

RSPO NEW PLANTING PROCEDURE: NOTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION STATEMENT

**Ramu Agri Industries Limited, member of New Britain Palm
Oil Limited (NBPOL)**
29/08/2016

1. Guidance Document used

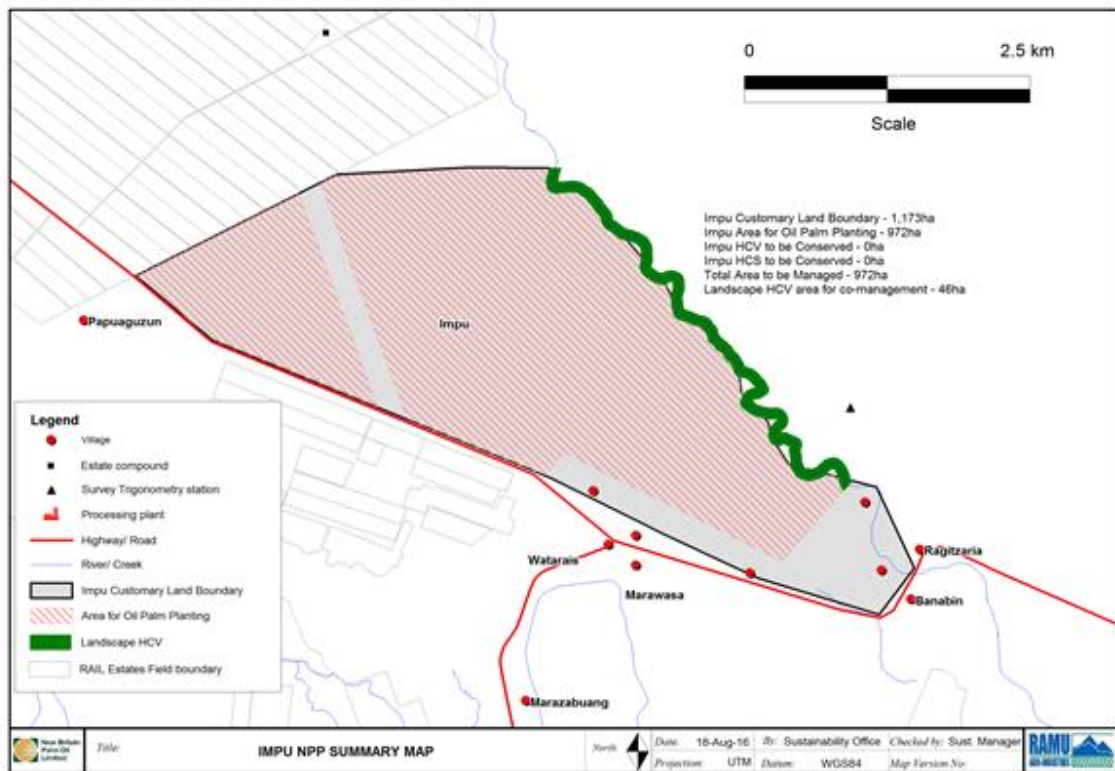
The proposed new planting of Ramu Agri Industries Limited, member of New Britain Palm Oil Limited (NBPOL) was assessed for compliance against the RSPO New Planting Procedure (RSPO NPP – endorsed by the Board of Governors on 20th November 2015)

2. Scope of the assessment


Date of Notification	
Company Name	Ramu Agri Industries Limited, a member of New Britain Palm Oil Limited (NBPOL)
Name of Subsidiary (if any)	NA
RSPO Membership	1-0016-04-000-00
Company Address	PO Box 2183, Lae. 411 Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea
Business Permit:	I-7054
Type of Business	Agriculture
Size (ha)	972 ha
Contact Persons / Email Address / Telephone No:	Sander van den Ende (svdende@nbpol.com.sg) +675 7213 6802 William Unsworth (wunsworth@nbpol.com.pg) +675 7148 7948
Geographical Location	Impu Land in the Markham District, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea

Spatial Reference (GPS Coordinates)	North West Corner: 6° 5'28.50"S 146° 0'23.56"E South East Corner: 6° 7'28.42"S 146° 3'50.11"E						
Boundary Maps	See below						
Areas and time plan for new planting	No.	Name	Total area(ha)	HCV (ha)	HCS Indicative Conserve (ha)	Develop (ha)	Planting Time Table
	1	Impu	972	0	0	972	Oct 2016 to Feb 2017

Impu Boundary Map



3. Statement of acceptance of responsibility for NPP

<i>The oil palm grower signs to confirm that the necessary assessments have been done and completed in accordance to the NPP.</i>	
Name of grower	Ramu Agri Industries Limited, a member of New Britain Palm Oil Limited (NBPOL)
Name of responsible person	Mr. Ruari Macwilliam
Position	General Manager
Signed	

Date	29 th August, 2016
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4. Verification Statement by TUV NORD Integra

New Britain Palm Oil Ltd – Ramu Agri Industries Ltd is a member of the RSPO since 20/02/2013 and holds the RSPO membership number 1-0016-04-000-00. Ramu Agri Industries Ltd is a member of the NBPOL Group which was recently acquired by Sime Darby in 2015.

A requirement by the New Planting Procedure 2015, an onsite verification is required besides documents review where the new development area is considered as high risk as defined in the procedure.

In this aspect, TUV NORD INTEGRA lead auditor Mr. Cheong, Chun Yuen (Robert) has conducted an onsite verification, desktop study, document review and verify the documents from 25/07/2016 to 01/08/2016.

During the onsite verification on 25/07/2016 to 26/07/2016, the CB lead auditor has visited the proposed new development Impu land, conduct stakeholder consultation with the interested Yaru Land Group Incorporated, reviewed and verified the relevant documents to ensure the land is legitimate and belongs to the Yaru and other clans.

