

Draft Minutes

Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil
18th General Assembly (GA18)

2 December 2021

Document Title : Draft Minutes
Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil
18th General Assembly (GA18)

Date : 2 December 2021

Venue : Virtual

Start time : 8:00 PM MYT (GMT+8)

Chairpersons : Anne Rosenbarger, RSPO Board of Governors Co-Chair
Dato' Carl Bek-Nielsen, RSPO Board of Governors Co-Chair

Moderator : Ruben Brunsveld, RSPO Deputy Director Europe, Middle East and Africa
(EMEA)

Speakers : Anne Rosenbarger
Tim Stephenson, RSPO Board of Governors Vice-Chair and Treasurer

Participants : 82 Ordinary Members in attendance
RSPO Secretariat
Observers

AGENDA

1. Introduction
2. Opening Address by Anne Rosenbarger, RSPO Board of Governors Co-Chair
3. Confirmation of minutes for the 17th General Assembly (GA17), held on 25 November 2020, by Anne Rosenbarger
4. Presentation of the Treasurer's Report by Tim Stephenson
5. Voting for the proposed resolutions and announcement of the results
 - Resolution GA18-1:
To receive and adopt the Treasurer's Report and the RSPO's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021.
 - Resolution GA18-2a:
To confirm the appointment of Ernst and Young as the auditors of the RSPO for the financial year ending 30 June 2022.
 - Resolution GA17-2b:
Strengthening the Code of Conduct to clarify that it embraces all stages of the supply chain, in particular refineries.
 - Resolution GA18-2c:
Enhancing the robustness of the RSPO Mass Balance model to accelerate uptake of Certified Sustainable Palm Oil.
 - Resolution GA18-2d:
Resolution to review and amendment of the Remediation and Compensation Procedures (RaCP) process as applied to scheme smallholders.
7. Voting for the Board of Governors elections and announcement of the results
 - a. Oil Palm Growers – 4 seats
 - b. Processors and Traders – 1 seat
 - c. Consumer Goods Manufacturers - 1 seat
 - d. Environmental NGOs – 2 seat
 - e. Social NGOs – 1 seat
 - f. Banks and investors - 1 seat

Annex 1 – Attendance and Voters List

1. INTRODUCTION

The moderator of GA18, RSPO's Deputy Director of EMEA, Ruben Brunsveld welcomed RSPO members to the virtual 18th General Assembly (GA18) of RSPO members, held on 2 December 2021 with the broadcast venue in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Ruben shared the housekeeping rules and reminded members of the RSPO Antitrust Guidelines. Ruben also informed that there was a quorum for the meeting to proceed.

2. OPENING ADDRESS BY THE CO-CHAIR, ANNE ROSENBERGER

Anne Rosenbarger welcomed all members and thanked everyone for joining the virtual key event despite the unusual times of the Covid-19 pandemic. She expressed that it was encouraging to see members from different corners of the world, from different time zones and different membership sectors come together as one in the virtual space, united in RSPO shared vision and commitment to sustainably transform the palm oil industry. She quoted writer Robin Wall Kimmerer: "Even a wounded world is feeding us. Even a wounded world holds us, giving us moments of wonder and joy. I choose joy over despair. Not because I have my head in the sand, but because joy is what the earth gives me daily and I must return the gift."

She then highlighted the achievements of the past year and a short video was shared with the attendees.

- RSPO membership surpassed five thousand members, spread across 101 countries,
- The successful launch of the RSPO Hotspot Hub to further intensify fire prevention in oil palm plantations in Indonesia and Malaysia,
- In Sierra Leone, the first group of nearly 5,000 Independent Smallholders were able to achieve RSPO certification, becoming the single largest certified Independent Smallholder group across all regions,
- Introduction of a Gender Inclusion Guidance to enhance gender equality in the industry and affirm our commitment to women's rights,
- Certified Fresh Fruit Bunch production from RSPO certified Independent Smallholders crossed one million metric tonnes, and
- CSPO production in Latin America and CSPO uptake in North America reached record levels this year, plus we oversaw the adoption of the RSPO Trademark in Colombia; a first for the LatAm region.

Members were provided updates on COP26 alignment, assurance and shared responsibility. She then informed members that the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will be announced early next year and stressed the importance of having strong and influential leadership to meet challenges ahead.

