

**CONSIDERATION AND DECISION OF THE FIRST MEETING ON THE STANDARDS REVIEW COMMITTEE (SRC) –
REVIEW OF MC&I(NATURAL FOREST)**

General Comments on Principles, Criteria and Indicators

General Comment Received	Consideration and Decision by the SRC
<p><u>Penang Institute</u></p> <p>The principles of MC&I are well deliberated and have included an extensive list of verifiers to support the criteria and indicators.</p> <p>Just one general comment would be on the role of forest managers. Since they are playing the main role in the MC&I, it is worth a consideration to incorporate an element of accountability and transparency of the forest managers' responsibilities in the MC&I, thus requiring an auditing exercise of the forest managers.</p>	<p>The Meeting agreed that the MC&I is a comprehensive listing of the roles and responsibilities of the forest manager. The auditing of the standard by third party certification bodies for forest management certification is in fact also an audit of the accountability and transparency of the forest managers.</p> <p>The institutional arrangement of the MTCS ensures accountability and transparency as auditing is conducted by an independent body that is accredited and monitored by another independent body which is the Department of Standards Malaysia.</p>
<p><u>Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)</u></p> <p>It is necessary to strengthen aspects of research and development (R&D) in the criteria and indicators to ensure scientific and technical information are been used significantly in supporting the forest management.</p>	<p>The Meeting opined that the requirement for research and development (R&D) and its application has been incorporated in the standard (specifically under Indicator 7.2.2 and Criterion 8.2). Additionally gaps in knowledge will be identified through the implementation of the MC&I which subsequently would provide opportunities for further strengthening forest management practices.</p>
<p><u>NEPCon</u></p> <p>Table of Contents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with Laws and Principle • Indigenous People's Rights • Community Relations and Worker's Rights • Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forest <p>[To match section heading, and/or to correct as written]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with Laws and Principles 	<p>The Meeting noted the comments by NEPCon on the difference of spelling as reflected in the Table of Content of the MC&I(Natural Forest) compared to the title of the Principles as it appears in the standard.</p> <p>The Meeting decided to amend the title of the Principle 4 as "Community Relations and Workers' Rights".</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous Peoples' Rights • Community Relations and Workers' Rights • Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests 	
<p><u>Asiatic Organic Farm Sdn. Bhd.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Perkara di atas dirujuk dan saya setuju setting up badan mengatasi pengurusan hutan (hutan asli). Hutan yang ditumbang mesti ditanam kembali (mosaic planting) seboleh-bolehnya.</i> • <i>Hutan kita semakin lama, semakin kurang. Operation dan output mesti dikawal.</i> • <i>Hanya memberi lesen untuk operasi kepada syarikat yang sanggup mengikut peraturan yang munasabah.</i> • <i>Kayu yang ditumbang mesti ditanam kembali (mosaic planting).</i> 	<p>The Meeting noted the comments by Asiatic Organic Farm Sdn. Bhd. are general in nature and correspond with the aim and intent of certification.</p>
<p><u>Global Environment Centre</u></p> <p>In the preparation of this document, one of the current environmental issues/disasters resulting from forest management was not included under Principle 6 as measures to address it and incorporated with the existing forest management plan. Here are some additional general suggestions for this document:</p> <p>1. Include consideration of climate change</p> <p>Given Malaysia's commitment to enhance measures for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. Malaysia submitted in November 2015 its "Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC)" to UNFCCC with a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions intensity by 45% by 2030. There should be greater emphasis on this in the revised MC&I such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced effort to protect and rebuild carbon-rich mangroves and peat swamps by specific reference to maintaining such critical and fragile ecosystems. • The carbon stocks in these ecosystems are among the highest of any forest and their destruction results in large emissions of greenhouse gasses. Added emphasis should be placed on rehabilitation of degraded forest land. • Degradation of mangroves and peat swamps in Malaysia is also leaving communities more vulnerable to storms, forest fires, haze and leading to the loss of wildlife, fish and biodiversity. These ecosystems should either not be logged or logging intensity reduced significantly or wide internal buffer zones should be established (e.g. 400m from the coast in the case of mangroves – in line with JPS guidelines on coastal development). 	<p>The Meeting noted the various comments and recommendations by GEC and agreed to consider the comments while reviewing the specific proposals submitted by the various stakeholders.</p>

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<p>2. Buffer zone management should be emphasized</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many of the threats to forests are from uncontrolled development of adjacent areas (beyond FR boundary) • External buffer zones are seen as an important tool in conserving areas of ecological importance, while at the same time addressing the development issues of the people in the areas surrounding the forest reserve. • Buffer zones can reduce degradation or fire risk in forest boundaries and also enhance sustainability of activities of local stakeholders. <p>3. Give clear guidance in verifier section</p> <p>Consideration should be given to adding specific guidance in the verifier section rather than just listing a large number of related manuals. In cases it may be more useful to extract the specific guidance from such manuals and include it in the verifier section. Such an approach is used by RSPO in its P&C and enhances the understanding of both the land manager and the auditor on the specific guidance that needs to be followed.</p>	
<p><u>Zedtee Sdn. Bhd.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to lay the groundwork for the unification of MC&Is (NF) and (FP) - The fatiguing cycles for the review of the two standards need to be broken at some stage. NOW is the time!? • Proposal for a unified standard: MC&I (Forest Management). • Need for a structural framework for the organisation of Principles to reduce symptomatic repetitions and cross references. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Balanced roles and contributions from different stakeholder groups. ○ Facilitate training, monitoring and assessment. • Proposal for a hierarchy of Principles based on natural processes or practical progression <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enable appraisal in phases. ○ Reduce costs and demand on critical resources (including qualified certification bodies / auditors / assessors) • Need to review the current and corresponding “Audit Procedure” • Need pragmatic response to land use reality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Holistic forest management plan including plantation. (An illustration of the integration of P10 into the unified standard is attached as appendix). 	<p>The Meeting acknowledged and appreciated the efforts undertaken by Zedtee Sdn. Bhd. in providing comments and proposal to restructure the standard according to the thematic elements of sustainable forest management and a logical framework from planning to implementation and monitoring.</p> <p>The Meeting considered the comments by Zedtee Sdn. Bhd. as a whole, noting that the Specific Comments submitted reflected changes arising from the proposed structural organisation for the Principles and Criteria of the MC&I.</p> <p>Considering that the proposals entail a major restructuring of the standard, the Meeting agreed to revisit the proposal of merging the two standards for natural forest and forest plantation for deliberation at the next SRC Meeting.</p>

Specific Comments on Principles, Criteria and Indicators

Document Full Path	Respondent Name	Comment	Proposed Text / Amendment	Consideration and Decision by the SRC
PRINCIPLE 1				
Principle 1	Zedtee Sdn. Bhd.	Update Forests Ordinance (Cap. 126)	"Forests Ordinance, 2015"	The Meeting agreed to update the Verifier for Sarawak as "Forests Ordinance, 2015 (Cap. 71)". The amendment will be made throughout the standard.
Criterion 1.1	NEPCon	Given it is the Organization that is undertaking forest management actions, it seems reasonable to change the wording to reflect this. However, it is helpful to stipulate the focus on forest management: reading Indicator 1.1.1, where it says "(...) in particular those, related to forest management", it seems that the condition is that all legal requirements are complied with; which makes sense because it is not clear if activities – such as (for example) having legal contracts for workers or paying taxes on timber – are considered part of forest management.	Change "Forest management shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and administrative requirements" to "The Organization shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and administrative requirements"	The Meeting deliberated on the proposed text and decided to maintain the existing term "Forest management" as it is a more generic term that covers not only the forest manager, but also the way that the forest is being managed.
Criterion 1.1	WWF-Malaysia	There may be changes to the relevant laws, regulations etc. and this need to be updated on a periodic basis. As such there needs to be a system in place to address this.	To include an additional indicator (1.1.4) "A system is in place to update relevant laws, regulations, policies/ plans".	The Meeting was of the view that the stipulation of Indicator 1.1.1 requiring for "up-to-date applicable ... laws" as well as the five-year periodical review of the standard would ensure the continuous update of relevant laws and regulations to address the concerns of WWF-Malaysia.

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Criterion 1.1 and related Indicators	Forever Sabah via LEAP	The three Indicators under C1.1 (records of laws, awareness and knowledge of laws, and records of violations) do not necessarily provide for compliance with all applicable laws and administrative requirements.	Add another Indicator after 1.1.2., e.g. "Forest managers incorporate and implement applicable federal, state and local laws, and the regulatory framework for forest management, in their respective forest management plans, standard operating procedures and other related procedures and actions." The Verifier could be: "Reference to applicable federal, state and local laws and the regulatory framework and provisions thereof in policies, SOPs and other related procedures and actions; and evidence of implementation of related laws and provisions in operations."	The Meeting noted the issue raised by Forever Sabah and expressed the view that the requirement for maintaining record of violation as indicated in Indicator 1.1.3 implies that provision has been made to assess compliance with the applicable laws and administrative requirements. Additionally, assessments of compliance to the various relevant laws are also carried out as required in other parts of the standard. Any non-compliance would be identified and highlighted in the audit report.
Indicator 1.1.1	NEPCon	'Compliance' is a key component of the Criterion but is not included in any of the indicators.	Change "Records and availability of up-to-date applicable federal, state and local laws, and regulations and policies, in particular those related to forest management" to "Demonstration of a record of compliance with up-to-date applicable federal, state and local laws, and regulations and policies, in particular those related to forest management".	As mentioned above, the Meeting was of the view that the demonstration for compliance will be carried out throughout the standard.
Verifier 1.1.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	The list of laws is not fully up-to-date.	Update the list of federal and state laws to reflect the latest subsidiary legislation, especially on forests	The list of laws will be updated accordingly during the review.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia		<u>Federal Law</u> To include "National Policy on Climate Change; and International Trade in Endangered Species Act, 2008."	The Meeting agreed to include "National Policy on Climate Change; and International Trade in Endangered Species Act, 2008" as Verifiers for Peninsular, Sabah and Sarawak.

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Verifier 1.1.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	The actual name of the enactment	<u>State Law</u> To amend "Biodiversity Enactment, 2000" to "Sabah Biodiversity Enactment, 2000"	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	The Order has been upgraded	<u>State Law</u> To replace "Environment Protection (Prescribed Activities) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Order, 2005" with "Environment Protection (Prescribed Activities) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Order, 2012".	In view that the "Environment Protection (Prescribed Activities) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Order, 2012" has yet to be enforced, the proposed amendment will be kept in view and updated accordingly once it enters into force.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	There is no longer Sabah Parks Ordinance, 1962	<u>State Law</u> To replace "Sabah Parks Ordinance, 1962" with "Park Enactment, 1984"	The Meeting sought clarification on the relevance of the proposed new verifier "Park Enactment, 1984," and decided to revisit the proposed inclusion when further information is obtained.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia		<u>State Law</u> To include "Drainage & Irrigation Ordinance, 1956"	The Meeting decided not to include this proposed Verifier as the implementation of this Ordinance is beyond the jurisdiction of the forest management and that water management in forest areas is covered under the "Water Resources Enactment 1998".
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Rearrangement of the verifiers.	<u>State Law</u> Move bullet 4 (Forest Enactment 1968 & Forest Rules 1969) to 2 nd bullet (after Sabah State Constitution)	The Meeting agreed that the Verifiers would be rearranged in alphabetical order.
V 1.1.1 (PM)	WCS-Malaysia Program		Add National Elephant Conservation Action Plan	The Meeting agreed with the proposal to include the National Elephant Conservation Action Plan as a new Verifier.

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Verifier 1.1.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	WWF-Malaysia	A new EIA Order has been passed by the Parliament to replace the 1987 EIA Order.	<p><u>Federal Law</u> To replace “Environmental Quality (Prescribed Activities) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Order, 1987” with “Environmental Quality (Prescribed Activities) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Order, 2015”</p> <p>*Note : This change needs to be reflected throughout the document, where the 1987 EIA Order is mentioned e.g. in Principle 6</p>	The Meeting agreed with the proposed amendment, which will be reflected throughout the document.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	WWF-Malaysia	The CFS masterplans are important plans that call for sustainable management of forests within the CFS area and maintaining and creating ecological linkages where identified. As such this is an important verifier.	<p><u>Policies</u> To include “National Policy on Climate Change; Central Forest Spine I : Masterplan for Ecological Linkages” and “Central Forest Spine II : Masterplan for Ecological Linkages”</p>	The Meeting deliberated on the proposal by WWF-Malaysia and agreed to include the “National Policy on Climate Change”. However, the Meeting was of the view that the existing verifier “National Physical Plan” (NPP) is sufficient and it has encompassed the proposed CFS I and II.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Enakmen berkaitan hanya terpakai untuk negeri-negeri yang berkenaan sahaja.	<p>Tambahan perkataan “(Negeri Johor sahaja); (Negeri Perak sahaja); (Negeri Selangor sahaja)” pada senarai verifier Undang-Undang Negeri:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enakmen Perbadanan Taman Negara Johor, 1989 (<i>Negeri Johor sahaja</i>) • Enakmen Perbadanan Taman Negeri Perak, 2001 (<i>Negeri Perak sahaja</i>) • Enakmen Perbadanan Taman Negeri Selangor, 2005 (<i>Negeri Selangor sahaja</i>) 	The Meeting noted that the applicability of the stated enactments in the respective states are implied and therefore agreed to retain the existing Verifiers.

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Verifier 1.1.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	New policies/laws	<u>State Laws</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Lembaga Urus Air Selangor</u> • <u>Lembaga Urus Air Kedah</u> <u>Policies</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>National Water Resources Policy</u> 	The Meeting agreed to include the National Water Resources Policy. However the proposal to include the two Boards as new Verifiers under State Laws were deemed inappropriate.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant laws to be considered as reference.	<u>Federal Law</u> To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosafety Act 2007 • Immigration Act 1959/63 • International Trade in Endangered Species Act 2008 • Minimum Retirement Age Act 2012 • National Wages Consultative Council Act 2011 (including the 'Minimum Wages Order 2012) • Plant Quarantine Act 1976 	The Meeting agreed to include the proposed Acts as new Verifiers for all regions in Malaysia. However, the inclusion of Biosafety Act 2007 as a Verifier for Sarawak will be reconsidered at the next meeting of SRC.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia		<u>State Law</u> To amend "Forests Ordinance (Cap. 126)" to "Forests Ordinance, 2015 (Cap 71)".	The Meeting agreed with the proposed amendment.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia		<u>State Law</u> To amend "Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap. 76)" to "Labour Ordinance Sarawak, 1952 (Sarawak Cap. 76)"	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as "Labour Ordinance Sarawak, 1952 (Cap. 76)". The same amendment will be made throughout the standard related to this Verifier.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia		<u>State Law</u> To amend "Land Code (Cap. 81)" to "Land Code, 1958 (Cap. 81)"	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as "Land Code, 1958 (Cap. 81)". The same amendment will be made throughout the standard related to this Verifier.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	<u>State Law</u> To amend "Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance (Cap. 84)" to	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as "Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance, 1958 (Cap. 84)". The same amendment will be

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			"Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance, 1958 (Cap. 84)"	made throughout the standard related to this Verifier.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	<u>State Law</u> To include "Natural Resources and Environment (Fire Danger Rating System) Order, 2004"	The Meeting was of the view that the proposed law is not relevant for the management of natural forests as it applies to open burning of timber and vegetative residues on land for development or the establishment of commercial plantations.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	To be consistent with the verifier captured under MC&I(Forest Plantation)	<u>State Law</u> To change the word of ' <i>adat</i> ' with customary laws / <i>adat</i> laws	The Meeting considered the proposal by WWF-Malaysia and noted that <i>adat</i> is the term used for "customary laws" in Sarawak. The Meeting agreed to maintain the current wording for <i>adat</i> and add "customary laws" in the Verifier.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	<u>Policies</u> To include "Orangutan Strategic Action Plan: Trans-boundary Biodiversity Conservation Area"	The Meeting agreed with the proposal to include "Orangutan Strategic Action Plan: Trans-boundary Biodiversity Conservation Area" as a new Verifier for Sarawak.
Verifier 1.1.1 (Sarawak)	WCS-Malaysia Program	New legislation has been gazetted	<u>State Law</u> – to replace Forest Ordinance (Cap 126) with Forest Ordinance 2015 (Chapter 71)	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as proposed.
Indicator 1.1.3 (General Comment)	NEPCon	In several indicators, the phrase is missing a verb, so the requirement is not clear and there can therefore be different interpretations, e.g. between the certificate holder and the certifier. At the very minimum the wording shall be consistent (see e.g. 1.1.2 or 1.2.2 vs 1.1.1 or 1.1.3).	Change "Record of violations and actions taken to address them" to "Record of violations and actions taken to address them shall be maintained"	The Meeting decided to maintain the Indicator without any amendment as the maintenance of records is deemed implicit.

