



For immediate release

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Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) appoints new Director General

The international Board of Directors of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is pleased to announce that Kim Carstensen has been appointed FSC Director General, starting October 1st.



Kim Carstensen brings to the Forest Stewardship Council an extraordinary track record in multi-stakeholder leadership on complex social and environmental issues. He is an international specialist in a wide range of conservation and development issues who in recent years has focused on global climate issues, a topic of critical importance to FSC. Carstensen will succeed Andre de Freitas, who has provided superb leadership to FSC for the past five years, including the initiation of a structured leadership transition process during a period of sustained growth and financial security.

“Kim Carstensen will be a dynamic leader for FSC worldwide,” said Michael E. Conroy, FSC International board chair. “He has the demonstrated leadership and management skills, patience, and multicultural understanding that FSC needs for continuing its significant growth as one of the world’s most successful multi-stakeholder processes and as the global leader in forest product certification.”

“I’m truly excited by this opportunity to lead FSC,” noted Carstensen. “Since its establishment, the Forest Stewardship Council has demonstrated an unmatched potential to be a genuine game-changer for sustainable forest management globally. FSC is in a strong position already, but I am convinced that it can grow much further in coming years, and I look forward to being part of this opportunity and the challenges that come with it.”

Carstensen founded *Fair Green Solutions* in 2011 after 20 years of executive experience with the World Wide Fund for Nature, both at WWF Denmark and in WWF’s international leadership and programs. From 2008 to 2010, he was the director of WWF’s Global Climate Initiative, forging a consensus set of positions on climate change across the many disparate national realities of the WWF network and leading the program advocacy at the Copenhagen Climate Change COP in 2009. During this period he was also chairman of the political clearinghouse of the Global Campaign for Climate Action (GCCA), the broad coalition of international NGOs, including WWF, Greenpeace, the Union of Concerned Scientists, Oxfam and Christian Aid.

From 1996 to 2008, Carstensen was the General Secretary of WWF Denmark, where he also became a trusted advisor to the Danish Ministry of the Environment, serving as deputy chair of



its Advisory Council for Environmental Assistance, and to Danida, the Danish international development assistance program, where he served as deputy chairman of its board, which approved all Danida grants. He had extensive engagement with both the Danish and the international business communities as a member of the CSR Advisory Board of the Danish Industrialization Fund for Developing Countries, as co-founder of the Nordic partnership across 17 global corporations for promoting sustainable development, and in other stakeholder dialogues with a wide range of Danish and international companies on environment and corporate responsibility.

“I am very pleased that the FSC board of directors has identified and recruited such a strong candidate as my successor,” Andre de Freitas said. “I am fully confident that Kim will do great things at FSC, and I wish him all the best in leading the organization in its next stage of development.”

For further information on this appointment, please contact: Matthias Fecht, FSC Human Resources Manager at m.fecht@fsc.org

About FSC

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an independent, non-profit organization that promotes environmentally sound, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests. FSC was created in 1993 to help consumers and businesses identify products from well managed forests that meet the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations.

FSC is the most successful voluntary certification system in the world for social and environmental characteristics of production in any extractive industry sector. There are nearly 25,000 FSC certificate holders worldwide and firms producing, buying and selling FSC-certified products include some of the largest and best-known brands in the world, including Home Depot, Tetra Pak, Kingfisher/B&Q, Kimberly-Clark, Wells Fargo, Citicorp, Dell, Hewlett-Packard, Google, and Deutsche Bahn.

FSC is supported by more than 140 of the world's best-known national and international environmental groups, including WWF, Greenpeace, National Wildlife Federation (U.S.), and Friends of the Earth. FSC's Social Chamber includes globally prominent groups such as the Building and Woodworkers International, Oxfam Novib, RECOFTC (Thailand), ICCO (Netherlands), and the National Aboriginal Forestry Association (Canada).

FSC is nationally represented around the world and functions in more than 100 countries. The FSC Global Network includes more than 30 semi-autonomous National Offices that represent the FSC at the national level and promote the use of FSC-certified products.

For more information visit www.fsc.org.