

## **A.: NPP Notification Statement (including Verification Statement by CB)**

Date of Notification	15 September 2016
2. Name of Grower	SOTRADER (Societe Gabonaise De Transformation Agricol)
3. Name of Subsidiary (if any)	Not applicable
4. RSPO Membership No.	1-0187-15-000-00
5. Location of proposed new planting <i>Notes:</i>	i) Boite postale 13559, rue Valle Saintee Marie
(i) Grower Address	Galerie Tsika Ville Com de Libreville
(ii) Business Permit	ii) Registration of society, certificate of registration, statues of SOTRADER
(iii) Type of Business	iii) Develop 30,000 ha of palm plantation under
(iv) Size (ha)	schemed smallholders, managed by the Olam Palm Gabon.
(v) Contact persons	iv) Total NPP area: 58,400 ha
(vi) E-mail address	v) Audrey.lee@olamnet.com vi) The proposed agricultural concession area is
(vii) Geographical location	located 5 km north of the town of Ndendé straddling the Mouila-Ndendé main road across
(viii) Spatial Reference (GPS Coordinates)	the forest-savannah transition region of southern Gabon, in one of the two savannah
(ix) Boundary map	fingers reaching northwards into Gabon from the Republic of Congo.
(x) Areas and time plan for new plantings	vii) Proposed NPP area is situated between latitudes 02°10'S and 02°35'S and longitudes 11°09'E and 11°21'E
	viii)Boundary map is presented the NPP SEIA, HCV summary and management document. Shapefile is submitted to the RSPO secretariat as per NPP request.
	ix) Approximately 30,000 ha to be developed from 2016 to 2018. Time plan for new plantings is attached.



## 6. Statement of Acceptance of Responsibility for NPP

Sotrader is led by the Faizal Mathunni, head of palm and executives on site at operational level for the proposed new planting. The plantations management is structured according to various roles and functions to ensure implementation of best agronomic, environmental and social practices. Each of these divisions/unit is managed by a manager, and assisted by assistant managers or executives.

The summary of SEIA (Social and Environmental Impact Assessment) and HCV (High Conservation Value) assessments for the 58,400 hectare in proximity to Ndende Town proposed for development of oil palm plantations by Sotrader and has been accepted by the Management of Sotrader. Acceptance of responsibility for the assessments and management are presented as part of the NPP SEIA, HCV summary and management document.

7.

Name of Grower: SOTRADER

Name of Person Responsible: Audrey Lee

Position: Sustainability Manager, Olam International

Date: 29 July 2016

Signed:

8. Verification Statement by Certification Body (CB)

The NPP verification of SOTRADER conducted through document and field verification. BSI's auditor conducted preliminary document review in the week of 23rd June 2016. This was followed up with field verification visit to the proposed new planting site at Ndende, Ngouine Province, Gabon on 30th June 2016. The field verification includes meeting local people at the proposed new planting site and with the executives and staff assigned to involve in the NPP process were interviewed. The information on the proposed new planting has been communicated transparently to the surrounding community who might be affected by the proposed new planting and they are aware of the on-going FPIC process. At the time of field verification, clearing and preparation for planting had not commenced with exception of two 95 ha nursery site on savanna/grassland since June 2015 prior to the revised NPP. These nursery were evaluated by the ESIA assessors and authorized by the Department of Environment and prior consent was obtained from the local village.

SOTRADER as a RSPO member since 10 July 2015 is established with the aim to develop schemed smallholders that benefits local development. Statue of SOTRADER outline clear objective of SOTRADER. SOTRADER is a 51/49 public private partnership between the Government of Republic of Gabon and Olam International. Olam is appointed as the management company of SOTRADER. Size area to be proposed of new planting development covering 58,400 Ha which fall within land suitable for palm oil development identified by national authority. The lease agreement validation document issued by the Agence Nationale de L'urbanisme des Travaux Topographiques et du Cadastre (ANUTTC) is verified based on document dated on 8 July 2016 with an attached map and eighteen GPS



coordinates (GTM 2002) as a reference of Ndende site. Out of 58,400 ha, approximately 30,000 ha is allocated for development with remaining area will be set aside for conservation, HCS and community use.

Size area to be proposed of new planting development covering 58,400 Ha which fall within land suitable for palm oil development identified by national authority. Out of 58,400 ha, 52% is allocated for development with remaining area will be set aside for conservation, HCS and community use. There are ten (10) villages and/ or group of villages and two (2) districts of the city of Ndende distributed in the department of Dola.