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Indicator 1.2.1	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Verifier ini telah diambilkira dalam Kaedah-kaedah Hutan Negeri.	Padamkan – “Jadual Kedua (Kadar Premium), Jadual Ketiga (Kadar Royalti), Jadual Keempat (Premium dan Ses Hutan) dan Jadual Kelima (Kerosakan-kerosakan Berbayar)”	The Meeting agreed with the proposal to remove reference to specific sections of the “State Forest Rules”.
Verifier 1.2.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	To be specific, as listed in for Sarawak State	To include “Forest Enactment 1968 [Sections 24C & 42(d),]”; “Forest Rules 1969, Rule 12(1)”; “Removal Pass”, “Revenue Hammer Mark”, “Timber Disposal Permit”; “Monthly Revenue Collection Report”.	The Meeting decided to refer the proposal to the Sabah Forestry Department for comment, and for this matter to be deliberated at the next meeting of SRC.
Verifier 1.2.1 (Sarawak)			Sarawak: Amend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forests Ordinance (Cap. 126) – <i>First Schedule</i> [Section 45(1)]: Produce Taken Under Licence – • Rates of Royalty and <i>Second Schedule</i> [Section 48 (1)]: Produce Taken Under Permit • <i>Third Schedule</i> [Section 48(2)]: Issuance or Renewal of License 	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier for Sarawak as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forests Ordinance, 2015 (Cap. 71) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>First Schedule</i> [Section 45(1)]: Forest Produce Taken Under Licence – Rates of Royalty ○ <i>Second Schedule</i> [Section 48 (1)]: Forest Produce Taken Under Licence – Rates of Fees ○ <i>Third Schedule</i> [Section 48(2)]: Issuance or Renewal of License – Rates of Fees
Verifier 1.2.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	To be specific, as listed in for Sarawak State	To replace “FD Circulars” with “CF Circular 1/81 Measurement of Timber For Royalty Assessment-CF No 1/81 2006 Version, 1 st Revision”	The Meeting decided to refer the proposal to the Sabah Forestry Department for comment, for the matter to be deliberated at the next meeting of SRC.
Criterion 1.3 and Indicator 1.3.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Indicator 1.3.1. (awareness of laws of binding international agreements) does not necessarily provide for actually respecting such agreements.	Add another Indicator after 1.3.1., e.g. “Forest managers incorporate and implement binding international agreements relevant to forest management, in their respective forest management plans, standard operating	The Meeting deliberated on this proposal and noted that there are challenges in implementing certain international agreements due to differing local conditions. The Meeting agreed that the essence of Principle 1

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			<p>procedures and other related procedures and actions.”</p> <p>The second part of the Verifier could be revised to: “Reference to binding international agreements and provisions thereof in policies, SOPs and other related procedures and actions; and evidence of implementation of binding international agreements and provisions thereof in operations.”</p>	is that binding international agreements is respected through the implementation of relevant national laws. The Meeting decided to re-visit this item at the next meeting.
Criterion 1.3, Indicator 1.3.1 and Verifier	Forever Sabah via LEAP	It should not only be limited binding international agreements. Non-binding international agreements such as the Sustainable Development Goals – which were adopted by the UN General Assembly and apply to Malaysia – are essential elements of the global framework for forest governance.	Remove the word “binding” before “international agreements”.	The Meeting agreed that it is currently sufficient to limit the scope to binding international agreements, but the possibility of expanding the scope to cover non-binding international agreement could be considered in the future.
Verifier 1.3.1	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To include “ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, 2002”; and “United Nations Resolution A/RES/69/314 on Tackling the Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife, 2015”	The Meeting agreed to include “ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, 2002” as a Verifier but decided to further consider the proposal to include “United Nations Resolution A/RES/69/314 on Tackling the Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife, 2015” at the next meeting.
Verifier 1.3.1	Global Environment Centre	These are important international agreement relevant to forest management in Malaysia. Malaysia’s Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) 2015 indicates that Malaysia needs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions intensity by 45% by 2030	<p>Add new verifiers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, 2002 • Paris Agreement on Climate Change, 2015 • Malaysia’s Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) 2015 	<p>The Meeting agreed to include “ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, 2002” and the “Paris Agreement on Climate Change, 2015” (upon confirmation on its ratification) as a Verifier.</p> <p>The Meeting further decided that the inclusion of INDC 2015 is not necessary as it is a national</p>

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		including through enhanced forest management.		intended commitment which could not be verified/ implemented at the individual FMU level.
Verifier 1.3.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	International agreements (as with all laws and policies) should be read in their entirety. It is fine to refer to specific provisions that are particularly relevant, but it would be better to not limit it only to those provisions.	For each international agreement listed, state that the agreements in their entirety shall be applied but particular attention shall be given to the specified provisions.	The Meeting agreed to remove reference to specific articles so that the agreement would apply in its entirety.
Verifier 1.3.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Agenda 21 was adopted at the 1992 Rio Summit The Strategic Plan was adopted as a decision of the 10 th Conference of the Parties to the CBD, including Malaysia. Malaysia has not yet signed the Nagoya Protocol but has a draft Access to Biological Resources and Benefit Sharing Act The Akwe:Kon Guidelines were adopted in 2004 as a decision of the 7 th Conference of the Parties to the CBD, including Malaysia Malaysia signed and ratified ITTA 2006 in 2007 (see link) Malaysia acceded to the Basel Convention in 1993 The SDGs / 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015 The NLBI was adopted by the UN General Assembly in December 2007	In the list of international agreements, add the following: Agenda 21, particularly Chapter 11 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and Aichi Targets 2011-2020 (under UN CBD), particularly Targets 3-5, 7, 11, 14-15, and 18 Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, 2010 (under UN CBD) Akwe: Kon Guidelines for the conduct of cultural, environmental and social impact assessments regarding developments proposed to take place on or likely to impact on sacred sites and on lands and waters traditionally occupied or used by indigenous and local communities (under UN CBD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Tropical Timber Agreement, 2006 Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, 1989 	The Meeting considered the proposals by Forever Sabah and decided on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not to include “Chapter 11 of Agenda 21”, “Aichi Targets” and “Nagoya Protocol” as all three are covered under the National Biodiversity Policy; Not to include the voluntary “Akwe: Kon Guidelines,” as the requirement for the conduct of social impact assessment and protection of cultural and sacred sites are already covered in Indicators 3.2.1, 3.3.1, 4.4.1. Nevertheless the value of the Guideline as a reference document was noted; Not to include the “Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, 1989” as it deals mainly with international movement of hazardous material and therefore is deemed not relevant, as waste management is sufficiently covered under Criterion 6.7; To include “UN Sustainable Development Goals” as a broad-based policy that promotes sustainable forest management; and Not to include the “Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests, 2007” as it is

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goals 12, 13 and 15 The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests, 2007 (developed by the UN Forum on Forests) 	not a legally binding agreement.
Indicator 1.4.2	NEPCon	'Willingness' is difficult to audit objectively.	Change "Forest managers are willing to participate in any process to resolve such conflicts that may arise with the affected parties" to "Forest managers are actively participating in any process to resolve such conflicts that may arise with the affected parties".	The Meeting noted that the audibility/objectivity of "willingness" and "actively participating" is similar i.e. based on the records of meeting or any process towards resolving a conflict. The Meeting decided to maintain the original language, considering that "actively participating" is subjective and more difficult to audit.
Criterion 1.5	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Indigenous peoples and local communities in Malaysia contribute significantly to conservation and protection of forests but often go unrecognised by government and the private sector. Respectful engagement between communities and forest managers / FMUs would strengthen control of encroachment and other activities by outsiders.	Add another Indicator after 1.5.2 to provide for community conserved and protected forests, e.g.: "Recognition of and respect for community owned, designated or otherwise controlled forests and customary laws and other community mechanisms for enforcement, protection and conservation."	The Meeting was of the view that the concern on the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities had been sufficiently addressed under Criterion 2.2 and Principle 3 of the standard.
Indicator 1.5.1	WWF-Malaysia	This could provide a clear picture to auditor and public on the activities allowed within FMU to ease the efforts in detecting any illegal/ unauthorized activities; clearly demarcated native/indigenous people area would also ease the ground auditing for principle 2 and 3.	To include the following as guidance under the indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicly available maps of an appropriate scale showing the extent of different functions of forests within forest management unit (forest classes) (if any) Publicly available document and maps and clearly demarcated of 	The Meeting was of the view that the proposed guidance had been sufficiently addressed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item (i) is a requirement under Criteria 7.1 and 7.4; and Item (ii) is captured under Criterion 2.1.

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			native/indigenous people area with documented agreement with affected group	
Indicator 1.5.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	As above, availability of legal provisions alone does not necessarily lead to protection of forest management areas, as required by Criterion 1.5	Amend to (addition in underline): "Availability of <u>and compliance with</u> legal provisions..."	The Meeting noted that the requirement for compliance with the legal provisions is reflected in the heading for the column on Verifiers.
Verifier 1.5.1	WWF-Malaysia	As maps and action plan could provide a solid pictures on how these provisions could and would be addressed.	To amend "Compliance with the following through records of monitoring" to "maps and documents as per the guidance of the indicator, and complying with the following"	The Meeting was of the view that the existing wording is sufficient and clearer.
Verifier 1.5.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Penubuhan Hutan Simpanan Kekal (HSK) di dalam FMU perlu mengambilkira semua Akta lain yang berkaitan. Justeru itu verifier Akta Orang Asli 1954 – Seksyen 7 perlu dipadamkan. Verifier Akta Perhutanan Negara 1984 (Seksyen 7 – 13) sudah memadai. Sekiranya verifier Akta Orang Asli 1954 – Seksyen 7 akan dikekalkan, verifier lain juga perlu dibuat tambahan.	Padamkan verifier "Akta Orang Asli 1954 – Seksyen 7"	The Meeting noted that the "Aboriginal Peoples Act, 1954" had been taken into consideration in the establishment of Permanent Reserved Forest in Peninsular Malaysia. Considering that the requirement to respect the rights of indigenous peoples as enshrined in the "Aboriginal Peoples Act, 1954" are elaborated in Principles 2 and 3, the Meeting agreed to remove the "Aboriginal Peoples Act, 1954" as a Verifier under Indicator 1.5.1.
Verifier 1.5.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Laws should be read in their entirety. It is fine to refer to specific provisions that are particularly relevant, but it would be better to not limit it only to those provisions.	For each law listed, state that they shall be applied in their entirety, but particular attention shall be given to the specified provisions.	As per the proposed amendment, the Meeting agreed to remove the reference to specific provisions in the laws so that the laws would be read in their entirety.
Verifier 1.5.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Rearrangement of the verifiers.	Move bullet 3 (Forest Enactment, 1968 – Part II (Sections 5-7, 22) to 1 st bullet	The Meeting noted that the Verifiers will be arranged according to alphabetical order.

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Verifier 1.5.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant laws to be considered as reference.	To include "Interpretation Ordinance (Cap. 61)" and "Wild Life Protection Rules, 1998"	The Meeting agreed to include "Interpretation Ordinance (Cap. 61)" and "Wild Life Protection Rules, 1998" as new Verifiers for Sarawak.
Indicator 1.5.2	NEPCon	The Criterion specifies that the FMUs are to be protected from the specific activities – whereas as currently written the activities may be controlled to some degree, however the FMU may not be (completely) protected.	Change "Control of encroachment, illegal harvesting, hunting, and settlement, and other unauthorised activities in the FMU" to "FMUs shall be protected from encroachment, illegal harvesting, hunting, and settlement, and other unauthorised activities".	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as "FMU shall be protected from encroachment, illegal harvesting, hunting, and settlement, and other unauthorised activities".
Indicator 1.5.2	WWF-Malaysia	Having these guidance would and could ease the auditing process and making the standards and certification more credible with specific guidance proving the efforts towards curbing illegal and/or authorized activities.	To include the following as guidance under the indicator: i. A document detailing the monitoring and implementation plan for controlling illegal and unauthorized activities, which shall be communicated to all levels of workforce and operations. ii. Total number of observed ground control measures, i.e. signage, gates	The Meeting considered the proposal to include the proposed guidance under Indicator 1.5.2. Taking on board the concerns of WWF-Malaysia and WCS-Malaysia Program, the Meeting agreed to amend the first two Verifiers as follows: • "Evidence of control measures (e.g. signages, boundaries demarcation, <u>camera-trap images</u> , etc.);" and • "Records of actions taken (<u>e.g. smart patrol, response to alerts, camera trapping</u>) and copies of reports to relevant authorities".
Indicator 1.5.2	WCS-Malaysia Program	A high level of encroachment and illegal activities is occurring in PRFs.	Verifier: Need to implement effective monitoring and control methods E.g. surveillance cameras, smart patrols, hardcore patrol units. Robust supervision of the monitoring & control is also needed.	
Indicator 1.5.2	Zedtee Sdn Bhd	Legal provisions and verifiers already addressed by Indicator 1.5.1. Administrative indicator to move to the Principle for Management Plan and/or Environment Impact.	To delete	The Meeting decided to maintain Indicator 1.5.2 concerning the implementation of control measures, noting Indicator 1.5.1 is with regard to compliance with the relevant legal provisions.

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Indicator 1.5.2	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Verifier ini tidak berkaitan dengan Petunjuk 1.5.2.	Padamkan verifier “Rancangan Pengurusan Hutan.”	The Meeting decided to maintain the Forest Management Plan (FMP), as elements relating to control and monitoring measures are contained in the FMP.
Verifier 1.5.2	WWF-Malaysia	<p>Having these efforts properly planned out as per planned activities and capturing its within existing Forest Management Plan and Post-harvesting plan will make information and evidence gathering easier and more comprehensive.</p> <p>These proposed examples will provide a more detailed guidance on the evidence required to curb illegal harvesting/hunting. Access to forest reserves through old logging roads can increase poaching incidences and closing off these old logging roads and controlling access to forest reserves can deter access. The number of personnel and resources assigned (for example per 100ha of forest reserve/FMU) as well as records of the number of patrols conducted will indicate if the resources and patrolling efforts are sufficient to effectively curb illegal encroachment and harvesting in forest reserves.</p>	<p>To amend “Compliance with the following through record of monitoring” to “Forest Management Plan, Post-Harvesting plan, and/or through record of monitoring/monitoring system, capturing information on the following”; and To include more details in the verifier as evidence to curb illegal encroachment/ harvesting/hunting. These include (but not limited to) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest have gates and/or have controlled access; • Temporary roads are physically closed off after harvesting; • Forest roads are patrolled to detect and prevent illegal access to the forest; • Number of personnel and resources assigned on the ground to detect and control illegal activities promptly. • Records of patrol conducted 	<p>The Meeting noted the well-intended proposals but was of the view that erection of gates would deny the local community’s access to the forest. The Meeting further noted that control measures through patrolling and related actions would be most effective in curbing illegal activities and decided to amend the Verifiers (for all three regions) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of control measures (e.g. <u>patrols</u>, signages, boundaries demarcation, etc.) • Records of actions taken (e.g. <u>smart patrols</u>, <u>response to alerts</u>) and copies of reports to relevant authorities. <p>All other Verifiers are maintained.</p>
Verifier 1.5.2 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Relevant to this indicator.	Add “Forest Management Plan” as a new verifier to this indicator	The Meeting agreed to add “Forest Management Plan” as a new Verifier for Sabah.

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Criterion 1.6	WWF-Malaysia	As the main gist of adhering to these Principles and Criteria is about achieving sustainability; the criteria is therefore be made to reflect this in a more holistic and credible manner.	To amend "Forest managers shall demonstrate long-term commitment to adhere to these Principles and Criteria" to "Forest managers shall demonstrate commitment(s) to long-term economic, environmental and social viability and sustainability".	The Meeting deliberated on the comment and decided to maintain the existing wording of the Criterion as the Principles and Criteria of the standard covers the three pillars of sustainability.
Criterion 1.6 and related Indicators and Verifier	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Long-term commitments are valuable and important. However, issues around such commitments have arisen in other jurisdictions such as Canada where the company pursuing certification is not the landowner. In addition, long-term commitments should be underpinned by action plans with tangible milestones and timelines.	The commitment should also reflect: 1) the tenure of the land (e.g. time period of the license, if it is exclusive or if other companies' operations overlap to some degree, etc.), and 2) risk associated with logging old growth and natural forest in new areas, which could then be converted to plantations (etc.). Could also add another Indicator, e.g. "Development of time-bound plans for implementing such policies or statements."	The Meeting considered the comment and concluded that: 1) In Malaysia, all public forest areas are state-owned. Requirement for security of tenure is reflected in Criterion 2.1 and therefore not necessary to be repeated in Criterion 1.6. 2) Risk on conversion is covered under Criterion 6.10 and the commitment by FMUs to pursue SFM is demonstrated by its efforts in obtaining certification 3) Development of timber-bound plans is reflected in the FMP of the FMU.
Indicator 1.6.1	WWF-Malaysia	Changing the indicator to reflect the contribution and alignment to criteria; while capturing the specific guidance achieving this to ease the auditing and compliance.	To amend "Availability of policies or statements of commitment to forest management practices consistent with these Principles and Criteria" to "Availability of policies, statements and/or plan of commitment(s) towards achieving long-term economic, environmental and social viability and sustainability." Guidance: i. Policies or statements should contain: a. Complying to applicable federal, state and local laws and administrative requirements	As per the decision made under Criterion 1.6, the Meeting decided to maintain the existing wording of this Indicator. The Meeting agreed that the guidance as proposed has been covered under Indicator 1.1.3 and the commitment to adhere to the requirement of this voluntary standard would be indicated throughout their commitment to undergo forest certification.

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			<p>(compliance to Criteria 1.1 of this Standard).</p> <p>b. Contributing to achieving relevant binding international agreements applicable to forest management (contributing to relevant listed verifier of Criteria 1.3)</p> <p>c. Disclosure of associated companies</p> <p>d. Made publicly available (i.e. posted on website, and/or captured in Annual Report)</p>	
Verifier 1.6.1	WWF-Malaysia	These could serve as good verifier of such policies, statements and/or plans towards achieving sustainability and viability of management regime.	To include "Forest Management Plan", and "website and annual report"	The Meeting maintained that the "written policies" are broad enough to include website and annual report, and that the organization should be given the freedom to best communicate their commitment. The Meeting decided that the additional Verifiers were not necessary.
Indicator 1.6.2	NEPCon	Meaning is clearer with addition of 'to'.	Change "Policies or statements are communicated throughout the organisation and contractors, and are made available to the public" to "Policies or statements are communicated throughout the organisation and to contractors, and are made available to the public".	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as proposed.
Verifier 1.6.2	WWF-Malaysia	To better capture trainings provided as a means of efforts contributing to ensuring staffs are well-informed on all related policies, plans and missions towards achieving sustainability	To amend "Records of staff briefings" to "Records of staff briefings and trainings"	The Meeting was of the view that "briefing" would be sufficient to communicate the relevant policies as "trainings" are normally conducted for specific technical matters. The Meeting agreed to maintain the existing verifier.

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Verifier 1.6.2	WWF-Malaysia	This could serve as one of the means ensuring all associated companies, staffs and stakeholders are informed of relevant policies, statements and plans.	To amend "Evidence of distribution of policy statement to stakeholders" to "Evidence of distribution of policies, statements and plans to relevant subsidiaries, parent company and other interested groups of stakeholders."	The Meeting regarded the existing verifier as adequate with the word "stakeholders" being broad enough to cover "relevant subsidiaries, parent company and other interested groups of stakeholders".
PRINCIPLE 2				
Indicators 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 3.3.1	NEPCon	Similar wording is included in these indicators which may be more readily understood if modified (i.e. inclusion of "... legal jurisdictions of the FMU...").	Refer 2.2.2 above (Change "Forest managers shall recognise, respect and collaborate with holders of duly recognised legal or customary tenure or use rights within relevant federal, state and local laws, in activities that may affect such rights" to "With respect to activities that may affect such rights, forest managers shall recognise, respect and collaborate with holders of duly recognised legal or customary tenure or use rights within relevant federal, state and local legal jurisdictions".)	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as proposed, but maintain the term "local laws". The Meeting was of the view that "local laws" are more encompassing as compared to "local jurisdictions" and include "adat"/ customary laws. The Indicator would now read " <u>With respect to activities that may affect such rights, forest managers shall recognise, respect and collaborate with holders of duly recognised legal or customary tenure or use rights within relevant federal, state and local laws</u> ".
Indicator 2.1.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Legal status and forest use rights may also be established under customary law. This would also align C2.1 with C2.2 and related Indicators. Customary law is not often in 'written' form, so both tangible and intangible cultural heritage should also be considered in addition to written laws and agreements.	Add "customary" as another type of law, i.e. "... within the relevant federal, state, local <u>and customary</u> laws in the FMU." Add to the Verifiers: community protocols and by-laws, physical presence of fruit trees, vegetable gardens, burial grounds, oath stones, and other cultural artefacts; photographs and audio/visual recordings; and documentation of intangible cultural heritage and traditional knowledge such as place names and medicinal plants.	The Meeting noted that the term "local laws" as defined in the standard includes customary laws/ local norms. The Meeting was of the view that the proposed verifiers are superfluous to be included under this Indicator.

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Indicator 2.1.1	WWF-Malaysia	This could address previous stakeholders comments and concerns on the lack of transparency on the actual legal boundaries; edging encroachment, and social conflict due to unclear land demarcation.	To include the following as guidance under the indicator: i. Legal boundaries shall be clearly demarcated and visibly maintained. ii. Where there are or have been disputes, additional proof of legal acquisition of title and evidence that fair compensation has been made to previous owners and occupants shall be available	The Meeting was of the view that (i) demarcation of legal boundaries are implicit in the existing verifiers whereas (ii) the mechanisms to handle dispute are covered under Indicator 2.3.1 while mechanism to handle compensation is covered under Indicator 4.5.2. The Meeting decided to maintain the Indicator without any amendment.
Verifier 2.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant laws to be considered as reference.	To include "Interpretation Ordinance (Cap. 61)";	The Meeting agreed to include "Interpretation Ordinance, 2005 (Cap. 61)" as a new Verifier for Sarawak.
Verifier 2.1.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	This is to serve as good verifier for the guidance provided above	To include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Forest Management Plan"; • "(as and when relevant) agreement or legal document on land acquisition"; and • "any other relevant documents proving the fair compensation and legal procedure on land/title acquisition". (to be included into Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak)	The Meeting considered the proposal and concluded that the existing Verifiers are sufficient to fulfil the requirement of the Indicator and that matters regarding compensations are covered under Indicator 4.5.2.
Verifier 2.1.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Already included in 1.1.1	Delete "Sabah State Constitution" as a verifier for this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to remove the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 2.1.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Rearrangement of the verifiers.	Move bullet 7 (Forest Enactment, 1968) to 1 st bullet	The Meeting noted that the Verifiers would be listed according to alphabetical order.

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Verifier 2.1.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Supaya jelas dan selaras dengan keperluan petunjuk yang merujuk kepada “FMU” yang mana definisi FMU merujuk kepada “suatu kawasan hutan tertentu yang diurus untuk mencapai pelbagai objektif yang ditetapkan dan berdasarkan kepada rancangan pengurusan hutan jangka panjang”. Dalam hubungan Semenanjung Malaysia, FMU merujuk kepada kawasan HSK. Sehubungan itu, segala dokumen/rekod yang diperlukan di dalam verifier hendaklah bagi kawasan berkaitan Orang Asli yang berada di dalam kawasan HSK sahaja dan tidak termasuk kawasan di luar HSK. Pihak FMU tidak mempunyai maklumat terperinci berkaitan Orang Asli di dalam HSK. Justeru itu, segala keperluan adalah bergantung sepenuhnya kepada maklumat yang dikemukakan oleh agensi yang berkaitan.	Tambahkan perkataan <i>dalam FMU, sekiranya ada dalam</i> verifier berkaitan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rekod-rekod dan peta-peta kawasan simpanan Orang Asli <i>dalam FMU, sekiranya ada</i> • Rekod-rekod dan peta-peta kawasan Orang Asli <i>dalam FMU, sekiranya ada</i> • Rekod-rekod dan peta-peta kawasan tanah adat dan penempatan Orang Asli <i>dalam FMU, sekiranya ada</i> 	The Meeting considered the proposal and decided to maintain the existing Verifiers without any amendment.
Indicator 2.1.2 (or new Indicator 2.1.3)	NEPCon	Criterion 2.1 mentions customary rights, and these are not always included in the legally recognized mechanisms; so the forest manager may need to go beyond that (this approach would also be more consistent with 2.2.1 and 2.2.2).	Change “Forest managers shall support legally recognised mechanisms for resolving land claims” to “Forest managers shall actively engage in solving examining land claims and support legally recognised mechanisms for resolving land claims”	The Meeting agreed that resolving land claims goes beyond the jurisdiction of the forest managers and decided to amend the Indicator as “Forest managers shall <u>actively</u> support legally recognised mechanisms for resolving land claims.”
Criterion 2.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Customary law is not often in ‘written’ form, so both tangible and intangible cultural heritage should also be considered in addition to written laws and agreements.	Add to the Verifiers: community protocols and by-laws, physical presence of fruit trees, vegetable gardens, burial grounds, oath stones, and other cultural artefacts; photographs and audio/visual recordings;	The Meeting considered the comment and was of the view that the existing verifiers are sufficient, in view that customary laws or <i>adat</i> need to be codified and recognized by the state.

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			and documentation of intangible cultural heritage and traditional knowledge such as place names and medicinal plants.	
Criterion 2.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Free, prior and informed consent is a cornerstone of international law on indigenous peoples' rights and an essential tool for conflict prevention (when undertaken properly). However, it is often misunderstood by government and the private sector. There is a great deal of guidance available on FPIC and adapting the international term and concept to local contexts. Each community may have its own unique procedures and mechanisms for discussing proposals by outsiders and for withholding or granting consent for the same.	Add an Indicator on free, prior and informed consent, e.g. "The process of communities granting free, prior and informed consent to delegate legal or customary tenure or use rights to forest operations is done in accordance with minimum international standards and guidelines and through their own representative institutions." Suggested Verifier(s) include: UNDRIP, particularly Articles 10, 11, 19, 28, 29, and 32; community protocols and by-laws; documentation of the process and outcome by third-party observers; interviews with a range of community members (not only local elites)	The Meeting was of the view that Indicator 3.1.2 sufficiently covers the spirit and intent of the proposed addition of an Indicator and the associated Verifiers.
Indicators 2.2.1 and 2.2.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Legal status and forest use rights may also be established under customary law, as already implied in C2.2 and related Indicators.	Add "customary" as another type of law, i.e. "... within relevant federal, state, local <u>and customary laws</u> ..."	The Meeting agreed that as per the definition in the standard, "local laws" encompass "customary laws."
Verifier 2.2.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To include "United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2007" as verifier for Sarawak; and to include "Forest Management Plan" as verifier for Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.	The Meeting agreed to the proposed inclusion of UNDRIP as a verifier for Peninsula and Sabah, while the decision to include UNDRIP for Sarawak has been deferred. The Meeting noted that there are existing provisions and procedures for the natives in Sarawak. The Meeting was of the view that the FMP is not a

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				relevant verifier under this Indicator. However, the Meeting agreed to add "Forests Ordinance, 2015 (Cap. 71)" as a new verifier for Sarawak.
Verifier 2.2.2; Verifier 2.3.1; Verifier 3.1.1; and all other information kept in the records of forest managers or management authorities	Penang Institute	Often, data and information like these which are important for research are not shared when requested. The common reason given is often based on the unverifiable and unjustifiable grounds that it is confidential information. As of now, this might seem like a challenging task as there is no legislation in Malaysia such as the Freedom to Information Act to provide the rights to information. Instead, the presence of Official Secrets Act 1972 potentially hinders the dissemination of non-classified (in its nature) but important information to the relevant interest group which requires such information for decision making.	These information listed in the verifiers should be made accessible publicly, or at least when requested based on reasonable grounds (rights to information access).	The Meeting noted the comment was related to request for relevant information and was of the view that the public would have to submit their request to the relevant parties following the prescribed procedures.
Indicator 2.2.2	NEPCon	Subject is split within sentence and the meaning is difficult to follow as written.	Change "Forest managers shall recognise, respect and collaborate with holders of duly recognised legal or customary tenure or use rights within relevant federal, state and local laws, in activities that may affect such rights" to "With respect to activities that may affect such rights, forest managers shall recognise, respect and collaborate with holders of duly recognised legal or customary tenure or use rights within relevant federal, state and local legal jurisdictions".	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as proposed with slight modification as " <u>With respect to activities that may affect such rights, forest managers shall recognise, respect and collaborate with holders of duly recognised legal or customary tenure or use rights within relevant federal, state and local laws</u> ".

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Indicator 2.2.2	WWF-Malaysia	To better capture the needs for proof of such efforts in addressing all previous concerns and comments from stakeholders on the credibility of the standards in addressing right and/or social conflict.	To include the following as guidance under the indicator: i. Where there is a conflict on the condition of land use as per land title, forest managers show evidence that necessary action has been taken to resolve the conflict with relevant parties. ii. Maps of an appropriate scale showing the extent of recognised legal, customary or user rights.	The Meeting considered the proposal and decided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed guidance (i) has been captured in the amendment made in Indicator 2.1.2 as well as the existing Indicator 2.3.1 and 3.1.3. The proposed guidance (ii) has been covered in the existing Verifiers.
Verifier 2.2.2 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	Global Environment Centre	Additional verifier to require records be kept of positive actions to support community welfare.	Add new verifier: Records of action taken to support living/livelihood of the local communities/indigenous	The Meeting concluded that the concern is sufficiently addressed under existing Indicators 4.1.1 and 4.1.2.
Indicator 2.3.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	C2.3 is very useful. It would benefit from further distinction between types of dispute resolution mechanisms.	Amend to (additions in underline): “Availability of appropriate <u>legal, alternative and customary</u> mechanisms to <u>prevent and</u> resolve disputes over tenure and use rights.” Add to the Verifiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentation of customary dispute resolution mechanisms and justice systems; Records of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms such as mediation. 	The Meeting deliberated the proposals and was of the view that the term “appropriate mechanism” is sufficient to capture the proposed additions and in fact the proposed additions are reflected in the existing Verifiers. The Meeting agreed to amend the first Verifier as “Records of outcomes of direct negotiations, <u>mediation</u> or arbitration, if any.”
Indicator 2.3.1 (or add new Indicator).	NEPCon	Having the system does not imply that it is used: the Criterion says “...employed”. Otherwise all can be responded to with documentation, but not be followed by	Change “Availability of appropriate mechanisms to resolve disputes over tenure and use rights” to “Availability and records / demonstration of use of	The Meeting was of the view that the concern is sufficiently addressed in the existing verifiers which is the outcome of the implementation of the mechanism.

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Applicable also to others, please check (e.g. 3.1.3, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 4.1.4, 4.2.2, 4.3.4, 5.4.1, 7.2.2...)		actual implementation.	appropriate mechanisms to resolve disputes over tenure and use rights”	
Verifier 3.1.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Not relevant to this indicator.	Delete “Forest Management Plan” as a verifier for this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to remove FMP from the verifier, as proposed.
Verifier 3.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To include “United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2007”	The Meeting agreed to the proposed inclusion of UNDRIP as a verifier for Sarawak. Additionally, the Meeting agreed that “Forest Ordinance (Cap. 126)” would be updated as “Forest Ordinance, 2015 (Cap. 71)” and that the specific provisions of all the relevant laws need not be listed.
Verifier 3.1.1 & 3.2.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	As the <i>Tagal</i> and <i>Sogit</i> systems are local-based; there is a need to document the locally designed systems as to respect IP’s knowledge and rights.	To amend “ <i>Tagal</i> and <i>Sogit</i> systems” to “Documented <i>Tagal</i> and <i>Sogit</i> systems through participatory consultation with respective groups of indigenous people.”	The Meeting noted that the <i>Tagal</i> and <i>Sogit</i> systems are established local systems and are not new. The Meeting decided to maintain the existing verifiers.
Indicator 3.1.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Free, prior and informed consent is a cornerstone of international law on indigenous peoples’ rights and an essential tool for conflict prevention (when undertaken properly). However, it is often misunderstood by government and the private sector. There is a great deal of guidance available on FPIC and	Add: “The process of indigenous peoples granting free, prior and informed consent to delegate legal or customary tenure or use rights to forest operations is done in accordance with minimum international standards and guidelines and through their own representative institutions.”	The Meeting was of the view that Indicator 3.1.2 sufficiently covers the proposed addition of an Indicator regarding FPIC and thus no further amendments are necessary. On the suggested verifier, UNDRIP has been included under Indicator 3.1.1 while the community protocols and by-laws is covered under <i>adat</i> , also

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		adapting the international term and concept to local contexts. Each community may have its own unique procedures and mechanisms for discussing proposals by outsiders and for withholding or granting consent for the same.	Suggested Verifier(s) include: UNDRIP, particularly Articles 10, 11, 19, 28, 29, and 32; community protocols and by-laws; documentation of the process and outcome by third-party observers; interviews with a range of community members (not only local elites)	under Indicator 3.1.1 and the process comes under Indicators 3.1.2 and 3.1.3.
Indicator 3.1.3	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Availability only is not sufficient.	Amend to: "Availability <u>and use</u> of appropriate mechanisms..."	The Meeting agreed on the proposed amendment as "Availability <u>and use</u> of appropriate mechanisms..."
Verifier 3.1.3 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Perkataan "outcomes" adalah terlalu spesifik dan memadai dengan rekod-rekod proses rundingan.	Padamkan perkataan "outcomes" daripada verifier <u>Peninsular Malaysia</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ... • Records of outcomes of direct negotiations or arbitration concerning their legal and customary rights within the FMU, if any • ... 	The Meeting agreed to remove the term " <u>outcomes</u> " from the verifier for Peninsular Malaysia, which would also be applied to all three regions for uniformity.
Indicator 3.2.1 and Indicator 3.3.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Malaysia's legal framework on indigenous peoples' rights has some strengths (particularly in Sabah and Sarawak), but there are also gaps between it and UNDRIP. Reference to UNDRIP should be made as it is more comprehensive.	Add: "international" and "customary" to the types of laws listed. Add to Verifiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2007; • Akwe: Kon Guidelines on cultural, environmental and social impact assessments (under the CBD). 	The Meeting deliberated on the proposal and decided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNDRIP was already listed as a verifier within Indicator 3.1.1 and thus repetition is not necessary for either Indicator 3.2.1 or 3.3.1. • The inclusion of "Akwe: Kon Guidelines" was not necessary as it is a voluntary guidelines.

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Verifier 3.2.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Not relevant to this indicator.	Delete "Land Ordinance, 1930 (Sabah Cap. 68), Sustainable Forest Management License Agreement and Long Term License Agreement" as a verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting decided to retain the "Land Ordinance, 1930 (Sabah Cap. 68) but agreed to remove the Verifiers "Sustainable Forest Management License Agreement" and "Long Term License Agreement."
Verifier 3.2.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Provide additional information or evidences that the rights of indigenous people are being considered by the FMU holder.	To include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of species / resources used by indigenous peoples within the forest management unit as identified through the EIA and HCV assessment process; Recognition of tenure and resource-based rights under the established laws 	The Meeting decided the following for the respective proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The list of species/resource would be included under Indicator 6.2 Recognition of tenure is already covered under Criterion 2.1.
Indicator 3.2.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	It is important to explicitly provide for redress where adverse impacts occur.	Add to the end: "... including just and fair compensation, restitution and the right to return in the case of unavoidable or unintentional displacement."	The Meeting agreed to maintain the Indicator as the concern is addressed under Indicators 4.5.1 and 4.5.2.
Verifier 3.3.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	Global Environment Centre	It is important to designate buffer zones (of at least 50m width) adjacent to any such sites to minimise impacts.	Add text: List and maps depicting locations of important cultural, ecological, economic or religious sites in the FMU/area to be certified <u>including buffer zones where felling trees is prohibited.</u>	The Meeting opined that the requirement to establish buffer zones has to be stipulated in the procedures (first verifier). The second verifier on the map should just depict the locations of the sites. Hence, there was no amendment made to the verifier.
Verifier 3.3.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Besides identifying and protecting, there is a need to have information that show these sites are properly marked on the ground.	To amend "Procedures for identifying and protecting sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to natives" to "Procedures for identifying, protecting and demarcating sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to natives."	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as proposed.

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Verifier 3.4.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Untuk memberi kelonggaran kepada FMU bagi menangani perkara-perkara yang terkini. Kenyataan mengenai “sekiranya ada” juga terdapat di dalam petunjuk 3.4.1.	Tambahan perkataan “sekiranya ada” dalam verifier berkaitan.	After further deliberation, the Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia agreed to retract the proposal of including “if any”.
Indicator 3.4.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	There is a significant body of international law around traditional knowledge and access and benefit sharing, particularly under the CBD but also under WIPO. Even though Malaysia has not yet ratified the Nagoya Protocol, there are several COP Decisions related to access and benefit sharing that Malaysia must apply.	Add “or non-commercial” after “compensation for the commercial...” After “by mutual agreement”, add: “, including community-determined priorities and arrangements for benefit sharing.” Add as Verifiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDRIP, particularly Articles 10, 11, 19, 28, 29, and 32; • Community protocols and by-laws; • UN CBD and Nagoya Protocol 	The Meeting noted the concerns and deliberated the practicality of “compensation” in a non-commercial venture and was of the view that it might not be possible to determine compensation for non-commercial utilization of traditional forest resources knowledge and practices for now and agreed to maintain the existing Indicator without amendment. The Meeting was also of the view that the appropriate mechanisms is broad enough to accommodate “including community-determined priorities and arrangements for benefit sharing”. The Meeting noted that the proposed verifiers on UNDRIP and UNCBD have been included under Indicator 1.3.1 and need not be repeated. The Meeting agreed to update the Verifier “Sarawak Biodiversity Regulations, 2004” as well as to obtain further clarification on the requirements of “access and benefit sharing” under the Nagoya Protocol.
PRINCIPLE 4				
Indicator 4.1.1	Global Environment Centre	Support should also be provided for economic and livelihood issues as well as social programmes.	Add text: Forest managers provide appropriate support for training, retraining, local infrastructure, facilities and <u>economic/</u> social programmes that commensurate with the scale and intensity of forest	The Meeting amended the Indicator as “Forest managers provide appropriate support for training, retraining, local infrastructure, facilities and <u>socio-economic</u> programmes that commensurate with the scale and intensity of forest management

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			management operations.	operations”.
Indicator 4.1.1	NEPCon		Suggest either delete ‘that’ or insert ‘are’, i.e. “social programmes commensurate...” or “... social programmes that are...”	The Meeting also agreed that the same amendment would be applied to the Verifier for Peninsular Malaysia.
Indicator 4.1.1 (and other as 6.1.1, 8.1.1, 8.1.2, etc.) and Appendix III	NEPCon	Define scale and intensity for a more objective audit.		The Meeting agreed that there is a need to define the term “scale and intensity” to avoid subjectivity and would propose the definition for the consideration of the next meeting.
Verifier 4.1.2 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Documentation of management commitment</u> • <u>Records of efforts to recruit workers from local communities</u> 	The Meeting was of the view that the verifiers on “Employment records” and “Training records” are documents that are adequate in communicating the management commitment in giving preference to employing local communities. The Meeting agreed to include “ <u>Records of efforts to recruit workers from local communities</u> ” as a new verifier for all three regions.
Indicator 4.2.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Most indigenous and local communities do not speak English or sometimes even Bahasa Malaysia. It is important to communicate relevant standards and rights to them in a language and format that they can understand.	At the end of this Indicator, add (addition in underline): “... disseminated to them <u>in relevant languages for all applicable laws, Bahasa Malaysia and the local or indigenous language, and in both written and oral forms.</u> ”	The Meeting agreed that the proposal to disseminate information in local and indigenous language, and in both written and oral forms would be beyond the means of any organization. However, the Meeting agreed that there is a need for better communication and agreed to amend the Verifier as “Records of dissemination and <u>communication</u> of up-to-date safety and health information to forest workers ...”

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Verifier 4.2.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factories and Machineries Act 1967 • Labour Ordinance, 1952 (Sarawak Cap. 76) • Trained Workmen Rules, 2015 • Occupational Safety and Health Act, 1994 • Workmen's Compensation Act, 1952 	The Meeting noted that three of the proposed Verifiers were already listed as Verifiers. The Meeting agreed to include the proposed "Labour Ordinance, 1952 (Sarawak Cap. 76)" and "Trained Workmen Rules, 2015" for Sarawak.
Verifier 4.2.5 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Storage and handling of hazardous materials should also be done in accordance with international agreements	Add: "Implementation of UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, particularly Article 29(2) on storage and disposal of hazardous materials in the lands and territories of indigenous peoples"	The Meeting agreed that the existing Verifiers under Indicator 4.2.5 as well as Criteria 6.6 and 6.7 are sufficient in addressing the concern regarding proper handling and storage of hazardous materials.
Criterion 4.3	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	"Convention 87" Malaysia tidak <i>ratify</i> .	Padamkan perkataan "Convention 87" daripada pernyataan Kriteria, Petunjuk dan Verifier.	The Meeting noted the reasons as to why Malaysia has not ratified ILO Convention No. 87. However, Malaysia has respected the spirit of this convention as there are workers unions being formed in the three regions of Malaysia. The Meeting noted that this convention has been included in the previous versions of the standard as was of the view that the verifier should be maintained in the standard. However, the Meeting agreed to revisit this item at the next SRC meeting.
Verifier 4.3.1	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Dokumen sokongan daripada pihak pekerja.	Tambahkan pernyataan "Rekod atau minit mesyuarat pihak persatuan pekerja" dalam senarai verifier.	The Meeting considered the proposed new Verifier and agreed to maintain the existing Verifiers without addition.
Verifier 4.3.2	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	ILO Convention No. 111 Malaysia tidak <i>ratify</i> .	Padamkan pernyataan "ILO Convention No. 111 – Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 – The Right to Equal Treatment – Articles 1-5" daripada	The Meeting noted the reasons as to why ILO Convention No. 111 was not ratified by Malaysia, purely because of the special position of the <i>bumiputera</i> and natives as enshrined in the Federal

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			senarai verifier.	Constitution. The Meeting also noted that the verifier has been included in the previous versions of the standard.
Indicator 4.3.2	NEPCon	The word "include" appears to be missing	Suggest "Provisions for workers <u>include</u> the right..."	The Meeting noted the specificity of the Indicators on the right of workers to organize and undertake collective bargaining, and was of the view that the existing wording of the Indicator is more appropriate.
Criterion 4.4	Forever Sabah via LEAP	The phrase "directly affected by" is often interpreted too narrowly. Other individuals and groups such as civil society organisations, lawyers and international experts may not be directly affected in a physical sense, but may be able to contribute their expertise and guidance.	Amend the final sentence to (addition in underline): ... Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups directly affected by management operations <u>and other stakeholders with relevant expertise and capacity to advise on mitigating impacts of such operations.</u> "	The Meeting noted that the focus of the Criteria was to mitigate direct impacts of forest planning and operations on affected stakeholders. The Meeting was of the view that requirement for broader inputs from external experts are sufficiently captured under Criteria 7.2, 8.1 and 9.2 and decided to retain the existing wording of the Criterion.
Indicator 4.4.1	Penang Institute	This is in order to provide a more learned and informed evaluation to assist the people groups who are directly affected in their decision making. At the very least, it is crucial to have the presence of experts as observers to ensure that the consultations are conducted fairly and effectively.	Evaluations of social impact should consider including consultations with experts where relevant in although may not be a directly affected people group	
Indicator 4.4.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	It is generally considered a conflict of interest for a company itself to undertake impact assessments and evaluations. In addition, communities' own assessments and evaluations should supported and respected, and more comprehensive assessments and evaluations should be	Amend to (additions in underline): " <u>Third-parties shall undertake strategic environmental and social assessments to evaluate the social impact of forest operations directly affecting communities, and the people and groups directly affected and others with relevant expertise shall</u>	The Meeting was of the view that an amendment was not necessary and agreed to maintain the existing Indicator based on the following considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The requirement for social impact assessment which is part and parcel of an EIA is conducted by a third party.

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		undertaken, beyond just consultations. "Strategic environmental and social assessment" is a useful tool in this context.	<p>have access to information on the results of the <u>assessments</u> and evaluations."</p> <p>Add new Indicator: "Forest managers shall respect and uphold social, environmental, wellbeing and human rights impact assessments and evaluations conducted by communities and other people and groups affected by the forest operations."</p> <p>Additional Verifiers could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation of community assessments and evaluations; • Documentation of third-party assessments and evaluations; • UNDRIP • Akwe: Kon Guidelines on cultural, environmental and social impact assessments (under the CBD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An FMU should be encouraged to develop internal capacity in addressing social concerns and impacts of its operations. Any potential "conflict of interest" will be assessed during certification / surveillance audit. • Consultation on impact evaluation should be done through engagement and collaboration with local communities. There is no restriction for local community to be assisted/supported by external experts.
Verifier 4.4.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To replace "Report on social impact evaluation" with "Report on social impact assessment (SIA)"	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 4.5.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To include "Records of meetings and/or consultations between forest manager and affected local communities"	The Meeting agreed to include the additional Verifier "Records of meetings and/or consultations between forest manager and affected local communities" for Sarawak as well as for Sabah.
Verifier 4.5.2 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To amend "Records of consultation and negotiation" to "Records of consultation, negotiation and outcomes."	The Meeting was of the view that the outcome of any consultation or negotiation would be reflected in the records of the activities conducted and agreed that the amendment was not necessary.

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PRINCIPLE 5				
Criterion 5.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	To ensure alignment with Indicator 5.1.2.	Add "..., integrity and connectivity" after "ecological productivity".	<p>The Meeting noted that the principle addresses the economic element of forest management and agreed to amend the Criterion as "... to maintain the ecological productivity and integrity of the forest."</p> <p>The Meeting was of the view that integrity encompasses "connectivity".</p>
Indicator 5.1.1	NEPCon	Presumably 'protection' refers to the forest/ FMU but it is ambiguous as written.	Indicator reads "Investments and reinvestments are made in forest management, including for forest administration, research, human resource development, protection, economic, conservation, environmental and social aspects, consistent with the tenure of the FMU."	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as "Investments and reinvestments are made in forest management, including for forest administration, research and <u>protection</u> , human resource development, economic, conservation, environmental and social aspects, consistent with the tenure of the FMU".
Verifier 5.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To include "Annual Work Plan/ Annual Harvesting Plan" and "Forest Management Plan"	The Meeting agreed to include "Forest Management Plan" as an additional Verifier for Sarawak.
Verifier 5.1.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Not relevant to this indicator.	Delete "Compliance Report to the Annual Work Plan and the Sustainable Forest Management License Agreement" as a verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to remove the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 5.1.2 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents to be considered as reference.	To include 'Annual Work Plan'	The Meeting agreed to add "Annual Work Plan" as a Verifier for Sarawak. The Meeting also agreed to remove Verifier "Reduction of royalty rate ... (DF Circular No.2/1998)" as the Circular has been repealed.

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Indicator 5.2.1 (Similar issue for 5.4.1)	NEPCon	In this context, suggest that product types/ diversity are also relevant.	Change “Quantity of timber and non-timber forest products extracted” (verifier) to “Quantity and <u>types of</u> timber and non-timber forest products extracted”.	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Quantity and <u>species group</u> of timber <u>extracted</u> and; • <u>Quantity and types of</u> non-timber forest products extracted.”
Verifier 5.2.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP		Metric should also include: number of local person hours of employment per cubic meter of wood harvested	The Meeting was not able to consider the proposal due to the content of the proposal.
Criterion 5.3	Forever Sabah via LEAP	The current Indicators do not sufficiently provide for tracking achievement of Criterion 5.3’s emphasis on waste.	Add Indicator tracking the amount of waste wood generated – both in incidental felling as well as road building and other aspects of management.	The Meeting appreciated the proposal for the additional requirement to improve efficiency, while noting that waste minimization is one of the aspects included in reduced impact logging practices (Indicator 5.3.2).
Indicator 5.3.3	NEPCon	The Criterion focuses on waste minimisation as well as damage avoidance.	Change “Regular training shall be conducted for the staff on techniques of reduced-impact logging” to “Regular training shall be conducted for the staff on techniques of reduced-impact logging and waste minimisation”.	The Meeting also noted that in a natural forest setting, wood waste is also considered a valuable resource for nutrient recycling. The Meeting noted that it would be difficult to track the amount of wood waste generated for now, and therefore agreed to maintain the existing Indicators.
Verifier 5.3.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Guideline	Peninsular Malaysia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Manual Saliran Mesra Alam</u> 	The Meeting noted that the Manual covers the important aspects and requirements of storm water management practices for new and existing urban areas.
Verifier 5.3.2 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Guideline	Peninsular Malaysia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Manual Saliran Mesra Alam</u> 	In respect to mitigation of flood that might be due forest management activities as the probable source of siltation, the Meeting agreed that this provision is covered under the guidelines for reduced impact logging.

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Indicator 5.4.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	It is essential that communities still have access to non-commercial uses of non-timber forest products, e.g. for subsistence consumption and use.	Add "and non-commercial" after "a mix of commercial".	The Meeting noted that the focus of this Indicator is on the production of commercial products. The non-commercial products will not be extracted and will be available for subsistence consumption and use by the local communities.
Indicator 5.4.1	WCS-Malaysia Program	Illegal extraction of <i>gaharu</i> from PRFs by Indo-chinese is widespread, intensive, conducted in a destructive manner & may lead to depletion / extinction of tree species.	Verifier: Action plans needed for conservation of NTFP species. Customary extraction by local communities to be taken into account in action plans.	The Meeting was of the view that the action plan for conservation of NTFP species including <i>gaharu</i> is embedded under the 2 nd and 3 rd Verifier for this Indicator.
Verifier 5.4.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	PES schemes are being explored more as an alternative source of income for forest units. It can be used as a verifier for 5.4.1	To include "Number and type of PES schemes" as a verifier.	The Meeting acknowledged the growing importance of PES as a source of income. However, in view that the mechanism for PES is currently being developed, the Meeting agreed that this proposal be kept in view.
Indicator 5.5.1	Global Environment Centre	Add coastal areas to the list as buffer zone are also needed between forests and the sea e.g. in mangrove forests and coastal or beach forests. Add reference to buffer zones around sensitive areas where felling trees is prohibited – in line with existing verifier 6.2.2.	Add text: Implementation of Guidelines and/or procedures to identify and demarcate sensitive areas for the protection of soil and water, water courses, wetlands <u>and coastal areas and related buffer zones where felling trees is prohibited.</u>	The Meeting noted that the definition of wetlands covers both peat swamp and mangrove forests, and hence include coastal areas. The Meeting also noted that under RIL techniques, consideration of buffer areas apply to streams in all forest types. The Meeting agreed that the proposal was more appropriate to be considered under Indicator 6.2.2 for the mitigation of environmental impact.
Indicator 5.5.1	NEPCon	Suggest also that verifiers may not include the requirements of the Indicator, e.g. Forest Management Plans may not include guidelines and/or procedures to identify and demarcate sensitive areas for the protection of soil and water etc.	Add reference to water catchments / watersheds to Indicator: "Implementation of guidelines and/or procedures to identify and demarcate sensitive areas for the protection of soil and water, watercourses and wetlands".	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as "Implementation of guidelines and/or procedures to identify and demarcate sensitive areas for the protection of soil and water, <u>water catchments, watercourses and wetlands</u> ".

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Indicator 5.5.1	WCS-Malaysia Program	Water courses experience heavy siltation from logging operations.	Verifier: Need for enhancement / revision of guidelines for reduced impact logging to protect water courses and minimize erosion.	The Meeting was of the view that the existing guidelines for RIL are intended to protect water courses and minimize soil erosion. They are deemed adequate but recognized that the issue lies in the implementation of RIL, which will be assessed by the auditor.
Verifier 5.5.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	Global Environment Centre	Without maps it will be difficult to verify whether areas are identified or demarcated.	Add new verifier: <i>Description / Maps to describe sensitive areas for protection of soil and water, water courses and wetlands and related buffer zones.</i>	The Meeting was of the view that there is no need to add an additional Verifier on map, as such map would be included in the Forest Management Plan.
Verifier 5.5.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Guidelines/Plans	Peninsular Malaysia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual Saliran Mesra Alam • Integrated Water Resources Management • Integrated River Basin Management 	The Meeting requested the Secretariat to obtain more information on these three proposed Verifiers to be discussed at the next meeting of the SRC.
Verifier 5.5.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Not relevant to this indicator.	Delete “Guidelines on Forest Management Planning” as a verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to delete the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 5.5.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Relevant to this indicator.	Add “Forest Management Plan” as a new verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to include the proposed Verifier.
Verifier 5.5.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	HCVF Toolkit has been widely use in Sabah for the identification of sensitive and high conservation value area and thus its management requirements	To include “High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) Toolkit”	As the member from the Sabah Forestry Department was not able to attend the meeting, the Meeting agreed to defer the deliberation on this proposal to the next meeting.
Verifier 5.5.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines to be considered as reference.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures for Identifying and Demarcating Sensitive Areas for the 	The Meeting agreed to add two new Verifiers as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual, Procedures and Guidelines for

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			Protection of Soil and Water, 1999. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitive areas in the forest management unit identified, classified, mapped and protected. • NREB's Guidelines for Preliminary EIA for Forest Harvesting • HCVF Toolkit 	Sustainable Forest Management Certification; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EIA report
Verifier 5.5.2: first verifier for PM	NEPCon		The wording "... where appropriate is implemented" – whereas the verifiers elsewhere in the document do not include these 'action' words.	The Meeting agreed to amend the first verifier for Peninsular Malaysia as "Forest Management Plan" for uniformity.
Verifier 5.5.2 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Guidelines/Plans	Peninsular Malaysia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual Saliran Mesra Alam • Integrated Water Resources Management • Integrated River Basin Management 	The Meeting was of the view that the proposed Verifiers are not relevant as they do not apply to forest areas and therefore agreed to maintain the existing Verifiers. Nevertheless the Secretariat will obtain more information on the proposed Verifiers for discussion at the next meeting.
Indicator 5.6.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	This is very important in order to reflect the various values that need to be managed for (e.g. habitat, riparian, steep slopes and other non-harvesting land base).	Amend to reflect that cut levels should be <u>significantly</u> below 'sustained yield' or Mean Commercial Annual Increment calculations.	The Meeting was of the view that the management of an FMU for timber production needs to be economically viable, and operators should be allowed to harvest according to the set sustainable level. The Meeting agreed to maintain the existing Indicator without any amendment.
Indicator 5.6.1	WWF-Malaysia	The Guidelines sets the minimum cutting limits for dipterocarp and non-dipterocarp species.	To include "Guidelines of Malaysia Silvicultural System" and "Manual Perhutanan Jilid 2"	The Guidelines for determining optimum cutting limit is contained in the <i>Manual Perhutanan</i> which has been listed under Indicator 5.5.2 for Peninsular Malaysia.

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Verifier 5.6.1: third verifier	NEPCon		Word appears to be missing (should read "... to be...")	The Meeting agreed to amend the third Verifier as "Annual volume removed to be less than or equal to Mean Commercial Annual Increment multiplied by the annual coupe for regulated forest".
Principle 6	Global Environment Centre	To ensure compliance with the National Physical Plan-2, 2010 (for Peninsular Malaysia). Requirement for ESA Class 1 is that no development, agriculture or logging shall be permitted except for low-impact nature tourism, research and education. Requirement for ESA Class 2 is that Sustainable timber harvesting may be permitted subject to local constraints.	Propose new criterion: Environment Sensitive Areas are safeguarded with no timber harvesting allowed in ESA Class 1 areas and limited harvesting in ESA Class 2 areas.	The Meeting noted the intent of the proposal and agreed to include the NPP-2 2010 as a Verifier for Peninsular Malaysia under Indicator 5.5.1.
Criterion 6.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	For example, the risk associated with logging a never-logged forest is far greater than one that is in its third cycle of harvesting.	Include "risk" in addition to scale, intensity and uniqueness.	The Meeting agreed that there is no need to include "risk" as the requirement for assessment in the Criterion is intended to ascertain "risk".
Criterion 6.1	NEPCon		"integrate" should read "integrated"	The Meeting agreed to amend the Criterion as proposed.
Indicator 6.1.1	NEPCon	This aspect of the Criterion has not been included in any of the indicators.	Change "Environmental impact assessments are carried out, including landscape level considerations, as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management, prior to commencement of forest operations in the FMU" to "Environmental impact assessments are carried out, including landscape level considerations, as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities,	The Meeting noted the concern of NEPCon and agreed to adopt the proposed amendment for uniformity.

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			appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and uniqueness of the affected resources, prior to commencement of forest operations in the FMU".	
Indicator 6.1.1	WWF-Malaysia	To seek clarification on "...landscape level considerations..." and to include an explanatory note or specific guidance to ease the auditing and verification process		The Meeting noted that the term "landscape" has been defined in the standard and that the intention of the Indicator is for the FMU to consider the adjacent areas in managing a specified FMU.
Indicators 6.1.1 and 6.1.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Strategic environmental (and social) assessments are more comprehensive than EIAs and are in accordance with global good practice on participatory approaches, etc.	Consider merging these two Indicators since they both focus on environmental impact assessments. Also amend them to refer to "strategic environmental and social assessments".	The Meeting agreed to maintain the existing two Indicators as they cover different aspect with Indicator 6.1.1 on physical land management and Indicator 6.1.2 on ecological considerations. The Meeting also agreed to maintain the term "EIA" as it is the common term used now.
Verifier 6.1.1	WCS-Malaysia Program	The EQ Order is in the process of being revised.	Verifier: to add in "and revisions thereof" for Environmental Quality (Prescribed Activities) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Order 1987.	The Meeting was of the view that the once in five years revision of the standard will address this concern.
Verifier 6.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia		To amend "Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance (Cap. 84) – Section 11A" to "Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance 1993 (Cap. 84)"	The Meeting agreed to update the Verifier as proposed. However to ensure consistency of verifiers, the specific provisions in the laws/ regulations will be omitted.
Verifier 6.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	To include existing relevant document	To include "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report"	The Meeting agreed to include the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 6.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	To include existing relevant guidelines and document.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines of Managing Biodiversity in the Riparian Zone, 2010. Sarawak Plant Red List. 	The Meeting considered the proposal and decided the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not to include the "Guidelines of Managing Biodiversity in the Riparian Zone, 2010" as the

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species. 	<p>concern is addressed in the requirements for FMP and EIA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To place the Sarawak Plant Red List under Indicator 6.2.1. To include a new Verifier "Manual, Procedures and Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management Certification" under Indicator 6.2.1.
Indicator 6.1.2	Global Environment Centre	Environment impacts need to be considered at the ecosystem level as well as species level. Freshwater swamp forest is a very rare ecosystem and Peat Swamp forest is vulnerable, both are fragile ecosystems which need maximum protection. At the end of indicator some additional issues added to highlight emerging issues related to environmental impact including fire, loss of forest carbon stocks and downstream pollution and siltation.	Addition of text: Environment impact assessment are carried out, including the potential impacts on endangered, rare and threatened species and fauna, <u>and rare and vulnerable ecosystems (e.g. Freshwater swamp forest, peat swamp forest, beach and coastal forest, lakes and rivers)</u> and the need for biological corridors in the FMU, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management; <u>as well as consideration of the impacts on forest carbon stocks, risks of fire and pollution or siltation of water courses and wetlands.</u>	<p>The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as: Environment impact assessment are carried out, including the potential impacts on endangered, rare and threatened species and fauna, <u>and vulnerable ecosystems</u> and the need for biological corridors in the FMU, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management; <u>as well as consideration of the impacts on forest carbon stocks, risks of fire and pollution or siltation of water courses and wetlands.</u></p> <p>However, the Meeting noted that EIA currently does not cover aspect related to carbon stocks and was of the view that this element would be better considered under Indicator 6.3.</p>
Verifier 6.1.2 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Guidelines/Plans	Peninsular Malaysia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Manual Saliran Mesra Alam</u> <u>Integrated Water Resources Management</u> <u>Integrated River Basin Management</u> 	The Meeting recalled earlier deliberation on similar proposal and decided to maintain the existing Verifiers without amendment.
Verifier 6.1.2 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant laws, reports and documents to be considered as reference.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IUCN Red List Sabah Forestry Enactment Sabah Wildlife Enactment Records of consultations with experts in 	The Meeting agreed to include the following Verifiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife Conservation Enactment 1997 (Sabah); Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 (Peninsular Malaysia);

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			<p>the field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCV assessment reports 	and would seek further feedback from the Sabah Forestry Department with regard to the other proposed verifiers.
Indicator 6.2.1	NEPCon	Criterion mentions flora and fauna <i>and their habitats</i> – not included in any of the indicators.	Change “Availability and implementation of guidelines to identify and protect endangered, rare and threatened species of forest flora and fauna, including features of special biological interest such as seed trees, salt licks, nesting and feeding areas in the FMU” to “Availability and implementation of guidelines to identify and protect endangered, rare and threatened species of forest flora and fauna and their habitats, including features of special biological interest such as seed trees, salt licks, nesting and feeding areas in the FMU”.	The Meeting was of the view that protection of habitat is sufficiently covered in the existing Criterion and that the inclusion of “habitat” might mean the protection of the entire FMU, which would not be practical. The Meeting noted that the requirement for protection of special features for animal conservation is reflected in the existing Indicator and agreed to maintain it as such.
Verifier 6.2.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	WCS-Malaysia Program	The 2013 plan is being implemented. It has replaced the 2006 Pelan Pengurusan Gajah	Verifier : to add in “National Elephant Conservation Action Plan” which was launched in 2013	The Meeting agreed to add the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 6.2.1 (Sabah)	Forever Sabah via LEAP	The list of relevant actions plans is not fully up-to-date.	Add species-specific plans such as Sabah Orangutan Action Plan 2012-2016, Sabah Elephant Action Plan 2012-2016, etc.	The Meeting agreed to add the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 6.2.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant documents and plans to be considered as reference.	<p>To include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RIL Operation Guide Book: Code of Practice for Forest Harvesting in Sabah, Malaysia, 2009 Rhinoceros Action Plan, 2012-2016 Orang Utan Action Plan, 2012-2016 Elephant Action Plan, 2012-2016 HCV assessment report 	The Meeting had no objection in Principle on the proposed Verifiers but was of the view further feedback and concurrence from Sabah Forestry Department should be sought.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Conservation Enactment, 1997 – Sections 4-29 and 54-63 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ List of totally protected species (Schedule 1) ○ List of protected species (Schedule 2) ○ List of protected species (Schedule 3) 	
Verifier 6.2.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines or documents to be considered as reference.	<p>To include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species. • Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report. • Records of measures taken to address human-wildlife conflict. 	<p>The Meeting agreed to add the following Verifiers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual, Procedures and Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management Certification (which includes guidelines in the protection of ERT species); and • EIA report
Indicator 6.2.2	WWF-Malaysia	Conservation zones will be identified and established as per the indicator and this needs to be indicated in a map for verification.	Include “Map of conservation zones” as a verifier for Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak	The Meeting agreed that it would not be practical to have a map of conservation zones only. The conservation zone would be included in the conservation areas as contained in the relevant maps within the forest management plan.
Indicator 6.2.2	WWF-Malaysia	It is crucial to note on the management guidelines, in which forest manager is referred to in establishing conservation zone and/or areas; as well as the development of appropriate safeguards measures.	<p>To include the following as guidance under the indicator:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Documentation of management guidelines adopted or use (i.e. HCVF toolkit) ii. Map showing protection and/or conservation areas established iii. Documentation of consultation process with interested and affected stakeholders 	The Meeting noted the intent of the proposed additional guidance documents but agreed that these concerns are also addressed under Principle 9.

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Verifier 6.2.2	Global Environment Centre	The buffer strips of 5m width on either side of banks, is only acceptable for rivers less than 5m width. For rivers wider than 5m the buffer should be up to 40m wide. Narrow buffers on large rivers are not effective in reducing impact of logging.	<p>Insert table on variable width of minimum riparian buffer as specified in guidelines by DID/Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>River width (m)</th> <th>Width of buffer zone on either side of river (m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>> 40</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 – 40</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 – 20</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 – 10</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>< 5</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The buffer strip should be measured from the top of the bank or the level of the wet season water level.</p> <p>This verifier should also be included for Sabah and Sarawak. Refer to Guideline for Managing Biodiversity in the Riparian Zone (NRE, 2010).</p>	River width (m)	Width of buffer zone on either side of river (m)	> 40	50	20 – 40	40	10 – 20	20	5 – 10	10	< 5	5	The Meeting noted the need for further clarification on whether these prescriptions are applicable to all three regions and agreed to further consider this proposal at the next meeting. Additionally, there are existing forest management prescriptions with regard to this requirement.
River width (m)	Width of buffer zone on either side of river (m)															
> 40	50															
20 – 40	40															
10 – 20	20															
5 – 10	10															
< 5	5															
Verifier 6.2.2	WCS-Malaysia Program	To better protect the integrity of water courses. The broader the stream, the wider the buffer. E.g. order 1 streams – minimum 5m; Order 2 streams – minimum 10m.	Verifier: Enhance/revise the minimum width of buffer strips for permanent streams and rivers to correspond /relate to the stream order (refer “Strahler stream order” – Order 1 to Order 4)													
Verifier 6.2.2 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Delete “Buffer strips ... prohibited”. Replace with Guidelines from Bahagian Pengurusan Lembangan Sungai, Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran	Peninsular Malaysia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bahagian Pengurusan Lembangan Sungai, Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran</u> 													

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Verifier 6.2.2 (Sabah)	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Aichi Target 11 and the indicators currently being developed under the CBD provide important benchmarks and guidance. In addition to providing the opportunity for recognition of indigenous peoples' and community conserved areas, it is also possible that areas protected or conserved in FMUs could be considered "effective area-based conservation measures", under certain circumstances. For more about Target 11, please see link . Spatial mapping and planning are important tools for identifying high conservation value forests and opportunities for connectivity and integrity.	Add the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and Aichi Targets (of the UN CBD), specifically Target 11 on "effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures... integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes." Also add: spatial mapping and planning.	The Meeting noted that the requirements for Aichi Target 11 have been incorporated into the National Biodiversity Policy which had been listed under Principle 1.
Verifier 6.2.2 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Relevant to this indicator.	Add "Forest Enactment 1968" as a new verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to add the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 6.2.2 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Not relevant to this indicator.	Delete "EIA Guidelines for Logging and Forest Clearing Activities, 2002" and "Comprehensive Harvesting Plan".	The Meeting agreed to delete the Verifier as proposed as they are regarded as not relevant to this Indicator.
Verifier 6.2.2 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines or documents to be considered as reference.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demarcation of the conservation area. • Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report. • Guidelines for the establishment of representative conservation and protection areas. • Orangutan Strategic Action Plan: Trans-boundary Biodiversity Conservation 	The Meeting agreed to include the "Orangutan Strategic Action Plan: Trans-boundary Biodiversity Conservation Area" as a new Verifier for Sarawak. As for the other proposed Verifiers, the Meeting noted the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report is already included under Indicator 6.1.1 • Guidelines for the establishment of

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			Area.	representative conservation and protection areas are contained in the new Manual, Procedures and Guidelines for SFM Certification.
Indicator 6.2.3	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Indigenous peoples and communities can and do play a significant role in protection, conservation and management of forests, even when not recognised by government.	Add "indigenous peoples and local communities" to the list of actors / stakeholders for cooperation.	The Meeting considered jointly the proposals from Forever Sabah and NEPCon and agreed to amend the Indicator as "Existence of cooperation between forest managers, conservation organizations, local communities and regulatory authorities in implementing conservation and management activities".
Indicator 6.2.3	NEPCon	Community members and community groups are often important partners in conservation and management activities.	Change "Existence of cooperation between forest managers, and conservation organizations and regulatory authorities in implementing conservation and management activities" to "Existence of cooperation between forest managers, conservation organizations, communities and regulatory authorities in implementing conservation and management activities".	
Indicator 6.2.3	WWF-Malaysia	It is important to take note on all efforts taken by forest managers in conservation with the most possible details on its contributions to conserving and sustaining natural resources within its FMU. * This verifier and indicator could serve to contribute to complying Criteria 1.6.	To include the following as guidance under the indicator: i. Document detailing implementation, collaborative and time-bound plan, shall include: a. The scope of conservation activities b. Objectives, outcomes and outputs of the said activities; c. Geographical scope d. Collaborative partners e. Made publicly available	The Meeting was of the view that these are details which could be included in the formulation and implementation of the collaborative projects.
Verifier 6.2.3 (Peninsular Malaysia /	WWF-Malaysia	This is to expand the scope of verifiers that often could be accessed and made available through all projects	To amend "Records of meetings or collaboration" to "Records and relevant documents of relevant project"	The Meeting agreed to consider the proposal by amending the second Verifier as "Collaborative project and project implementation plan, if any".

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Sabah / Sarawak)		implementation phases.	implementation plans, meetings, workshops etc”	
Indicator 6.2.4	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Explicit mention should be made to NCRs. Emphasis should instead be placed on illegal activities by outsiders.	Either as an amendment or a new Indicator: “Forest management does not increase vulnerability to illegal hunting, fishing or harvesting, while respecting native customary rights.”	The Meeting noted that Criteria 6.2 is related to safeguards to protect the rare, threatened and endangered (RTE) species. Hence Indicator 6.2.4 was formulated to ensure that hunting, fishing and collecting activities are controlled and inappropriate activities prevented in FMUs to ensure the RTE is protected. The Meeting agreed that the existing Indicator has taken into account the concern of the proposed new Indicator.
Indicator 6.2.4	NEPCon	Criterion includes ‘trapping’ as an activity that shall be controlled; yet it is not included in any of the indicators.	Add ‘trapping’ to Indicator.	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator to include “trapping” as proposed.
Verifier 6.2.4	WWF-Malaysia	Proposed of verifier aligning to the above proposed guidance and amendment of indicator 6.2.4.	To include “Records, reports, system, database for recording of licenses issued and any breach of license, as well as illegal activities” as verifier to Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.	The Meeting noted that the control of encroachment, illegal harvesting, hunting and other unauthorised activities in the FMU are also addressed under Indicator 1.5.2 with monitoring procedures elaborated at the Verifier level. The Meeting further noted that the FMU does not issue licenses for hunting and fishing. The Meeting therefore agreed to maintain the Verifier without any amendment.
Verifier 6.2.4 (Sabah)	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Provides for inland fisheries, i.e. to align with Indicator’s reference to fishing.	Add: Sabah Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Enactment 2003.	The Meeting requested for the Members from Sabah to further study the inclusion of this Enactment at the next SRC meeting.
Verifier 6.2.4 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	To provide a more accurate information.	To amend “Measures such as periodical patrolling of ... and extreme recreational activities” to “Measures to prevent unauthorized	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as “Measures such as periodical patrolling of forest areas, signage, closure of access to forest areas and administrative controls (e.g. guard points) to

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			activities in the FMU, such as setting up guard points, periodical patrolling of ... and extreme recreational activities”	prevent inappropriate ...” for all three regions.
Indicator 6.2.5	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Most indigenous and local communities do not speak English or sometimes even Bahasa Malaysia. It is important to communicate relevant standards and rights to them in a language and format that they can understand.	At the end of this Indicator, add (addition in underline): “... promoted among local communities <u>in Bahasa Malaysia and the local or indigenous language, and in both written and oral forms.</u> ”	The Meeting agreed that “communication” would be the key objective, which meant that it must be conducted in languages that are understood by the local communities. The Meeting decided to amend the Indicator as “... Such awareness shall be <u>communicated</u> and promoted among local communities”.
Verifier 6.2.5 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	NEPCon	Given forest workers shall be aware of RTEs, forest organizations will presumably be carrying out training activities; and training records should therefore be a good verifier.	Add training records to verifiers	The Meeting agreed that this Indicator focuses on awareness activities. Hence the conduct of activities to promote awareness would be sufficient to fulfill the requirement of this Indicator.
Verifier 6.2.5 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines or documents to be considered as reference.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of attendance for the awareness activities conducted forest workers. List of attendance for the awareness activities conducted for local communities. 	The Meeting agreed to add “List of attendance for the awareness activities conducted” as a new Verifier.
Criterion 6.3	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Ecological intactness (and integrity) may be the most important ecological value. This can only be managed for by not logging or at least not establishing roads.	Include provision to not log or at least not construct roads where ecological intactness is the most important ecological value.	The Meeting noted that safeguards for ecological value have been addressed under Criterion 6.1 and 6.2 while provisions for road construction taking into consideration conservation of biological corridors and buffer zones is covered under Indicator 6.3.3.
Criterion 6.3	NEPCon	The Criterion includes <i>natural cycles</i> as one of three functions and values to be maintained, enhanced or restored; yet it is not mentioned in any of the indicators.	Includes reference to natural cycles in indicators.	The Meeting was of the view that “natural regeneration” as indicated would also refer to “ <i>natural cycle</i> ” and agreed to maintain the existing wording of the Indicator.

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		Also, for Sabah, permanent sample plot records are mentioned as a verifier. These are not included for either PM or Sarawak (yet these jurisdictions apparently have PSPs as they are listed as verifiers for Indicator 8.2.1); suggest they could be included as verifiers for 6.3 for the other two jurisdictions.		
Indicator 6.3.1	Global Environment Centre	Some FMUs include areas that are seriously degraded as a result of clearance, fire, drainage or erosion. These areas may or may not have been logged and may require efforts beyond normal silvicultural treatment.	Addition of text: Availability and implementation of management guidelines to assess post-harvest natural regeneration, and measures to supplement natural regeneration <u>and rehabilitate degraded areas</u> , where necessary, in the FMU.	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as proposed.
Verifier 6.3.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Already covered by other verifiers under this indicator.	Delete "Results of the pre-felling and post-felling inventories" as a verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to remove the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 6.3.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines or documents to be considered as reference.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Management Plan • Guidelines for the demarcation and protection of natural forests. • Records of areas of natural forest demarcated, mapped and protected. 	As this Indicator is related to assessment of post-harvest natural regeneration, the Meeting agreed to add the following new Verifiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for the inspection of harvesting area • Procedure for post logging block inspection.
Verifier 6.3.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of Guideline: Manual Saliran Mesra Alam	Peninsular Malaysia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Manual Saliran Mesra Alam</u> 	The Meeting agreed that further information on the relevance of the proposed Manual need to be sought.
Verifier 6.3.2 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines to be considered as reference and verifier.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Enactment, 1968 • Rhino, Elephant and Orang Utan Action 	The Meeting agreed that further feedback from Sabah Forestry Department is needed with regard to this proposal.

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			Plan, 2012-2016	
Verifier 6.3.2 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines or documents to be considered as reference.	To include "Guidelines for the conservation of genetic, species and ecosystem diversity".	The Meeting was of the view that the current Verifiers for Indicator 6.3.2 are already specific and that there was no necessity to include a generic Verifier. The Meeting further agreed to remove the Verifier "National Policy on Biological Diversity, 1998" and replace it with the following new Verifiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Centre Ordinance • Sarawak Biodiversity Regulation 2016
Indicator 6.3.3	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Research has shown that stepping stones are important refuges for wildlife that move through plantations and other intensive land uses.	Amend to (addition in underline): "... conservation of biological corridors, <u>stepping stones</u> and buffer zones..."	The Meeting was of the view that the requirement for conservation of buffer zones as indicated was sufficient to address the concern and agreed to maintain the Indicator without amendment.
Indicator 6.3.3	WWF-Malaysia	Wildlife habitats should be included as to maintain the ecological functions of the ecosystem for wildlife.	To amend "Harvesting... the conservation of biological corridors and buffer zones... for wildlife." To "Harvesting... the conservation of biological corridors, habitats, and buffer zones... for wildlife."	The Meeting further agreed that consideration on conservation of habitat was sufficiently covered under Criterion 6.2.
Verifier 6.3.3 (Sabah)	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Spatial mapping and planning are important tools for identifying high conservation value forests and opportunities for connectivity and integrity, including corridors and buffer zones.	Add: species-specific action plans, e.g. for orangutan, elephants, rhinos, tigers. Also add: spatial mapping and planning.	Considerations on high conservation value forests are sufficiently covered under Principle 9. Species-specific action plans are covered under Criterion 6.2. Spatial mapping and planning are covered under the FMP. The Meeting therefore agreed to maintain the existing Verifiers without any amendment.
Verifier 6.3.3 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant existing reports and data to be included.	To include the following: - HCV assessment report - Map of the corridors, habitat and buffer zones identified	The Meeting agreed that the concerns are sufficiently addressed under Principle 9.

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Verifier 6.3.3 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines or documents to be considered as reference.	To include "Guidelines for Managing Biodiversity in the Riparian Zone, 2010".	The Meeting agreed to await feedback from the relevant authority in Sarawak and revisit the discussion on the applicability of the proposed additional Verifier at the next meeting.
Criterion 6.4	NEPCon	The Criterion specifies that representative samples of existing ecosystems ... shall be protected ... and recorded on maps; yet none of the Indicators includes this requirement.	Modify wording of Indicator to include requirement for recording of information on maps.	The Meeting was of the view that the verifier "Records and maps of such areas" has addressed the concern raised.
Verifier 6.4.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	To provide evidences of protection works done on the ground or at the site.	To amend "Records and maps of such areas." To "Records, maps, demarcation and protection of such areas."	The Meeting noted that implementation of protection and management activities for such areas are covered under Indicator 6.4.2. The Meeting agreed that the proposal could be incorporated by amending the verifier of Indicator 6.4.2 as "Signage and records of implementation".
Verifier 6.4.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia		To include "HCV assessment report"	The Meeting agreed that Principle 9 sufficiently addresses the requirement for HCV assessment.
Criterion 6.5	Global Environment Centre	Fire is becoming an increasing problem in Malaysian forests especially due to climate change and development of adjacent lands. Logging makes forests more susceptible to fire and enhances access to others increasing fire risk. Fires in peat swamp forests could lead to serious environmental and social problems due to persistent fires as well as haze.	Addition of text: Guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to:- control erosion; minimise forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources <i>and prevent fire.</i>	The Meeting agreed to amend the Criterion as proposed.

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Criterion 6.5	Global Environment Centre	Drainage of peat swamp forest as part of logging operation for example as experienced in North Selangor peat swamp forest (with 500km of canals) leads to serious and long term negative environment impacts including fire, subsidence and poor forest recovery etc.	Proposed new indicator: <i>The natural hydrology of wetland forests (peat swamp forest, freshwater swamp forest, mangrove) is not disrupted through harvesting or forest management activities such as through the construction of drains, canals, bunds, roads, etc.</i>	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator 6.5.4 as <u>“Availability and implementation of guidelines for management of natural hydrology of wetlands and guidelines for conservation of buffer strips along streams and rivers.”</u> The Meeting also requested members from the respective regions to provide inputs for the corresponding Verifiers, if any.
Criterion 6.5	Global Environment Centre	Fire especially on peat could lead to serious environmental and social problem. Preventing fires is much more cost effective than controlling and rehabilitating afterwards. Preparing and implementing fire prevention and control plans in fire prone sites is a key step.	Proposed new indicator: Fire prevention and control plan to be prepared and implemented for all fire prone forest types such as peat swamp forest, kerangas, Bris and other fire prone sites.	The Meeting agreed to include a new Indicator 6.5.5 as proposed, and requested the Members to provide the corresponding Verifiers pertaining to fire prevention and control plan at the next meeting.
Criterion 6.5	NEPCon	Criterion specifies these requirements; yet none of the indicators includes them (at least not ‘holistically’ as described in the Criterion).	Modify wording of indicator(s) to include reference to control of erosion, and “all other mechanical disturbances”.	The Meeting was of the view that aspects related to “mechanical disturbances” are adequately covered under Indicators 6.5.1, 6.5.2 and 6.5.3.
Verifier 6.5.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant and readily available reports	To include “Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA); Proposal for Mitigation Measures (PMM), Agreement of Environmental Condition (AEC) and associated compliance reports.”	The Meeting decided to refer the proposal to the Sabah Forestry Department further feedback. The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifiers for Sarawak as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual on Sustainable Forest Management Certification • Environmental monitoring report.
Verifier 6.5.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung	Penggunaan garis panduan yang baru dibuat penambahbaikan.	Tambahkan perkataan “(Pindaan 2013)” bagi verifier Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan, 2010 dalam senarai verifier.	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as proposed.

