

Summary of Thirty-Seventh SRWG Meeting

The Thirty-Seventh (37th) Shared Responsibility Working Group (SRWG) technical meeting was opened at 17:00pm (MY Time) and 10:00am (CET) on 4th March 2025 by the cochair. The meeting was conducted virtually. Topics of discussion covered updates on regional activities, the Extraordinary update of SR Scorecard, and the ToR (Terms of Reference)

The meeting started with a list of attendees for the meeting. The agenda of the meeting was presented to the SRWG briefly just after the anti-trust statement was read and acknowledged.

The meeting ended at 18:30 (MY Time) and 11:30 (CET)

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RSPO
RSPO Shared Responsibility Working Group (SRWG) 37th Meeting

Date: January 4, 2025 (Tuesday)

Time: 17:00 - 18:30 (MY Time)

10:00 -11:30 (CET)

Venue: Virtual (Zoom)

Attendance:

Members and Alternates

1. Julian Walker-Palin (JWP, RPOG)
2. Servane Molendini (Biscuit International)
3. Harjinder Kler (HK, HUTAN)
4. Selina Winter (ICOF Europe GmbH)
5. Kamal Seth (KS, WWF International)
6. Lim Sian Choo (Bumitama Agri Ltd)
7. Ayers Zhen Yi Hong (AZYH, Procter & Gamble)

Absent with Apologies

1. Surina Binti Ismail (Sbl, MPOA)
2. Hannah Mittner (HM, Lidl Stiftung & Co. KG)
3. Camille Maclet (CM, BNP Paribas)
4. Brian Lariche (BL, Humana Child Aid Society, Sabah)
5. Hazmilah Sulaiman (Wild Asia)
6. Nursanna Marpaung (NM, HUKATAN)

RSPO Secretariat

1. Inke Van Der Sluijs (IVDS)
2. Lilian Garcia Ledo (LGL)
3. Divya Bajpai (DB)

No	Description	Action Points
1.0	<p><u>Welcome Note</u></p> <p>The meeting began with welcoming members and updating the SRWG that Kamal Seth (co-chair and eNGO rep) will be retiring from SRWG as he has moved to co-chair the MDSC, governance body to which the SRWG reports to. Consequently, there is a vacancy for alternate eNGO and also for the co-chair position. The conversation ended with a reminder to nominate interested individuals for the vacant positions.</p> <p>The SRWG members acknowledged the anti-trust statement prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The agenda of the meeting included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcoming and Agenda 2. Approval of the 36th Meeting minutes 3. RSPO Secretariat updates 4. SR Performance 2024 - Feb 25 update 5. Discussion on Terms of Reference for the review of SR 6. Discussion on MyRSPO SR Policies 7. AOB and next meeting. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Find an eNGO interested to join as alternate member
2.0	<p><u>Approval of Minutes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36th SRWG meeting - 13 Dec - sent by email (<i>deadline for comments was 26th Jan</i>) as <i>no comment was received, Minutes will be uploaded on RSPO Website.</i> <p>No comments were made and minutes of the meeting were uploaded on the RSPO website.</p>	
3.0	<p><u>RSPO Secretariat Updates</u></p> <p>RSPO Secretariat:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members day in Madrid - SR socialisation 2. SPOD Confirmed on 21 May in Paris at Marriott Paris Charles de Gaulle 3. Prisma went live for members on 5th Feb (here) 4. RT2024 Report (here) 	

