

F. No. 3-6/2001-SU
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(S. U. Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi – 110003.

Dated: 6th March 2006

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

It has been decided to constitute a Committee consisting of the following experts to frame the Policy guidelines for '**Certification Processes**' towards 'Forest Certification' for Timber, Non-Timber forest Products etc.

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------------------------|
| 1. | Shri A.K. Mukherjee, Ex-IG (Forest) | Chairman |
| 2. | Mr. Giridhar J. Gyanti,
Secretary General, Quality Council of India | Member |
| 3. | Representative of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) | Member |
| 4. | Representative from APEDA,
Ministry of Commerce, GoI, New Delhi | Member |
| 5. | Mr. A. Rastogi, Organic Certification Programme, FAO(India) | Member |
| 6. | Dr. Madav Karki, IDRC, New Delhi | Member |
| 7. | Representative from CII (EMS Division) | Member |
| 8. | Shri Ranjit Puranik from Ayurvedic Drug
Manufacturer Association | Member |
| 9. | Dr. Kulkarni, Deputy General Manager, Plantations,
ITC Bhadrachalam | Member |
| 10. | Director, LEI (Lembaga Eco-level Indonesia), Indonesia | Member |
| 11. | Dr. Bipin Behari, DIG (Forests), MOEF, GoI | Member |
| 12. | Dr. A.K. Sharma,
Head, Non Wood Forest Products Division,
FRI, Dehradun | Member |
| 13. | Shri S.S. Patnaik, Ex-ADG (Forest), MoEF, GoI | Member |
| 14. | Dr. D.K. Ved, FRLHT, Bangalore | Member |
| 15. | Chairman, National Timber Association | Member |
| 16. | Shri Mukesh Dholkia,
Raipur, Secretary, National Minor Forest Produce Association | Member |
| 17. | Dr. B.P.S. Verma, Rtd. PCCF, Gujarat | Member |
| 18. | Dr. R.C. Sharma, Ex-PCCF, | Member Secretary |

Chattisgarh Forest Department

19. Dr. Manmohan Yadav, IIFM, Bhopal

Convener

The Terms of Reference for the above Committee will be as follows:

- (i) The committee shall study the certification processes adopted by International Certification Agencies such as PEFC, FSC, MTCC, LEI and BIS (Bureau of Indian Standards), Quality Council of India, International Standards Organisation (ISO - 14000), etc.
- (ii) The committee will recommend the certification processes and the detailed procedure to be followed by the certification bodies for carrying out the assignment / audit of a forest management unit (application) in India.
- (iii) The committee will specifically recommend as to how each principle and indicators/criteria/verifiers within each principle are to be assessed by the auditor/audit teams. The process and procedure of certification should also specify the field verification methodology with respect to indicators to be verified, method of verification, instruments used for verification, method of analysis. The certification process shall also include the stakeholders participation and consultation on major sustainability aspects i.e. Ecological, Social Cultural and Economic aspects.
- (iv) The committee will also explain/define each term used in the certification process as implied in the certification standard and applicable for forest certification in India.
- (v) The committee should arrive at a workable framework for certification processes so as to develop a synergy leading towards mutual recognition from International Forest Certification Schemes.

The committee will take the necessary action as per the above 'Terms of Reference' and submit its detailed report to this Ministry within six months' time.

It is the responsibility of the convener to arrange and facilitate deliberation of the Committee with the help of Member Secretary.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

(Dr. Bipin Behari)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests