

Joint Meeting
PG Social Issues in the Food Industry
PG Environmental Issues in the F&B Sector

Minutes

Date: 6th May 2019 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Location: conf call

Participants:

- Systembolaget, Hanna Sutherlin
- Axfood, Kristina Areskog Bjurling
- Aldi Süd, Imke Roedel on behalf of Emma Kennedy
- Salling Group, Miina Mälgand
- Grupo Calvo, Victoria Sanchez Jimenez
- Lidl, Emi Katoh
- Clama, Anne Stemmer
- Kesko, Tuuli Luoma
- Coop, Raphael Schilling
- Mousquetaires, Coralie Alazet
- Lidl Hong Kong, Zoe Sin

Absent:

- Rewe Group, Laura Meissner
- Aldi Nord, Stephanie Schuler
- El Corte Ingles, Delia Garcia Gomez
- El Corte Ingles, Sergio Miguelez Moran

amfori Secretariat:

- [Anna Stancher](#), Strategy and Innovation
- [Monique Gerson](#), Strategy and Innovation
- [Rikarnto Bountis](#), Strategy and Innovation
- [Yakut Oktay](#), Services and Programmes

Agenda topics:

- [Farm Visibility in Platform](#)
- [Farm Self-Assessment](#)
- [Updates](#)
- [PG Organization](#)

Farm visibility in new platform

The new amfori Platform aims to increase the visibility of farms in supply chain and to facilitate monitoring. PG members are asked for feedback on three (non-mutually exclusive) scenarios:

1. *BUSINESS RULES – FARMS as INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES*

- farms invited to join the platform as any other business partner
- have a unique amfori ID number and manage their own profile in the platform

Benefits for members: visibility on supply chain and access to all the audits of farms and on remediation steps.

2. *BUSINESS RULES – FARMS OWNED by a PRODUCER*

- farms are sites of a producer and have a unique ID linked to that producer
- farm profiles are managed by users assigned by the producer.
- farms are visible under the producer profile (not in the supply chain)
- members can monitor them through a multi-tier audit.

Benefits for members: increased visibility on supply chain, audit results of all sites (farm and processor) and on remediation steps, no duplication of audits.

3. *BUSINESS RULES – FARMS not able to join the Platform*

- farms can be listed by a producer as business partners without having a profile or an ID number and hence they are not visible in the supply chain.
- members can monitor the farm(s) in their supply chain through a multi-tier audit, while the audit results will be stored in the profile of the main auditee.
- farms do not have a profile, cannot access amfori academy or any other activities on the Platform.

Benefits for members: when the farm is able to join the platform, existing monitoring results are transferred to the farm profile.

Feedback of PG members:

- Scenario 1 and 2 present no challenges
- Scenario 3 is insufficient to address the monitoring needs for farms that are not able to access the Platform. Members suggest considering the option of “static profiles” that can be managed by members or producers and which can be searched in the Platform and give access to monitoring and capacity building.

Action: amfori will share this feedback with the IT team and request feasibility assessment of “static profiles”. amfori will update the PG in the next meeting.

Farm Self-Assessment

Features: PG members agree that the tool should:

- Be voluntary not mandatory in the amfori BSCI system
- Be lean and applicable across the board to farms in any sector, business size, geography and at any level of maturity
- Include data evidence (business and employment structure) next to social and environmental practices of the farm.

Objectives: PG members indicate that the farm self-assessment should:

- function as an on-boarding tool for farms linked to capacity building options
- allow to input text to describe the practices used at farm level (not only YES / NO answers)
- be available off-line

The concern was raised that the self-assessment might conflict with existing social assessments as GLOBALG.A.P. GRASP. The members outlined that the amfori self-assessment shall not be used as auditing or risk assessment tool, but primarily as a starting point to introduce farms to social sustainability.

Action: amfori will elaborate a draft zero of the tool for review in the next meeting

Updates

MSC recognition of amfori BSCI

On 29. March 2019, amfori has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MSC aiming to strengthen labour requirements in the global seafood industry and to operationalise the recognition of amfori BSCI audits in the new MSC Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard that has been extended to labour requirements and was launched on the same day. The recognition will come into force in September 2019.

Until then, amfori will – in collaboration with MSC – develop guidance for members, auditors and producers, including e-learnings, to ensure a smooth transition. An FAQ has been developed to clarify open questions and give more in-depth information, accessible [here](#).

amfori members being active in the food industry are advised to:

- Check if they are affected by the recognition and extended requirements to prepare themselves. MSC will approach CoC Standard holders directly to ensure affected parties are informed accordingly. High risk countries to which the change applies, can be found here.
- Stay up to date and use the resources being developed by amfori and MSC
- Pay extra attention when Zero Tolerance cases occur as the grace period which is granted to rectify violations is limited to 30 days.

The concern was raised that most violations occur off-shore which are out of scope of this partnership. The FAQs refer to this question and MSC's activities in this regard.

IDH Pilot on Living Wage

The Dutch sustainable trade initiative IDH and Rainforest Alliance have developed a [Living Wage Salary Matrix Tool](#) aiming to calculate the gap between current remuneration and living wage to understand gaps, challenges and opportunities and ultimately set a first basis to stimulate dialogue, monitor progress over time and work towards closing the gap.

An initial pilot was conducted on 7 banana plantations in Costa Rica and Belize between 2016-2019 as part of living wage benchmark studies.

IDH has started a process by which governing bodies including leading initiatives, experts and advisors and companies are providing feedback on the tool to improve and ultimately scale it from currently the food industry to other sectors and regions. To that aim, IDH is looking into further piloting the tool with companies to collect feedback for improvement and to enable to scale the tool.

Further information to follow.

Sustainable Wine Programme

A partnership with the Italian wine certification standard EQUALITAS is in negotiation. A training schedule is available in the Platform for producers in South Africa, Latin America and Italy.

[PG organization](#)

It has been agreed that the members will postpone the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair. The election will take place during our next meeting, on the 17th of June 2019.

Members can express their interest for the position by sending a short bio to [Anna Stancher](#).

The next face to face meeting will take place in Brussels on June 17th 2pm to 5pm. A shuttle bus service will be available to transfer PG members to the location of the amfori Annual Conference.