	<p>5. ACOP reporting period from 10th March until 2nd May 2025 (here)</p> <p>Overview of action points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To revisit and see SR mandate on the methodology on the CSPO uptake target, that is planned for 2025 - Part of the ToR process of SR ○ Number of Warning Letter to be issued (will discuss in this meeting)- Will be completed in March 2025 ○ SR Team is working with Business solution team to solve the IT related issues and will update the SRWG in next meeting- Completed ○ Approval on the decision paper from BoG on CSPO Uptake Target for Year 6 (2025)- to be discussed on 11 March during BOG meeting ○ To draft the terms of references for the review of the SR requirements 2019 Completed - update in this call ○ To add the reminder statement in ACOP to remind the members if they have completed the MyRSPO section of Shared Responsibility- Completed ○ To do an extraordinary update for Shared Responsibility Scorecard- Completed - update in this call ○ Review of the Shared Responsibility Requirements to enhance it for the next five years.- Part of the ToR process of SR 	
3.0	<p>Key Deliverables of SR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extraordinary Update is completed and revised SR Scorecard is published on RSPO website on 7th Feb 2025. 2. Total 916 warning letter need to be issue which will be completed by April 2025 3. The SR performance (i.e. SR policies and CSPO uptake targets) by region are being discussed with the MT regional teams to define the engagement strategies. Top consumers (P&T, CGMs and Retailers) who do not meet the uptake targets and/or remain at a lower uptake level to be engaged by the Director/CEO. 4. Decision Paper on SR targets for 2025 has been submitted again to the BoG - ToR for SR review as an attachment. 	

	<p>5. Alignment with SH Unit on SH inclusion requirement in SR. Discussion ongoing in how to strengthen it - will be part of the SR review in 2025</p>	
4.0	<p>SR Policies Performance 2024 based on Extraordinary Update Jan 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globally, 954 members out of 1968 active members (48%) reported in MyRSPO. 50% increase compared with last year (i.e. 596 members reported in the previous year) • Looking at the sectors, the number of P&T, CGM, Retailers and eNGOs members who have reported in MyRSPO has increased by 58%, 49%, 27% and 25% respectively. sNGOs and B&I number of members reporting in MyRSPO remains the same. • Despite the increase in number of members reporting in MyRSPO, there are still members per sector who do not report in MyRSPO and further engagement and monitoring is needed. <p>SR Uptake Target performance 2024 based on ACOP 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globally, 1188 members had to comply with the SR CSPO uptake target by ACOP2023. Since the target compliance is monitored, there have been an increase in the number of members meeting the uptake target year by year. • Globally, 674 members (57% of the total members, i.e 1188) met the CSPO uptake target for 2023. A small increase of 2% compared with last year (i.e. 662) • Leading regions in terms of number of members meeting the target are EU- 413 members, NA - 115, RoW- 79 (Japan 43 members) • Referring to the sectors, the number of P&T, CGM and Retailers who met the target has increased by 1%, 1% and 9% respectively. <p>In the 35th SRWG meeting on 1st October 2024 it was presented the <i>Actual CSPO uptake growth vs SR uptake target</i> by the P&T, CGM and Retailer. After some internal investigation it was concluded that those numbers are based on ALL the P&T, CGM and Retailers ACOP profiles answered during ACOP period, which is different from the SR SCOPE (i.e. Only Ordinary non grower members, uptake target applies to the primary business activity, and exemptions apply).</p>	<p>2. SR Unit to work with IMEL Unit to get the ‘Actual CSPO uptake growth vs SR uptake target’ data only counting on the P&T, CGM and Retailers that shall comply with SR uptake target. The correct data to be presented to the SRWG and MDSC in the due time.</p>

	<p>Therefore, the total number of P&T, CGM and Retailers considered in this assessment is different from those obliged to comply with the SR Uptake target and both indicators should not be compared.</p> <p>SR Unit to work with IMEL Unit to get the ‘Actual CSPO uptake growth vs SR uptake target’ data only counting on the P&T, CGM and Retailers that shall comply with SR uptake target. The correct data to be presented to the SRWG and MDSC in the due time.</p>	
5.0	<p>Terms of Reference for the Review of SR</p> <p>Draft Terms of Reference for the SR review - here</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared with SRWG by email and NO objection received (deadline 13 February). Currently under MDSC review, deadline 6th March. • SRWG is the governance body in charge of performing the SR review → feedback, support and willingness to reach consensus is expected by SRWG members. • The main objective is to keep the SR framework relevant for RSPO members. • Tentative timeline - year 2025: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ March call - kick start and initial alignment on some points ○ April call (tbd when) - alignment on new/open points ○ May physical meeting in Paris- finalise alignment on some key points, and bring them to the MDSC (joint meeting) ○ Q3 and Q4 calls/meetings TBD based on May outputs. <p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review all of the existing SR requirements to understand which ones have been: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. successfully implemented and what positive impacts have resulted, b. neglected and what are the barriers to compliance. <p>This review will be done by SR Unit</p> 2. Depending on the outcome under Objective 1, potentially revise the existing SR 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. SR Unit to identify the number of growers with P&T activities with the available ACOP data. 4. SR Unit to identify the number of P&T with CGM activity and the volumes traded as CGM with the available ACOP data, to identify if there is a significant leakage of uptake outside the SR scope. 5. SRWG to prepare a formal recommendation for the SCCS TF on allowing P&T to buy RSPO IS Credits.