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	Malaysia			
Verifier 6.5.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of Guideline: Manual Saliran Mesra Alam	Peninsular Malaysia • <u>Manual Saliran Mesra Alam</u>	The Meeting was of the view that the proposed Verifier was not relevant in this context, but agreed to seek further clarification on the applicability of the Manual.
Verifier 6.5.2 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant and readily available reports	To include “Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA); Proposal for Mitigation Measures (PMM), Agreement of Environmental Condition (AEC) and associated compliance reports.”	The Meeting decided to refer the proposal to the Sabah Forestry Department for further feedback.
Verifier 6.5.3	WCS-Malaysia Program	After logging operations, log landings become large forest gaps with compacted soil. They should be rehabilitated to discourage invasive species, for soil protection and species recuperation.	Verifier: to include provision for rehabilitation of log landings	The Meeting noted that under current practice, only temporary log landings are rehabilitated whereas permanent log landings would not be rehabilitated as it would be re-used. The need for rehabilitation measures is covered under Indicator 6.3.1.
Verifier 6.5.3 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Penggunaan garis panduan yang baru dibuat penambahbaikan.	Tambahkan perkataan “(Pindaan 2013)” bagi verifier Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan, 2010 dalam senarai verifier.	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 6.5.3 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of Guideline: Manual Saliran Mesra Alam	Peninsular Malaysia • <u>Manual Saliran Mesra Alam</u>	The Meeting was of the view that the inclusion of the proposed guideline was not relevant but agreed to revisit this item once clarification on the applicability of the manual is obtained.
Verifier 6.5.3 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	It is covered under RIL Operation Guide Book.	Delete “Forest Road Construction Manual” as a verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to remove the Verifier as proposed.
Indicator 6.5.4	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Riparian area protection is extremely important and minimum buffer zones	Amend to: “Availability and implementation of guidelines for protection and	The Meeting noted the requirement for protection of buffer zones is also addressed under Indicator

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		should be determined with wider margins rather than less.	conservation of <u>minimum buffer zones for streams, rivers and lakes, with due regard for the precautionary principle.</u> "	6.2.2. The Meeting further noted that the Indicator has earlier been amended as " <u>Availability and implementation of guidelines for management of natural hydrology of wetlands and guidelines for conservation of buffer strips along streams and rivers.</u> "
Indicator 6.5.4	WCS-Malaysia Program	To ensure that buffer strips are adequate and in good condition	Verifier: see Indicator 6.2.2	It is implicit that the guidelines for conservation of buffer strips would ensure the quality and adequacy of the buffer.
Verifier 6.5.4	Global Environment Centre	See verifier 6.2.2 above.	Add "Guideline for Managing Biodiversity in the Riparian Zone (NRE, 2010)"	The Meeting agreed that more clarification on this proposed guideline should be obtained for the consideration of the next SRC Meeting.
Verifier 6.5.4 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Penggunaan garis panduan yang baru dibuat penambahbaikan.	Tambahkan perkataan "(Pindaan 2013)" bagi verifier Garis Panduan Jalan Hutan, 2010 dalam senarai verifier.	The Meeting agreed to amend the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 6.5.4 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of Guideline: Bahagian Pengurusan Lembangan Sungai, Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran	Peninsular Malaysia • Bahagian Pengurusan Lembangan Sungai, Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran	The Meeting noted that logging in buffer strips are strictly prohibited in an FMU and agreed that the existing Verifiers are sufficient for the protection of rivers and buffer zones in a logging area.
Criterion 6.6	Forever Sabah via LEAP	It is important to use clear and precise terminology; otherwise it opens the door to lack of implementation.	Remove the qualifiers "where possible" and "strive to".	The Meeting noted that the use of chemicals in the natural forest condition has been limited and confined to the management of pests in the nurseries.
Criterion 6.6	Global Environment Centre	It is not appropriate to use any chemical pesticides in natural forests.	Forest manager shall adopt, where possible , environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management, and strive to <u>must</u> avoid the use of	Considering the current limited availability of environmentally friendly non-chemical pesticides for

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			chemical pesticides.	use in the nurseries, the Meeting was of the view that the existing wording of the Criterion and the corresponding Verifiers are still needed to indicate the requirement for the avoidance of the use of chemicals as far as possible.
Criterion 6.6	NEPCon	"Where possible" is not objectively auditable.	Change "Forest manager shall adopt, where possible, environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management, and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimise health and environmental risks" to "Forest manager shall adopt environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management, and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimise health and environmental risks".	use in the nurseries, the Meeting was of the view that the existing wording of the Criterion and the corresponding Verifiers are still needed to indicate the requirement for the avoidance of the use of chemicals as far as possible.

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Criterion 6.6, new Indicator 6.6.4	NEPCon	This part of the Criterion is not reflected in any of the indicators. Likewise, the Criterion requires that FMUs strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides.	Add 6.6.4 World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited.- Likewise, "strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides" implies that forest management organisations will prepare a plan for reduction of chemical pesticide use and implement it over a period of time.	The Meeting agreed to add a new Indicator 6.6.4 as follows: "The forest management shall prepare an implementation plan for the reduction of use of chemical pesticide" The Meeting also agreed to add the following corresponding Verifier: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan of implementation
Indicator 6.6.2	NEPCon	The added parts are from the Criterion but were not reflected in the indicators.	Change "Availability and implementation of guidelines and/or procedures on the use of chemicals in the forest approved by relevant regulatory authorities" to "Availability and implementation of guidelines and/or procedures relating to the use in the forest of chemicals approved by relevant regulatory authorities – as well as proper equipment and training – to minimise health and environmental risks".	The Meeting was of the view that aspects related to training is adequately covered under Indicator 6.6.3, while that related to procedures that include proper equipment covered under the OSHA requirement under Indicator 6.6.2. Additionally, Indicator 4.2.3 has also provision pertaining to the use of safety equipment.
Verifier 6.6.2 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Not relevant to this indicator.	Delete "Sustainable Forest Management License Agreement" as a verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to remove the Verifier as proposed.
Indicator 6.6.3	NEPCon	PPE is critical to use of (approved) chemicals in the forest.	Add reference to personal protective equipment (PPE) in this Indicator; and possibly cross-reference to appropriate P4 indicators.	The Meeting noted that the standard should be read in totality in order to minimize repetitions throughout the standard. The Meeting agreed that the requirements under Indicators 6.6.3 and 4.2.3 would have addressed the concern on PPE.

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Indicator 6.7.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Indicator should be distinct from Criterion.	Too similar to Criterion 6.7. Amend to include an actual indicator, e.g. to ensure there are no complaints regarding improper disposal.	The Meeting was of the view that the aim of the requirement is for proper disposal of waste and this has been clearly and sufficiently described in both the Criterion and Indicator. The Meeting agreed to maintain the wording of the Indicator without any amendment.
Indicator 6.7.1	NEPCon	The Indicator does not include all the elements of the Criterion. It is also not clear to whom the requirement applies.	Change “Oil, fuel, tyres, containers, liquid and solid nonorganic wastes, shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate and legal manner” to “Oil, fuel, tyres, containers, liquid and solid nonorganic wastes, shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate and legal manner at off-site locations”.	
Verifier 6.7.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines or documents to be considered as reference.	To include “Environmental Quality (Scheduled Wastes) Regulations 2005”.	The Meeting agreed to include the proposed Verifier for all three regions.
Indicator 6.8.1	WCS-Malaysia Program	To conserve the native genetic diversity of organisms in the PRFs which represent the nation’s gene bank	Indicator & Verifier: to include GMOs	The Meeting noted that the use of GMO in the natural forest is prohibited, and agreed that amendment to the Indicator and Verifier is not necessary.
Verifier 6.8.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah/ Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant act to be considered as reference.	To include “Biosafety Act 2007”.	The Meeting agreed to include “Biosafety Act 2007” as a new Verifier for Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah, while Members from Sarawak region agreed to confirm its applicability at the next meeting.
Criterion 6.9 and related Indicator 6.9.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Exotic species should not be used at all. There are well-documented harmful impacts on ecosystems.	Amend to “... document, control and <u>remove</u> the use of exotic species to avoid adverse ecological impacts. <u>Only</u> native species <u>shall be used</u> in enrichment planting.”	The Meeting agreed to amend the Criterion as “Document, control and monitor on the use of exotic species to avoid adverse ecological impacts. <u>Only</u> native species <u>shall be used</u> in enrichment planting.”

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Indicator 6.9.1	Global Environment Centre	Exotic species should only be permitted in plantation forest. Enrichment planting will exotic species may completely change the nature of natural forests.	Document, control and monitor on the use of exotic species to avoid adverse ecological impacts. Preference shall be given to Only native species in enrichment planting/ rehabilitation in natural forest.	
Indicator 6.9.1	NEPCon	It is not clear as written to whom the requirement applies.	Change “Document, control and monitor on the use of exotic species to avoid adverse ecological impacts. Preference shall be given to native species in enrichment planting” to “Forest managers shall document, control and monitor the use of exotic species to avoid adverse ecological impacts. Preference shall be given to native species in enrichment planting”.	
Verifier 6.9.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant act to be considered as reference.	To include “Biosafety Act 2007”.	The Meeting noted that the proposed Verifier has already been included under Indicator 6.8.1.
Criterion 6.10	Forever Sabah via LEAP	There should be stricter limitations on situations in which forests can be converted into plantations or non-forest land uses, particularly those concerning communities and areas outside of the FMU boundaries or proposed conversion areas.	Add after (b): “does not occur on or affect lands, forests or resources subject to customary law and/or customary uses by indigenous peoples or local communities; will not negatively impact surrounding areas of forest, watersheds and rivers, and resources used by communities; and...”	The Meeting was of the view that the concerns on customary law and/or customary uses are covered under item (b) as high conservation value forests include elements of social or cultural importance. The Meeting agreed to add after item (b) of the Criterion as “does not occur in ecological corridors and environmentally sensitive areas identified by the relevant authorities”.
Criterion 6.10	WWF-Malaysia	* as captured within Guidelines for the Interpretation of Requirements in MC&I (Natural Forest) [GD-NF 2/2014]	To include the following as guidance under the indicator:	The Meeting was of the view that any planned conversion could still be reversed if no conversion had taken place. The Meeting agreed to maintain

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			*It should also state that the 5% include those that have been converted and in the process/ plans to be converted.	the existing requirement.
Criterion 6.10	FRIM	To maintain the forest integrity of composition after the area been harvested.	To include: d) Composition of timber species before and harvesting. Verifier: Species composition information/data (from post-felling inventory)	The Meeting was of the view that the proposal had been addressed under Indicator 6.3.1 and agreed to maintain the existing Criterion without amendment.
Indicator 6.10.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	If there is no baseline date, it could create an inventive to log HCV Forests. Perhaps refer to the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil's procedures for identifying HCV areas. It needs to specify percentages of what.	For HCV Forest areas, include a specific baseline date dating far enough in the past to ensure there is no clearance. Add Indicators for the proposed new components of Criterion 6.10. Amend the percentages listed in the "limited portion" definition for Years 4-7 as not more than X% of the remaining forested area.	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as "... not more than 5% of the total area of the FMU to be converted to forest plantation".
Indicator 6.10.1	Global Environment Centre	Existing definition required modification in current review. Current MC&I limits conversion to plantation to 5%. This should be maintained or reduced to prioritise natural forest areas for natural forest. Forest plantations should be outside of natural forest areas and only in degraded land.	Add to definition of limited area No more than 5% of FMU to be converted to forest plantation	
Indicator 6.10.1	Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia	Zon-zon penubuhan ladang hutan dalam HSK yang telah dikenalpasti oleh Jabatan-Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri seluas 439,189 ha selaras dengan	Pindaan penyataan "Bahagian yang terhad:" dalam penyataan Petunjuk kepada "Peratusan penukaran kawasan hutan di dalam FMU untuk tujuan pembangunan	

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		<p>keputusan Majlis Tanah Negara (MTN) ke-68 Tahun 2012 iaitu tidak melebihi 5% daripada jumlah keluasan hutan asli dalam HSK bagi tempoh 7 tahun.</p> <p>Penukaran kawasan hutan asli kepada ladang hutan akan membawa faedah-faedah ekonomi dan social yang ketara kepada Kerajaan Negeri.</p> <p>Bahagian yang terhad mengikut peratusan penukaran 2.5% bagi 3 tahun pertama, 1.5% bagi 2 tahun berikutnya dan 1% bagi 2 tahun seterusnya, menyebabkan pihak negeri sukar untuk merancang dan membangunkan ladang hutan secara fleksibel dan mengikut kapasiti negeri kerana terikat dengan peratusan yang ditetapkan secara <i>rigid</i> mengikut peratusan tahun.</p> <p>Dengan ini dicadangkan pindaan bagi membolehkan pihak negeri merancang dan membangunkan ladang hutan secara fleksibel mengikut kesesuaian dan kapasiti di negeri sehingga mencapai keluasan 5% atau tidak melebihi 5% daripada kawasan FMU tanpa terikat kepada sesuatu tempoh dengan peratusan yang ditetapkan mengikut kriteria dalam dokumen ini.</p>	<p>ladang hutan atau bukan tujuan perhutanan adalah 5% daripada kawasan FMU.</p>	

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Indicator 6.10.1	WCS-Malaysia Program	To maximize the sustainability of natural forests and to maximize the conservation of biodiversity	Indicator: To include in item (a) “environmentally sensitive areas and biological corridors”. To add item (b) “conversion shall firstly utilise badly degraded forest which is not possible to be rehabilitated.” Verifier : 1. For badly degraded forest – the low volume/value of harvestable timber in the proposed conversion area. 2. Public/stakeholder consultation needed.	In considering the proposal, the Meeting agreed that a definition of degraded forest is needed and agreed to revisit this proposal at the next meeting.
Indicator 6.10.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Consent is also required from communities who may or will be affected.	Add at the end of the Indicator: “... and indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ right to give or withhold free, prior and informed consent.” Add Verifiers from the sections above on FPIC.	The Meeting agreed to add a new Verifier as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records of consultation with local communities, if applicable
PRINCIPLE 7				
Criterion 7.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Management plans should provide for the most up-to-date management tools such as strategic environmental and social assessments, and should include mapping of conserved areas and customary tenure.	Amend (f) to: “Environmental safeguards based on <u>strategic</u> environmental assessments.” Include after (f): “Social and cultural safeguards based on strategic social assessments and communities self-determined plans and priorities.” Amend (h) to: “Maps describing the forest resource base, including protected areas, <u>effectively conserved areas (including by indigenous peoples and local communities)</u> , planned management activities, land ownership, and customary tenure.”	The Meeting agreed to maintain the existing Criterion and the generic terminologies. The Meeting was of the view that the existing requirement for environment impact assessment under Criterion 6.1 encompasses both social and environmental safeguards. Additionally social safeguard has been covered under Criterion 4.4. Map of protected areas will cover sites of importance to the indigenous peoples and local communities cover under Criterion 3.3.

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Criterion 7.1	Global Environment Centre	Current listing is not complete and additional items proposed to make it more comprehensive and in line with other criteria and indicators.	<p>Addition of text to contents list of management plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> j) Plan for rehabilitation of any degraded portion of forest or post logging rehabilitation k) Maps describing fragile and vulnerable or rare forest types such as peat swamp forest and freshwater swamp forest l) Resources required for implementing plan including staffing, equipment, finance, etc m) Impacts on forest from adjacent land use or development and plans to overcome or reduce them n) Stakeholder engagement with adjacent communities, landowner etc o) Fire prevention and control plan 	<p>The Meeting deliberated on the proposed additions and concluded/agreed on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item j) is covered under silvicultural system under Criterion 7.1 (c). • Item k) is covered under Criterion 7.1 (h). • Item l) will be included under Criterion 7.1 (b) to be amended as “b) Description of the <u>organisation’s administration, ...</u>” • Item (m) would be described in EIA report and is covered under Criterion 7.1 (b) and (f). • Item (n) will be added as a new Criterion 7.1 (j) “Description of stakeholder engagement”. • Item (o) will be included by amending Criterion 7.1 (c) as “Description of silvicultural and/or other management system <u>including fire prevention and control</u>, based on the ecology...”
Criterion 7.1	FRIM	R&D is critical to support improvement of forest management in the respective/specific FMU.	<p>To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> j) Necessary research to be conducted for the FMU. k) Inclusion of non-forest produce especially on the aspects of eco-tourism and payment for ecosystem services (PES). <p>Verifier: Provide specific chapter in the Forest Management Plan on research & development (R&D), eco-tourism and PES.</p>	<p>The Meeting agreed that the concerns raised are addressed under Principle 8 where the implementation of the MC&I would inevitably identify gaps that require further information through research and development. This would require collaborations between the FMU managers and research institutions.</p>

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Indicator 7.1.1	Global Environment Centre	It is important to show that plan is being implemented in an adequate and timely manner.	Addition of text: Availability <i>and adequacy of</i> implementation of Forest Management Plan.	The Meeting was of the view that the proposed amendment was not necessary as the adequacy of implementation of the Forest Management Plan would be assessed during the audit process.
Indicator 7.1.1	NEPCon	The Indicator does not include all the requirements of the Criterion.	Change "Availability and implementation of Forest Management Plan" to <u>"Availability and implementation of Forest Management Plan that includes at least:</u> a) <u>Management objectives.</u> b) <u>Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands.</u> c) <u>Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories.</u> d) <u>Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.</u> e) <u>Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.</u> f) <u>Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments.</u> g) <u>Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species.</u> h) <u>Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership.</u> i) <u>Description and justification of</u>	The Meeting was of the view that the standard is meant to be read as a whole and repetition of all the requirements in the Criterion is not necessary at the Indicator level.

