



## HCV Resource Network Technical Panel First Meeting

Oxford: 30-31 July 2008

# Summary of Meeting Outcomes

## 1 Introduction

The HCV Resource Network's (HCV-RN) Technical Panel (TP) held its first physical meeting in Oxford, UK from 30-31 July 2008.

**Attendance:** Thirteen members of the recently appointed TP were able to attend: Daniel Arancibia (WWF-US); Reza Azmi (Wild Asia); Zhivko Bogdanov (WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme); Tom Clark (CMC Consulting); Nigel Dudley (Equilibrium); Ted Mamu (WWF-PNG); Dwi R. Muhtaman (Aksenta); Edward Pollard (Wildlife Conservation Society); Aisyah Sileuw (Daemeter Consulting); Winfried Suess (Oesterreichische Bundesforste AG Consulting); Yana Suryadinata (The Nature Conservancy); Maria Tysiachniouk (Center for Independent Social Research), and Lee White (Wildlife Conservation Society).

Members of the Secretariat (represented by ProForest) present were: Ruth Nussbaum (Director), Christopher Stewart, (Associate Director), and Nilofer Ghaffar (Network co-ordinator); in addition, Peter Gardiner (Mondi), co-chair of the Network's Steering Group (SG) and a member of the SG Quality Control sub-committee, joined the meeting to provide an SG perspective.

**Apologies:** Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Jeffrey Hayward (Rainforest Alliance); Marcelo Levy (Responsible Forestry Solutions); Douglas Macfarlane (Institute of Natural Resources); Gary Paoli (Daemeter Consulting); James R. Strittholt (Conservation Biology Institute); Randy Swaty (The Nature Conservancy); Matthew Wenban-Smith (One World Standards), and Tatiana Yanitskaya (WWF Russia).

Marcelo Levy, Douglas Macfarlane, and Matthew Wenban-Smith were all able to participate in some of the discussions via teleconferencing facilities.

**Objectives:** The primary aim of this meeting was for members of the newly formed TP to discuss and refine the [mechanism](#) for how the Panel would operate in practice. More specifically, the detailed objective for this first meeting was to develop two key documents:

1. ToRs for the Technical Panel to provide guidance on how the TP will work.
2. Guidance for Peer Reviews, providing quality criteria for reporting HCV assessments and a common basis for consistent reviews, which will be very

useful for the TP and other HCV reviewers, for HCV practitioners involved in assessments, and for land use managers.

The meeting was a valuable opportunity for face-to-face introductions, and for TP members to exchange details of their HCV-related experience with each other. Additionally, a number of TP members provided updates on significant developments in the use of the HCV framework in the regions in which they work.

A full [agenda](#) for the meeting is available to download from the Network website.

## **2 Main Outcomes**

### ***2.1 Document development***

#### **Terms of Reference for the HCV Resource Network Technical Panel**

ToRs for the TP were discussed and refined. This included more detailed consideration of the Panel's responsibilities, activities and commitments – both generally, and in the specific context of providing peer reviews and support for clarification and development of the HCV concept. Additionally the rules of appointment and membership, and those governing remittance and fees were clarified.

Version 1 of the [TP Terms of Reference](#) is available from the Network's website.

#### **Reviewing High Conservation Value reports**

TP members discussed in detail the guidance which should be provided for peer reviews of HCV assessment reports to ensure good practice and improve consistency. TP members clarified both the how the peer review process would function and how the review report should be structured. The TP set out the full set of criteria to be used in the form of a basic checklist for reviewing HCV assessment reports.

Version 1 of the [guidance for peer reviews](#) of HCV assessment reports is available to download from the website.

### ***2.2 Presentations and Updates***

Various TP members provided updates on HCV use in different regions, including:

- [Canada](#)
- [Russia](#)
- [Indonesia](#)
- [Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

- [Bulgaria](#) and [Romania](#)
- [Papua New Guinea](#)

A selection of the presentations made at the meeting may be downloaded from the website.

### **3 Next Steps**

TP members agreed that following a final review of the draft documentation developed at this meeting, they would be agreed and finalised. These first versions of both the ToRs and guidance for peer reviews of HCV assessments will be used by TP members and reviewed at the second meeting (provisionally planned to be held in the middle of 2009).