The Co-Chair then concluded her speech by emphasising the need to strengthen members' alliances and multi-stakeholder engagement so that the needle can be moved beyond 19%, which she believed can be achieved through Shared Responsibility. She also stressed the importance of working in synergy to achieve the COP26 deforestation commitment and the need to continue to be a catalyst for the planet and people to achieve true market transformation.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FOR THE GA17 HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2020 BY ANNE ROSENBERGER

Anne Rosenbarger then tabled the draft minutes of GA17 held on 25 November 2020 to the members for their approvals. It was noted that there was no question raised by the members pertaining to the draft minutes.

Lee Kuan-Chun of The Procter & Gamble Company proposed that the said minutes be confirmed and Paul Wolvekamp of Both ENDS, seconded the motion.

Anne thanked both Lee Kuan-Chun and Paul Wolvekamp for proposing and seconding the confirmation of the minutes of GA17. She then declared that the minutes of GA17 be hereby approved.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT BY TIM STEPHENSON

Tim Stephenson presented the Treasurer's Report and the RSPO's Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021, including the budget for the current financial year.

He reassured the members that the RSPO's financial position continued to be strong, and the business model was resilient, to allow the expansion of resources in the current year to address the critical issues facing RSPO.

He then thanked all the members of the Finance Committee for their work during the year. The Finance Committee currently comprises Tim Stephenson (Treasurer, AAK), Karen Yu (BoG, Rabobank), Samantha Bramley (BoG, Standard Chartered) and Patrick Chia (Chief Financial Officer (CFO), RSPO)

The Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee included the oversight of financial reporting, financial controls, financial planning and compliance. The day-to-day management was delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, the CFO and the different branches which appeared underneath the RSPO structure.

The organisation structure of RSPO remained unchanged other than the addition of a new branch office in Singapore.

Audited Financial Statements for financial year ended 30 June 2021

- A clean audited report was issued by Ernst & Young, stating that, in their opinion, the financial statements provided a true and fair view of the financial position of RSPO for the year ended 30 June 2021.
- There were no significant audit adjustments, which reflects the quality of the financial information provided by the Secretariat.
- The Finance Committee had met the auditors to discuss their report, which was then presented to the Board of Governors for its approval before being presented at the General Assembly.

Statements of Income and Expenditure

- The surplus after tax of RM17 million, which was even higher than in 2020.
- There was a strong increase in income to RM58 million.
- The operating costs, mainly related to staffing and consultancy, had also increased including an amount for compensation for loss of office as disclosed in the accounts and the cancellation of the previous year's roundtable meeting and replacement with virtual meetings.

- The project costs for the year were significantly decreased as compared to the previous year which was attributed to resources and the COVID pandemic.
- One-third of the income derived from subscriptions and two-third was derived almost entirely from contributions from segregated, mass balance and credit trading.

Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Funds

- The net assets for the year ended 30 June 2021 was recorded at RM59 million, as compared to RM44 million of the previous year.
- Subscriptions due before provision for doubtful debts on a gross basis have reduced from RM3.0 million to RM2.3 million. The reduction of 20% in subscriptions due was a good improvement.
- Cash and bank of RM65 million was inclusive of fixed deposits. Alternative investments with undue risk would be looked into in place of putting the fund in fixed deposits which have a very low return.
- The contract liabilities of RM9.7 million relates to deferred subscription income.

Statement of Cash Flows

- The changes in working capital around RM 3 million was mainly due to reduction in other receivables.
- RM1.8 million and RM800,000 were paid out from the Smallholder Fund and the Special Projects Fund.
- A net cash flow of RM19.5 million was recorded.

Statements of Changes in Equity

- The Net Assets for the year ended 30 June 2021 was recorded at RM58.8 million, which comprised RM39 million of the members fund as compared to RM44.5 million for the year ended 30 June 2020.
- The policy was to maintain a minimum of six months operating costs as reserves, estimated at RM20 million.
- The Smallholders Fund is sufficient to meet all ongoing commitments.