A field visit was conducted together with the Executive Chairperson of the Yaru clan and it was observed, Impu land is a grassland with scattered trees in the background landscape of the land. No farming and no people staying on the land.



Images of the Impu landscape

The adjoining HCV Area for Community Co-Management of 46 ha reported in the HCV assessment was visited where the Beboi creek running along the boundary of Impu land.



Images of the proposed conservation area along the Beboi creek.

While the acquisition process, Ramu Agri Industries Ltd area has been planted with oil palm since 2003 comprising of company owned estates Gusap, Ngaru, Jephcott, Surinam, Paddox and Dumpu and Smallholder Schemes under Village Oil Palms (VOP) owned by local customary landowners who sell their crop to the company's mill.

Under the expansion program traditional landowning groups voluntarily expressed their interest in writing to the company to lease portions of their land to the company under the Incorporated Land Group (ILG) lease-lease back arrangements for oil palm plantation following the RSPO New Planting Procedure. The land for this new development is legally registered under the Land Registration (Amendment) Act 2009 to the Yaru Land Group Incorporated who are the legally registered landowning group under the Land Groups Incorporation (Amendment) Act 2009. The registration of Yaru Land Group Incorporated was verified.

With regard to the legal user rights for Impu land, Ramu Agri Industries Ltd shall secure this through a sub-lease from the Yaru and approved by the Registrar of Department of Lands. This is done through the signing of a sub-leased agreement between both parties.

The sub-lease agreement is at the final stage of review by both parties and expected to be signed with the next 1 or 2 months. The development cannot commence until the sub-lease agreement is signed and in place. The signed sub-leased agreement will be registered and approved by the Department of Lands as a controlled land dealing document for the creation, registration and issuance of a sub-lease land title to Ramu Agri Industries Ltd based on an agreed leased period. The process of obtaining a land title transfer approval in PNG is a lengthy process that could take up to a few months from the date of signing the sub-leased agreement.

Once the sub-leased agreement is signed and submitted for registration with the land authority, Ramu Agri Industries Ltd shall have the legal right to use the land.

The signed sub-leased agreement and approved sub-leased land titles will be reviewed and verified in the next surveillance audit to ensure there is no violation to the RSPO Principles & Criteria Indicator 2.3.2: Copies of negotiated agreements detailing the process of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

The land under this new development Impu Land is located at Markham District, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea. The total land area proposed for development is 972 hectares which will be converted for oil palm planting. The adjoining HCV Area for Community Co-Management of 46 ha with the local community to improve the function of the riparian buffer as defined by the HCV consultants in the HCV assessment report.

The HCV Assessment and SEIA study was included within the scope of New Britain Palm Oil Ltd – Ramu Agri Industries Ltd was conducted by external qualified assessors. The HCS assessment was conducted by internal assessors.

The HCV Assessment was conducted by Daemeter Consulting from 23/02/2015 to 27/02/2015 lead by Mr. Jules Crawshaw an approved ALS HCV assessor with a Provincial license from HCV Resource Network. The HCV summary report was submitted to HCV Resource Network, the date of publication was on 21/12/2015 with an evaluation status as satisfactory. The details of the assessment team and assessment conducted is listed in the Assessment Summaries and Management Plan and full HCV assessment report submitted together with this verification statement.

The SEIA stakeholder engagement was conducted from 26/10/2014 to 30/10/2014 by Mr. Narua Lovai a freelance SEIA consultant. The details of Mr. Lovai and assessment conducted is listed in the Assessment Summaries and Management Plan and SEIA report submitted together with this verification statement.

The HCS assessment with details of the assessment team and assessment conducted is listed in the Assessment Summaries and Management Plan and HCS assessment report submitted together with this verification statement.


In relation with the RSPO Announcement on compliance to Criterion 7.8, Ramu Agri Industries Ltd conducted the High Carbon Stock Assessment on the proposed Impu land to ensure no deforestation, no peat and maintain any identified HCV areas. The assessment was conducted from 14/10/2014 to 20/10/2014 by Ramu Agri Industries Ltd internal assessment team lead by Mr William Unsworth by following guideline from the HCS approach toolkit version 1.0. The HCS report was submitted to the ERWG via RSPO Secretariat on 25/07/2016 prior to the NPP Notification.

To fulfil the RSPO Criterion 7.3, the Land Use Change Analysis (LUCA) the assessment were carried out by two independent assessors. The first assessment was carried out by Daemeter Consulting as part of the HCV assessment was conducted between February-September 2015. The second Land Use Change assessment was conducted during 08/07/2016 to 10/07/2016 by Mr. Masamichi Haraguchi of Kokusai Kogyo Co. Ltd. For details of the assessments, refer to Assessment Summaries and Management Plans and land use change assessment & images attached to this verification statement.

The results of the respective assessments reports and contents of the plan are comprehensive, of professional quality and comply with the relevant RSPO Principles, Criteria and Indicators.

Based on the review of the reports for Social Environment Impact Assessment, HCV Assessment, Summary of Planting, High Carbon Stock including land use change analysis, carbon emissions and sequestration, it can be concluded that the assessment and plans are comprehensive, professional and in conformance with RSPO New Planting Procedure.

For details of the summary, refer to attach document entitled Assessment summaries and management plans for Proposed New Development at Impu, Morobe, Papua New Guinea and the related HCV, SEIA, HCS and Land Use Change Analysis reports.

Name of CB	TÜV NORD INTEGRA bvba Statiestraat 164 2600 Antwerpen-Berchem BELGIUM
Name of Lead Auditor	Cheong, Chun Yuen (Robert)
Position	Lead Auditor
Signed	
Date	29/08/2016