	<p>requirements to make them more relevant and impactful, identifying:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> which requirements are relevant for <u>each</u> sector and which ones are most impactful to prioritise monitoring and implementation. which requirements are not relevant for <u>specific</u> sectors and could be temporarily or permanently removed from the SR framework. Given the insights gained from the analysis above, reconsider the scope of the SR implementation. <p>This review will be done together by SRWG and SR Unit</p> <p>The draft contains different topics to reconsider the scope of the SR implementation. Initial discussion and alignment on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Members to whom the SR requirements apply - Currently, SR applies to Ordinary members, with some exemptions and based on <u>registered</u> sector. <p>Q: Should the scope of the SR implementation be expanded to include growers with P&T or CGM activities?</p> <p>If so, what are the specific benefits of expanding the scope? Would expanding the scope help drive CSPO and CSPKO uptake?</p> <p><i>Discussion:</i> The group discusses expanding the scope of Shared Responsibility (SR) to include growers with processing and trading (P&T) activities. They consider the benefits and challenges of this expansion, including potential pushback from growers who are already subject to the P&C certification requirements. The discussion focuses on how to identify and classify these integrated companies, whether to base the classification on revenue or volume, and how to ensure transparent reporting of uptake in ACOP. It concluded the need to gather more data on the number of growers with P&T activities and their volumes before making a decision to expand the scope. SR Unit to identify the number of growers with P&T activities, and the number of P&T with CGM activity and the volumes traded as CGM.</p> CSPO/CSPKO uptake reporting - the uptake targets applicable are determined by registered sector (despite members being operating in different sectors) - E.g. P&T with CGM, Growers with P&T. 	
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	<p>Q: Shall the member comply with the uptake target corresponding to its registered sector, or should the member comply with ALL the uptake targets applicable to its operations, despite its registered sector?</p> <p><i>Discussion:</i> Some members of the Board do feel that there are significant volumes traded by P&T who have CGM activities and that they are not reported in ACOP as members normally only report in their registered sector.</p> <p>As in the previous discussion, it is concluded to gather the available data on the number of P&T with CGM activities and their volumes before making a decision on the uptake target applicable to integrated companies.</p> <p>3. The use of RSPO credits for increasing uptake - Currently, CGMs and Retailers can buy credits to cover their uptake.</p> <p>Q: Do we agree with allowing P&T buying (ISH) Credits? If so, will send the recommendation to the SCCS Review TF</p> <p><i>Discussion:</i> The group discusses the possibility of allowing processors and traders (P&Ts) to purchase independent smallholder credits. There is general support for this idea, especially for smallholder support activities. It was discussed that restricting P&Ts from buying credits seems odd and suggests reviewing this policy through the Supply Chain Certification Standard task force. The group agrees that allowing P&Ts to buy smallholder credits for support activities could be beneficial. SRWG decided to propose this change while keeping the broader question of P&Ts buying credits for uptake targets open for further discussion, pending more clarity on the original reasons for the restriction. The group emphasizes the need to align any changes with the Supply Chain Certification Standard to avoid conflicting rules in different documents.</p>	
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6.0	MyRSPO Section Discussion Due to time limitation the discussion cannot carried out and is moved to next SRWG meeting	
7.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next meeting will be joint physical meeting in Paris on 20th May 2025 with MDSC - SR Unit will assess if it is needed to have a virtual call in April to prepare the discussions to be held during the physical meeting. SRWG members will be informed in the due time. 	