Budget for the financial year 2022

- The budget for financial year 2022 was prepared in May 2021, and approved by the Board in June 2021.
- Income was budgeted with an increase of 7% to RM63 million with a substantial increase in admin and operating costs as there was a proposed staff increase in the Secretariat from 92 to 164 by the end of the current financial year.
- The income in Q1FY22 from July to September 2021 was 28% higher than the previous year.
- As with the increase in operating costs, there was also an increase in divisional costs particularly with the market transformation and assurance divisions which reflected the priorities of the RSPO of the current year while maintaining a relatively high level of budget in stakeholder engagement.

In summary:

- We have a very strong balance sheet.
- RSPO has a resilient income model which does not depend on donations.
- With a sound financial base, RSPO could pursue its objectives.

Faisal Parish of Global Environment Centre (GEC): Please elaborate more on types of investments considered for investment of our cash and bank balances and what are the returns we are currently receiving from fixed deposits and what do we hope to receive from investing? Are there any types of investments we may consider or exclude?

Tim Stephenson: We are at the early stage and have not decided how to take it forward. When we do so, in terms of any investment, we will need to take professional advice on what we are allowed to do and should do given the nature of our organisation, and we should also be careful of the types of investment. We need to get more advice on that so that we do the right thing and take the appropriate cautious approach. The return from fixed deposits is low given the low interest rate between 1.4-2.3 %. Fairly large proportion of our cash is held in overseas currency which is not in fixed deposit accounts. Having our cash in strong currency has been a policy that we take. If you have any good information of what we are allowed to do certainly we will take that into account. We are not yet able to provide any details on the types of investment that we would be looking at.

The members then proceeded with the voting to receive and adopt the Treasurer's Report and RSPO's financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2021.

Resolution GA18-1	Weighted Vote Results	
To receive and adopt the Treasurer's Report and the RSPO's financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2021.	For	97.74
	Against	0.20
	Spoilt	2.06

The Resolution GA18-1 was hereby approved.

5. VOTING FOR THE RESOLUTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RESULTS

In line with the GA held fully virtual, all decisions in the respective resolutions and Board of Governors elections would be voted on exclusively by electronic means via e-voting.

Anne announced that a total of 205 ordinary members were registered to vote with 17 proxies. There were a total of 146 Ordinary members who voted in advance. She then reminded members that a new electronic voting format was implemented where vote calculations would be based on weightage that reflects the composition of the RSPO Board of Governors.

The e-voting results were as follows:

1. Resolution GA18-1

Resolution GA18-1	Weighted Vote Results	
To receive and adopt the Treasurer's Report and the RSPO's financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2021.	For	97.74
	Against	0.20
	Spoilt	2.06

The Resolution GA18-1 was hereby approved.

2. Resolution GA18-2a

Resolution GA18-2a	Weighted Vote Results	
To confirm the appointment of Ernst & Young as the auditors of the RSPO for the financial year ending 30 June 2022.	For	95.92
	Against	0.42
	Abstain	3.66

The Resolution GA18-2a was hereby approved.

3. Resolution GA18-2b

The resolution GA18-2b was presented by Eleanor Spencer from the Zoological Society of London.

Olivier Tichit of Musim Mas Holdings Pte. Ltd.: Can this resolution simply be called “NPP for downstream operations”? Can you clarify the intended ways to implement and monitor the measures you are calling for?

Eleanor Spencer: I think this is exactly what this resolution is seeking clarification on and this is already in the Code of Conduct so it needs clearer elaboration on what that means in practice and how it will be monitored in practice. We are not proposing specific measures under this resolution such as the in addition to the NPP or the new NPP. I can imagine something like that for particular members or particular cases might be worth the discussion as part of addressing this issue. I am reviewing how we are properly incorporating other operations. It is not something specific we are calling for, we are looking for discussion to take place and clarification to be made. That is sort of the first step.

Daphne Hameeteman of Olenex Holdings B.V.: Wouldn't refiner responsibilities not already be covered under the SR document ?

Eleanor Spencer: These two things complement each other well. The Shared Responsibility requirements and this clause in the Code of Conduct do not necessarily cover all the same thing. The Shared Responsibility requirements for example do not explicitly cover deforestation. Again, the idea here is to clarify this clause and clear reference to the Shared Responsibility requirements. It is just being clearer of what the requirements are and if there is a breach, it should be a breach of Code of Conduct as well. It is important that it is not only covered in the Shared Responsibility but also the Code of Conduct.

