia Pulp and Paper (APP) in October 2007. The Forest Stewardship Council has a duty to protect the good will and integrity associated with its name and logo for consumers and for our trusted partners and members. The FSC Board of Directors decided that association with APP would threaten the good will and faith invested in the name Forest Stewardship Council and the years of support and participation by companies that are truly committed to the pursuit of responsible forest management globally.

There is substantial publicly available information that suggests that APP, a Sinar Mas subsidiary, is associated with destructive forestry practices. Reports from WWF, Greenpeace, Eyes on the Forest and many other independent sources suggest that APP is actively conducting forestry practices contrary to FSC Principles and Criteria. As a result, the FSC Board of Directors decided to end the use of the FSC name and trademarks by APP and subsidiaries in which APP is the majority shareholder.

The FSC Board of Directors limited the scope of dissociation to only those entities that APP controls by majority. Certificate holders affected by this decision will no longer be able to sub-license and use the FSC trademarks. Where affected entities demonstrate through substantial verifiable evidence that they do not fall within the scope of this decision, the FSC trademark sub-licenses will be promptly reinstated.

As a way to ensure that the FSC continues to develop solutions in a transparent way to the problems facing the world's forests FSC has determined that it will develop a formal policy that will govern how it handles any future issues similar to this. A draft of a proposed policy has been circulated for public comment and a revised draft is scheduled to be released shortly with more opportunity for public comment to be submitted.

If you have further questions about the dissociation of Forest Stewardship Council from working with Asia Pulp and Paper, please contact Salem Jones in the Trademark Department at FSC: s.jones@accreditation-services.com.