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			<u>harvesting techniques and equipment to be used</u> ”.	
Verifier 7.1.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia		To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Work Plan (AWP) • Annual report • Records showing progress in AWP 	Considering that the requirement for annual monitoring is covered under Criterion 8.2, the Meeting agreed that the Forest Management Plan, which is the primary document to be assessed by the auditor under this Criterion, is sufficient.
Indicator 7.1.2	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of new Indicator	Indicator 7.1.2 Application or implementation of catchment management plan	The Meeting was of the view that any water catchment area within an FMU would be identified and that the management prescription for such area would be indicated in the Forest Management Plan. The Meeting agreed that the concern has been sufficiently addressed under the existing Indicator 7.1.1.
Verifier 7.1.2 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of Guideline as Verifiers: Manual Saliran Mesra Alam	Peninsular Malaysia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Integrated Water Resources Management</u> • <u>Integrated River Basin Management</u> 	The Meeting was of the view that the proposed additional verifiers are not relevant, however agreed to revisit this proposal once further clarification on the suitability of the documents are obtained.
Criterion 7.2 and Indicators 7.2.1 and 7.2.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Indigenous peoples and local communities have extensive knowledge about forests, weather patterns, rivers, wildlife, medicinal plants, etc. Use of multiple knowledge systems increases the likelihood of effective management.	Include references to “traditional, indigenous and local knowledge” in addition to scientific and technical information.	The Meeting agreed to amend Indicator 7.2.2 as “Forest managers shall be aware of new scientific and technical information, <u>including any applicable traditional and indigenous knowledge</u> pertinent to the management of the area to be certified”.
Indicator 7.2.2	FRIM	To ensure consultation/communication with the research institutions are being conducted in regular basis.	Indicator 7.2.2 Forest managers shall be aware of new scientific and technical information pertinent to the management of the area to be certified <u>by referring to the respective research institutions.</u>	The Meeting agreed to consider the proposal by including it as a new verifier as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Records of communication and inputs from research institutions.</u>

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			Verifier: Records of communication and inputs from the respective research institutions on the new scientific and technical information.	
PRINCIPLE 8				
Principle 8	WWF-Malaysia	It is important to better capture the needs to assess the progress towards achieving sustainability and viability as stipulated within respective management objectives; and its impacts (both negative and positive) of management activities.	To amend “Monitoring shall be conducted – appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management – to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts” to “Monitoring shall be conducted – appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management – to assess the condition of the forest within the FMU management unit, yields of forest products, chain of custody; as well as progress towards achieving management objectives, and the impacts of management activities”	The Meeting considered the proposal and was of the view that the impacts to both social and environment need to be emphasised. The Meeting agreed to amend the Principle as “Monitoring shall be conducted – appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management – to assess the condition of the forest <u>within the forest management unit</u> , yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts”.
Criterion 8.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Need to consider potential unintended consequences or perverse incentives.	Add “risk” in addition to complexity and fragility.	The Meeting agreed to amend the Criterion as “...the relative complexity and fragility of and <u>risk</u> to the affected environment.”
Verifier 8.1.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Replaced with the new verifiers.	Replace “Sustainable Forest Management Guidelines – Part IV (October 2003)” with the following verifiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Management Plan • RIL Operation Guide Book: Code of Practice for Forest Harvesting in Sabah, 2009 	The Meeting agreed to replace and add the new Verifiers as proposed.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring forms: Quarterly Report and Compliance Report 	
Verifier 8.1.2 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of new Verifier in line with the National Water Resources Policy	<u>Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Debris and mudflow control</u> 	The Meeting agreed to revisit the item at the next meeting after obtaining further clarification from DID.
Verifier 8.1.2 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Relevant to this indicator.	Add "Forest Management Plan" and "Monitoring forms: Quarterly Report and Compliance Report" as the new verifiers to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to add the new Verifiers as proposed.
Verifier 8.1.2 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Not relevant to this indicator.	Delete "Sustainable Forest Management Guidelines – Part IV (October 2003)" as the verifier for this indicator.	The Meeting noted the comment and agreed to remove the Verifier.
Verifier 8.1.2 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	To provide more information of monitoring works that been carrying out by the FMU holder.	To include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence of monitoring unit is established. - Auditing and monitoring reports. - Environmental Monitoring Report (EMR). 	The Meeting agreed to add Environmental Monitoring Report as a new Verifier and noted that this requirement would necessitate the establishment of a monitoring unit/ personnel so that relevant activities would be systematically monitored by the FMU.
Criterion 8.2	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of <u>f) Water Availability</u> in line with the National Water Resources Policy	8.2 <u>f) Water Availability</u>	The Meeting was of the view that the concern on water availability is addressed under (d) "Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations," and reflected in the existing Verifiers.
Verifier 8.2.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia		To include "Reports on monitoring on flora and fauna"	The Meeting agreed to revisit the proposal at the next meeting after obtaining further feedback from the Sabah Forestry Department.

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Verifier 8.2.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	Department of Irrigation and Drainage	Addition of "Water balance and water availability" in line with the National Water Resources Policy	<u>Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Water balance and water availability</u> 	The Meeting agreed to revisit the proposal after obtaining further clarification from DID.
Indicator 8.3.1	NEPCon	To allow Chain of Custody requirements to include volume as well as source data.	Modify wording of Indicator from "Forest managers shall provide relevant documents for identifying all forest products leaving the area to be certified so that their origin could be easily determined" to "Forest managers shall provide relevant documents such that all forest products leaving the certified area can be identified (including volumes and types) such that their origin may be readily confirmed".	The Meeting agreed to amend the Indicator as proposed.
Verifier 8.3.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Not relevant to this indicator.	Delete "Log Tracking System" as a verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed with the proposal to remove the Verifier as proposed.
Verifier 8.3.1 (Sabah)	WWF-Malaysia		To include "Annual Work Plan"	The Meeting agreed to revisit this proposal after obtaining feedback from the Sabah Forestry Department.
Verifier 8.3.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant records to be considered as reference.	To include "Records of felling extraction and transportation".	The Meeting deliberated on the proposal and noted that records of felling extraction and transportation are captured under "Record of Revlog system." Considering that the existing Verifiers are also covered under the "Revlog system", the Meeting agreed to streamline the existing Verifiers as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records of Revlog System Record of export declaration form Export Clearance Certificate/ Endorsement Clearance Certificate

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Indicator 8.4.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Revision and implementation of the forest management plan should be done through a participatory process in order to benefit from the collective wisdom and expertise of various stakeholders and rights-holders.	Amend to: "Forest managers shall <u>undertake a participatory consultation process, including with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities,</u> to incorporate the results and findings..." Add Verifiers: Documentation of FPIC process and outcome	The Meeting noted that the proposal for participatory consultation process has been addressed by the new item "Description of stakeholder engagement(?)," included under Criterion 7.1.
PRINCIPLE 9				
Indicator 9.1.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	It is essential to have credible and independent third-party involvement.	Add at the end: "This should be audited and verified by independent third-parties accredited with an internationally recognised body."	The Meeting agreed that this requirement has been fulfilled by the third party certification process. Under the certification process, the HCV assessment will be assessed and audited by the third party certification body. The Meeting therefore agreed to maintain the Indicator without any amendment.
Indicator 9.1.1	WCS-Malaysia Program	Recent court decisions in PM eg Lingiu dam, Kg. Peta	Verifier for PM: to include "decisions of the Civil courts pertaining to legal or customary tenure or use rights"	The Meeting agreed to include the proposed Verifier for Peninsular Malaysia, for uniformity among the three regions.
Indicator 9.1.1	WWF-Malaysia	As different region adopted different HCV guidelines or toolkits; it is crucial to make transparent and participatory the process of identification, managing, monitoring and demarcating of HCV identified complying to the transparency towards sustainability.	To include the following as guidance under the indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Documentation of HCV identification guidelines adopted for the identification of HCV within FMU; ii. Responses and actions taken in addressing stakeholders' comments and feedbacks on the outcomes of (i) iii. HCV identification should be conducted by third-party accredited HCV assessor. iv. Made publicly available relevant 	The Meeting considered the proposal and was of the view that items (ii) and (iv) are addressed under Indicators 9.2.1 and 9.3.2 respectively. The Meeting further agreed to amend Indicator 9.1.1 as "Forest managers shall conduct an assessment to identify high conservation value (HCV) areas in accordance with relevant guidelines, appropriate to scale and intensity of management for forest management operations, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders and experts".

Document Full Path	Respondent Name	Comment	Proposed Text / Amendment	Consideration and Decision by the SRC
			documents	
Verifier 9.1.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Management and monitoring of HCV identified is crucial on ensuring the forest management and/or economic activities in compliances with relevant principles of this Standards ensuring sustainability.	To amend "Report on assessment, identification and demarcation on maps of HCVFs" to "Report on identification, management, monitoring and demarcation on maps of proposed HCVs." as verifier for Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.	The Meeting was of the view that the existing Verifiers are sufficient as the proposed amendments are already covered under Criterion 9.3 and 9.4.
Verifier 9.1.1 (Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant guidelines to be considered as reference.	To include "High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) Toolkit for Malaysia"	The Meeting was of the view that flexibility should be given to FMUs to use any available guidelines as reference and agreed to amend the Verifier as "Report on the assessment and maps showing HCV areas using guidelines such as the High Conservation Value Toolkit."
Verifier 9.1.1 and 9.2.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	Relevant verifier supporting the guidance above (9.1.1)	To include the following (Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCV guidelines/ HCVF Toolkit • HCV reports, detailing the location, values, management regime, and monitoring measures. • Responses to stakeholder feedback 	The Meeting was of the view that the concerns have been sufficiently addressed with the above amendment as well as the existing Verifiers under Indicators 9.1.1 and 9.2.1.
Criterion 9.2 / Indicator 9.2.2	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Need to provide for protection against all logging.	It should be recognised that the maintenance of some values (especially intactness and non-fragmentation) may necessitate refraining from logging.	The Meeting noted the comment and agreed that the concerns are addressed through the identification and management of HCV.
Indicator 9.2.1	WCS-Malaysia Program	To gain community support in the event of relevant court decisions.	Verifier: to include "implement co-management with stakeholders, in the event of court decisions granting legal or customary tenure or use rights to local community"	The Meeting was of the view that the FMU would need to abide by the applicable court decisions accordingly and any co-management would be undertaken in accordance with Principles 2 and 3.

Document Full Path	Respondent Name	Comment	Proposed Text / Amendment	Consideration and Decision by the SRC
Indicator 9.2.1	WWF-Malaysia	It is crucial to ensure consultation to get feedbacks and comments on the management regime and monitoring measures is conducted through a participatory and transparent manner.	To include guidance: i. Conduct participatory consultation with relevant stakeholders on the identification, management and monitoring recommendations; as well as the demarcation of HCV identified. ii. Responses and actions taken in addressing stakeholders' comments and feedbacks on the outcomes of (i) iii. Made publicly available relevant documents	The Meeting considered and agreed on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items (i) and (ii) are addressed under Indicator 9.2.1 and the Verifiers. • Item (iii) is addressed under Criterion 9.3 where a summary of the management plan is required to be made publicly available.
Indicator 9.3.1	Global Environment Centre	Without adequate resource allocation, the HCV area may not be maintained or enhanced.	Addition of text: Measures to demarcate, maintain and/or enhance the HCVF attributes are documented in the forest management plan, <i>have adequate resource allocation</i> and effectively implemented.	The Meeting was of the view that the effective implementation of the requirement would require adequate resources to be set aside. The adequacy of the allocation will be assessed during the audit process.
Indicator 9.3.1	WWF-Malaysia	Management strategies/guidelines can be formulated for the management of HCV areas through scientific studies (e.g size of HCV areas and buffers to ensure the areas don't degrade). In the absence of such studies, the precautionary approach needs to be applied in the Criteria.	To amend "Measures to demarcate, maintain and/or enhance the HCVF attributes are documented in the forest management plan and effectively implemented." to "Measures to demarcate, maintain and/or enhance the HCVs attributes are documented in the forest management plan and effectively implemented, based on scientific assessments/studies where available and using the precautionary approach in the absence of scientific information."	The Meeting was of the view that the assessment of HCV areas based on scientific studies has been covered under Indicator 9.1.1 and need not be repeated under this Indicator.
Indicator 9.3.1	NEPCon	Precautionary approach is specified in the Criterion yet this element is not included in the indicators.	Modify Indicator to include reference to precautionary approach.	The Meeting was of the view that it is sufficient to indicate the consideration for precautionary approach at the Criterion level.

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Verifier 9.3.1 (Sabah)	Sabah Forestry Department	Relevant to this indicator.	Add "Management prescriptions to maintain and/or enhance HCVF attributes" as a new verifier to this indicator.	The Meeting agreed to add the new Verifier as proposed for Sabah.
Verifier 9.3.1 (Peninsular Malaysia)	WWF-Malaysia	Proper documented measures, in some cases in the form of HCV management guidelines (e.g. management of saltlicks) need to be in place in the form of guidelines to ensure the HCV areas are protected and managed to avoid degradation as well as survival of wildlife in the forests.	To amend "Management prescriptions to maintain and/or enhance HCVF attributes" to "Management measures/guidelines to maintain and/or enhance HCVs attributes" verifier of Peninsular Malaysia; and to be included in as verifier for Sabah and Sarawak	The Meeting was of the view that the proposed amendment carries the same meaning and requirement as the existing Verifier and agreed to maintain the existing wording. The Meeting agreed with the proposal to include the Verifier for Sabah and Sarawak.
Criterion 9.4 and Indicator 9.4.1	Forever Sabah via LEAP	Need to consider potential unintended consequences or perverse incentives.	Add "risk" in addition to effectiveness.	The Meeting was of the view that the assessment on effectiveness would encompass an assessment of risks involved (if the measures are found to be ineffective) and agreed to maintain the existing Criterion without amendment.
Verifier 9.4.1 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	The scope and detail of the monitoring procedures need to be appropriate to ensure that any changes are detected to HCV. This would be useful in determining if changes to management measures are needed.	To amend "Monitoring procedures to assess the effectiveness of the measures in the management of the HCVFs" to "Monitoring procedures that has sufficient/appropriate scope and detail to detect changes in HCVF, relative to the initial assessment and status identified for each HCVs".	The Meeting was of the view that the proposed amendments render the Indicator subjective to interpretation and decided to maintain the wording of the existing verifier.
Verifier 9.4.2 (Peninsular Malaysia / Sabah / Sarawak)	WWF-Malaysia	If the monitoring results indicate that despite prescribed management measures/ guidelines in place, HCV areas are still becoming degraded, there will be a need to review and revise the management measures/guidelines.	To include "Revision to HCVs management measures/guidelines" as a verifier.	The Meeting was of the view that implementation and monitoring of HCV management measures would be considered in the revision of the FMP and agreed to amend the Verifier as "Relevant results and findings of HCV monitoring activities shall be incorporated into the revision of the FMP (including the HCV plan where applicable)."

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DEFINITIONS				
Definition of Key Terms (Appendix III)	Forever Sabah via LEAP	The definition of “chain of custody” appears to be incorrect and appears to refer instead to “supply chain”.	Check definition of “chain of custody” and revise if needed to ensure accuracy.	The Meeting agreed to use definition as contained in the PEFC ST 2002:2010 – <i>Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products – Requirements</i> .
Definition of Key Terms (Appendix III)	Forever Sabah via LEAP	It usefully defines “forest plantation”, “High Conservation Forests” and “natural forest”, but does not include a definition for “forest” itself. Please also refer to “General Comments” above regarding concerns with the FAO definition of forests.	Consider adding a definition for “forest” that distinguishes natural forests from plantations. Perhaps refer to FAO Forest Resources Assessment 2015 ’s definition of “Forest” (page 3). The definition should exclude tree stands in intensive or permanent agricultural production systems such as oil palm plantations and industrial tree plantations.	The Meeting agreed to revisit the definitions of key terms at the next meeting.