Resolution GA18-2b	Weighted Vote Results	
Strengthening the Code of Conduct to clarify that it embraces all stages of the supply chain, in particular refineries.	For	87.95
	Against	7.39
	Abstain	4.66

The Resolution GA18-2b was hereby approved.

4. Resolution GA18-2c

The Resolution GA18-2c was presented by Chris Sayner from Croda International PLC.

Marcus Colchester of Forest Peoples Programme: Please can you explain why we still need Mass Balance when we have Book and Claim as well as Segregated options?

Chris Sayner: Mass Balance (MB) is a physical supply chain and in the earlier days has been a gift which the chemical industry can support especially when it comes to physical certified materials. There are over 1000 palm oil derivatives used as ingredients in everyday home and personal care products. With the complexity of the supply chain, Mass Balance has allowed the support of RSPO certified materials to travel through those supply chains.

Madeleine Brassier of Oxfam International: Will the MB review also take into account upcoming EU legislation on mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence and will you expect MB to be allowed to EU27?

Chris Sayner: I cannot answer the question. I did allude to the developing legislation associated with due diligence. We did also cited the resolution being a good time to review the MB model.

Daphne Hameeteman of Olenex Holdings B.V.: What would be the ideal outcome of such an investigation? The Mass Balance model is what it is, wouldn't we just need more clarification on the Mass Balance model? And how it works?

Chris Sayner: We know how the model works and the question and possible outcome referenced in the resolution is comparing and contrasting with other certification schemes and that is the best practice. I will say again the MB model has served us very well. The question is would the Board of Governors consider a review and the membership consider it as well to see if the model can be further strengthened or enhanced. I do not doubt the credibility of the model at all except to say that the further consumer and people are away from the source of palm, the less understanding and the more optimism they have over everything in the world being fully certified and perfect. I think what the consumer is now beginning to understand is what MB is and I do not want to go into details of the Trademark. When you look at the Trademark, it says Mixed. Mixed means mixed with what? Conventional? That raises questions. It is the request to study the MB model and see whether it can be enhanced and improved.

Resolution GA18-2c	Weighted Vote Results	
Enhancing the robustness of the RSPO Mass Balance model to accelerate uptake of Certified Sustainable Palm Oil.	For	83.13
	Against	14.77
	Abstain	2.10

Resolution GA18-2c was hereby approved.

5. Resolution GA18-2d

The Resolution GA18-2d was presented by Yunita Widiastuti from Cargill Incorporated.

JT Lee of Credit Suisse AG: RaCP of schemed smallholders is the responsibility of the company because the 2 ha land is granted by the company? In other words, the schemed smallholders were not the ones who did not complete the HCV review process?

Yunita Widiastuti: The fact is independent smallholders are the owners of the land and are in a partnership relationship with the company. Therefore, the company acts as a facilitator connecting the farmers to the bank for loan. The loan will then be used by the company which acts as the contractor and will develop the land for the farmers. The sale of oil palm fruits will then be used to pay the company for managing the oil palm farms and bank loan installments. Hence, the landowners are the farmers and the cost of RaCP should be covered by the landowner and not the company.

Faisal Parish from the Global Environmental Centre: Can you clarify why the reprieve for scheme smallholders is requested before the review is undertaken. Why not do the review first ?

Yunita Widiastuti: The RaCP is applicable for land clearing without prior HCV assessment from 2005 to 2014. Prior to that, the requirement did not exist and was only first mentioned in RSPO P&C 2013. Therefore, it is unfair to retrospectively implement this requirement on farmers. Moreover, the RSPO P&C 2018 requires the company to certify all its supply base and this requirement is difficult for farmers because the penalty is high. Thus, the proponents are proposing the resolution to review the procedures at the GA so that the Biodiversity & High Conservation Values Working Group (BHCVWG), the Compensation Panel and the Smallholders Standing Committee (SHSC) to oversee the implementation of the proposal.

Paul Wolvekamp of Both Ends: Is it best to first have a smaller Standing Committee and the BHCVWG to look into the matter since these are the design designated bodies for such issues, then to also look carefully at the proposed reprieve its risks and benefits?