Final document verification was conducted on 15th & 18th July 2016 by BSI Lead auditor at the BSI and Olam International Ltd's Kuala Lumpur office respectively. The final document verification includes the verification of final ESIA and HCV Summary Report. Summary of planning and management, and RSPO GHG Assessment report for the proposed new planting. The auditor concludes that the social and environmental assessments, HCV assessment summary and RSPO GHG Assessment report are follows the requirements of NPP with details on the assessment result, comprehensive and carried out by qualified professionals with required credibility. The HCV assessment was conducted by Proforest assessors registered under the HCV Resource Network Assessor Licensing Scheme (verified through HCVRN website; ALS: ALS15032AV and ALS: ALS15008DH) in period August 2015- April 2016 and complied with RSPO NPP requirement. The HCV assessment with ALS tier 1 was peer reviewed by HCVRN approved reviewer on 7th July 2016 as an additional means of quality assurance. The ESIA assessment was conducted by TEREA, a Gabonese environmental consultancy with expertise in the field of mining, quarrying, oil and gas, fisheries and infrastructure which finalized in July 2016. They have also worked previously with Olam Palm Gabon's Awala Plantation's ESIA assessment.

To fulfil of Criterion 7.3, SOTRADER also conducted Land Use Change Analysis (LUCA) to ensure that there is no deforestation due to land development. LUCA assessment conducted in June 2016 through combination of satellite imagery analysis from Landsat and carried out field sampling check. Stages and process LUCA are as follows:

- Maps and satellite imagery
- Analysis of vegetation stratification using LANDSAT imagery from 2005, 2010 & 2013

As a commitment to an implementation period for promoting best practices in reporting net GHG emission to RSPO, Olam Palm Gabon has completed the requirement of RSPO GHG Assessment Procedure for new planting by producing separate report to comply with the RSPO P&C 2013 criteria 7.8 which require new planting are designed to minimize greenhouse gas emission. The report includes identification and estimation of potential sources of emission and sinks of carbon associated with the new planting. In conjunction with the HCV assessment, the HCS assessment conducted by Proforest led by Dr Mike Senior by following HCS+ guideline and HCS approach toolkit version 1.0. The assessment was conducted by Proforest, TEREA and soil survey assessors. During the implementation period until 1 January 2017, the reporting on GHG will be to the RSPO Emission Reduction Working Group and has been made available by the grower to the auditor during document verification before field verification. At the time of completing this verification statement, Olam Palm Gabon has not yet submit the GHG assessment report. The GHG assessment report dated 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016 will be submitted to RSPO together with this NPP notification.

It is the opinion of the BSI's auditors that the Olam Palm Gabon has complied with the



RSPO New Planting Procedures.

## Conclusion

Based on the above verification it is concluded that SOTRADER the content of the plan are comprehensive, of professional quality and has complied with the RSPO Principles, Criteria and Indicators.

9.

Name of CB: BSI

Name of Lead Auditor: Hoo Boon Han

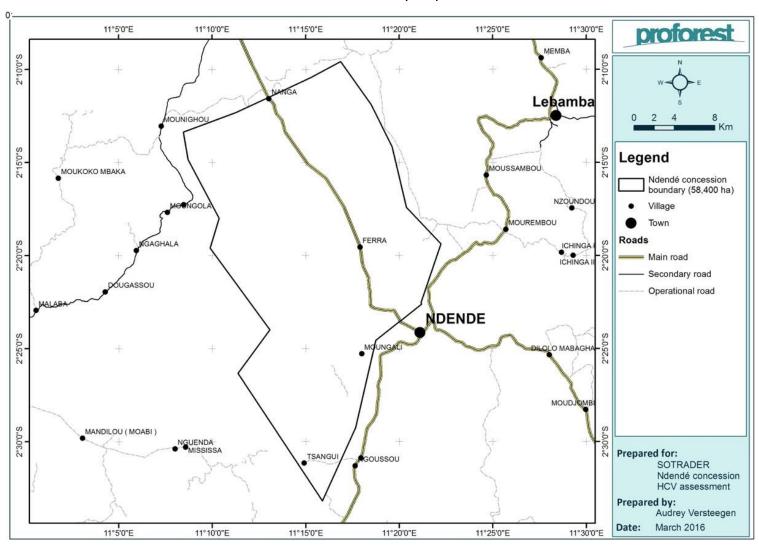
Position: Lead Auditor Date: 22 August 2016

Signed:

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## NPP Boundary Map





Time Plan for New Planting

			Time Plan for New Planting																					_	_		
			201	5		2016										2017											
SI. No	Activity Month>	0	N	D	J	F	М	A	М	J	J	A	S	0	N	D	J	F	М	A	М	J	J	A	S	0	N
1	Participatory mapping & socioeconomic survey																										
2	Field assessment for HCV, ESIA																										
3	Validation of participatory mapping																										
4	<b>Public consultation</b>																										
5	NGO and stakeholders consultation																										
	FPIC process and Social Contract																										
6	NPP notification																										
7	Construction of access roads																										
8	Land preparation																										
9	Construction of buildings																										
10	Lining																										
11	Cover crop planting																										
12	Holing																										
13	Planting													<i>Up to Dec 2019</i>													
14	Upkeep immature area																										



15	Sotrader RSPO						End of 2018	
13	certification							