Eleanor Spencer of Zoological Society of London: Yes, this is an important issue to discuss further. But this resolution in my opinion is not the best way to do this. I would suggest instead this issue should be discussed in the smallholder standing committee BHCVWG to decide the best way forward.

Yunita Widiastuti: When we submitted the resolution, the Secretariat organised a meeting with all resolution proponents to discuss the resolution. By having that kind of conversation and feedback, we assumed that this resolution was already agreed, verified and validated by the Secretariat. That is why I am able to stand here to deliver the speech because it is already approved by the RSPO Secretariat. We fully agreed that this resolution needs to be overseen by the smallholders standing committee, BHCVWG and Compensation Panel.

Marcus Colchester of Forest Peoples Programme: Scheme smallholders should pay for the folds of the company that designed and implemented the scheme. This seems contrary to CSD, which requires companies to take responsibility for their schemes. What is the justification for making smallholders pay?

Yunita Widiastuti: Plasma smallholders is a requirement by the government under a specific law which a company will need to comply with. Companies are required to develop 20% of scheme smallholders and the smallholders are the owners of the limited land area and that is 2 ha. They do not have the options to choose other areas in other locations because the 2 ha land is what they have. At that time, HCV requirements did not exist yet and it is not the company's fault when conducting land clearing because the company only acts as a facilitator. The list of Plasma smallholders is given to us by the *Bupati* in the form of *Surat Keputusan* which is out of the company's jurisdiction.

Madeleine Brassier of Oxfam International: How have you consulted scheme smallholders in these resolutions in all continents?

Yunita Widiastuti: At the moment, scheme smallholders were excluded from all RSPO discussion as it is assumed that the aspiration from the scheme smallholders can be voiced out by the company. In reality, they are also facing the same problem as the independent smallholders and that is why we would like to take this moment as an opportunity to be inclusive from the RSPO Shared Responsibility's perspective. Their voice need to be heard and their aspirations need to be handled together by all the RSPO members because currently, they do not have the opportunity to voice and share their aspirations.

Harjinder Kaur Kler of HUTAN Kinabatangan Orang-utan Conservation Programme: Ibu Yunita, it is inaccurate to say it is approved by the Secretariat.

Resolution GA18-2d	Weighted Vote Results	
Resolution to review and amend the Remediation and Compensation Procedure (RaCP) process as applied to scheme smallholders.	For	59.45
	Against	29.25
	Abstain	11.31

Resolution GA18-2d was hereby approved.

6. VOTING FOR THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RESULTS

The next item was the election of the Board of Governors. There were 7 Boards of Governors seats available for election and 3 interim designations up for approval at the GA18.

1. Oil Palm Growers – Malaysia

The two-year term of Malaysian Palm Oil Association (MPOA), represented by the Principal Carl Bek-Nielsen and the Alternate Lee Kuan Yee, expired and was available for re-election. One other nomination was received from Boustead Plantations Berhad represented by Principal nominee Zainal Abidin Shariff and Alternate nominee Anuar Semail.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Oil Palm Growers - Malaysia	MPOA, Dato' Carl Bek-Nielsen	MPOA, Lee Kuan Yee	6	1
	Boustead Plantations Berhad, Zainal Abidin Shariff	Boustead Plantations Berhad, Anuar Semail	0	

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute the Principal and Alternate representing MPOA were elected as Board of Governor members.

2. Oil Palm Growers - Indonesia

The two-year term of Golden Agri-Resources Ltd, represented by the Principal Agus Purnomo and the Alternate member being PT. Inti Indosawit Subur, represented by the alternate Mohamad Fadhil Hassan, expired and was available for re-election. There were no other nominations received.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Oil Palm Growers - Indonesia	Golden Agri-Resources Ltd, Agus Purnomo	PT Inti Indosawit Subur, Mohamad Fadhil Hasan	6	0

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that the Principal representing Golden Agri-Resources Ltd and the Alternate representing PT. Inti Indosawit Subur were elected as Board of Governor members.

3. Oil Palm Growers – Rest of the World

During the year Quentin Meunier (Olam International Limited) was appointed as the interim Alternate to Principal member José Roberto Montenegro Baide (Agrocaribe) which required approval.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Oil Palm Growers – Rest of the World		Olam International Limited, Quentin Meunir	4	0

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that Quentin Meunir representing Olam International Limited's appointment as the Alternate to the Principal member José Roberto Montenegro Baide (Agrocaribe) was approved.

4. Oil Palm Growers – Smallholders

The Oil Palm Grower Smallholders seat had been vacant since GA17 and three nominations were received this year.

Asosiasi Petani Sawit Swadaya Amanah, represented by the Principal nominee Narno Sayoto Irontiko and the alternate member Gapoktan Tanjung Sehati represented by Alternate nominee, being Rukaiyah Rafik.

Koperasi Sawit Bangkit, represented by the Principal nominee Bernadinus Steni and the alternate member Badan Usaha Milik Desa "Karya Mandala Makmur" represented by Alternate nominee being Sartono S. PKP.

FELDA, represented by the Principal nominee Nurul Hasanah Ahamed Hassain Malim and the Alternate nominee being Ismail Samingin.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Oil Palm Growers - Smallholders	Asosiasi Petani Sawit Swadaya Amanah, Narno Sayoto Irontiko	Gapoktan Tanjung Sehati, Rukaiyah Rafik	31	0
	Koperasi Sawit Bangkit, Bernadinus Steni	Karya Mandala Makmur, Sartono S. PKP	6	
	FELDA, Nurul Hasanah Ahamed Hassain Malim	FELDA, Ismail Samingin	1	

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that the Principal represented by Asosiasi Petani Sawit Swadaya Amanah and Alternate represented by Gapoktan Tanjung Sehati were elected as Board of Governor members.

5. Processors and/or Traders

The two-year term of Wilmar International Limited, represented by the Principal Daphne Astrid Hameeteman and the Alternate Olivier Tichit (Musim Mas Holdings Pte. Ltd.), expired and was available for re-election. One other nomination was received from Viswaat Chemicals Limited, represented by the principal nominee Ramakant Dubey and the alternate nominee being Jignesh Dave.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Processors and/or Traders	Wilmar International Limited, Daphne Astrid Hameeteman	Musim Mas Holdings Pte. Ltd., Olivier Tichit	59	5
	Viswaat Chemicals Limited, Ramakant Dubey	Viswaat Chemicals Limited, Jignesh Dave	3	

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that the Principal representing Wilmar International Limited and the Alternate representing Musim Mas Holdings Pte. Ltd., were elected as Board of Governor members.

6. Consumer Goods Manufacturers

The two-year term of UNILEVER PLC, represented by the interim principal Martin Huxtable and the interim alternate being Claudine Musitelli, expired and were available for re-election. There were no other nominations received.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Processors and/or Traders	UNILEVER PLC, Martin Huxtable	UNILEVER PLC, Claudine Musitelli	20	1

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that the Principal and Alternate representing UNILEVER PLC were elected as Board of Governor members.

7. Banks and Investors

During the year Karen Yu, representing Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A. was appointed as the interim Principal member which required approval.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Banks & Investors	Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A, Karen Yu		5	0

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that the appointment of Karen Yu as the Principal member representing Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A. was approved.

8. Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations

The two-year term of World Resources Institute, represented by the principal Anne Rosenbarger and the alternate member being the Zoological Society of London represented by the alternate Eleanor Spencer, expired and was available for re-election. There were no other nominations received.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations	World Resources Institute, Anne Rosenbarger	Zoological Society of London, Eleanor Spencer	11	0

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that the Principal representing World Resources Institute and Alternate representing the Zoological Society of London were elected as Board of Governor members.

During the year Elizabeth Clarke representing WWF International was appointed as the interim Principal member which required approval.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations	WWF International, Elizabeth Clarke		11	0

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that the appointment of Elizabeth Clarke as the Principal member representing WWF International was approved.

9. Social or Development Organisations

The two-year term of Forest Peoples Programme, represented by the principal Marcus Colchester and the alternate member being Oxfam International represented by the alternate Madeleine Brassier, expired and was available for re-election. No other nominations had been received.

Membership Sector	Elected/Approved		Voting Results	
	Principal	Alternate	For	Abstain
Social or Development Organisations	Forest Peoples Programme, Marcus Colchester	Oxfam International, Madeleine Brassier	6	0

The Chairperson confirmed for the minute that the Principal representing Forest Peoples Programme and Alternate representing Oxfam International were elected as Board of Governor members.

The Chairperson also confirmed for the minutes that the two-year terms of Standard Chartered Bank and AEON Co., Ltd expired and were not available for re-election. There were no nominations received for either seats and therefore no elections were held for these seats and they shall remain vacant. She then congratulated the new set of Board of Governors for 2022.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Faisal Parish Global Environment Centre: Is there any indicative time frame for the appointment of the CEO and also the COO?

Anne Rosenbarger: We were quite pleased with the progress and have identified a candidate that we are very optimistic about but still in the final negotiation. Therefore, a specific timeframe on an announcement could not be provided. But we are hoping to get back to you as soon as everything is finalised. As soon as everything is finalised with regard to the recruitment process of COO, it would be initiated once the new CEO

is on board. The remuneration committee and the Board have taken the decision that the new CEO would be actively involved in that process of selecting the new COO.

Dato' Carl bek-Nielson: We are very positive and encouraged by the process and a candidate has been identified. We will keep the Board and the membership informed as development takes place. We are generally very positive.

Tim Stephenson: I completely agree with all of course. We should express our appreciation to Adam Harrison and Dr. Gan for stepping in as Interim Coordinators.

Faisal Parish Global Environment Centre: Can we say we have almost over 700 participants who joined the RT2021 series? What was the level of participation in the RSPO RT? How was the feedback from the participants? Was there a reason for it to have a very limited number of sessions?

Anne Rosenbarger: Yes, we have over 700 participants joining the RT2021 series.

Adam Harrison: We are still collecting feedback on the sessions and in general, they were positive. The numbers of attendees would be available later. The feedback from the global session was that it was appreciated. People wanted a bit more of a sort of tying back of the lessons learned to RSPO, which I think is valid although the point of that session was to try and sort of tap into what's happening in other commodities and other sectors. In general on the regional sessions in APAC, in EMEA and in the Americas, and it was a really appreciative way to get into the long grasp of the business of RSPO with membership as well. In general, it was good feedback, but we would certainly aggregate as it comes in and learn from it.

8. CLOSING OF GA

On behalf of Co-Chair, Dato' Carl Bek-Nielsen, Vice-Chair, Tim Stephenson, interim coordinators Adam Harrison and Dr. Gan, the members of the RSPO and Secretariat, Anne thanked all participants for joining the GA18. She also thanked the RSPO Secretariat for their hard work and their resilience throughout the year, and especially for putting together the event, as well as a successful virtual RT series.

According to Anne, the past few years have definitely been challenging and despite still being at the critical moment of global recovery and transition, progress and numerous milestones have been achieved together. Greater momentum to improve the credibility and quality of implementation would be required. She believed that if all members proactively work together as a global membership body, the RSPO's standards and the assurance systems will remain relevant and credible. With the power of unity, all members have a role to play in achieving sustainable market transformation. She encouraged all RSPO members to look for opportunities to work together with the Secretariat and identify potential collaboration and better support one another to champion the shared mission and vision. This would be imperative to securing a future for Sustainable Palm Oil. Anne ended her closing speech with a quote from Robin Wall Kimmerer "The trees act not as individuals, but somehow as a collective. Exactly how they do this, we don't yet know. But what we see is the power of unity. What happens to one happens to us all. We can starve together or feast together."

Anne officially closed the GA18 at 10.13 pm (MYT).

ANNEX 1 – ATTENDANCE AND VOTERS LIST

ORDINARY MEMBERS ATTENDANCE LIST FOR VIRTUAL GA18

1.	Banks and Investors	1
2.	Consumer Goods Manufacturers	7
3.	Environmental NGOs	9
4.	Oil Palm Growers	38
5.	Processors and Traders	17
6.	Retailers	3
7.	Social NGOs	7

ORDINARY MEMBERS VOTERS AND PROXY LIST

1.	Banks and Investors	6
2.	Consumer Goods Manufacturers	25
3.	Environmental NGOs	11
4.	Oil Palm Growers	63
5.	Processors and Traders	70
6.	Retailers	9
7.	Social NGOs	7

The RSPO is an international non-profit organisation formed in 2004 with the objective to promote the growth and use of sustainable oil palm products through credible global standards and engagement of stakeholders.

www.rspo.org



Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

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