



18 November 2011

FSC Statement – FSC Response to Greenpeace International complaint against the Danzer Group

FSC has accepted the formal complaint filed by Greenpeace against the Danzer Group's association with FSC via its subsidiary Siforco. The complaint, filed on 7 November 2011, alleges Siforco's non-compliance with FSC-POL-01-004 V2-0 Policy for the Association of Organizations with FSC. In particular, the complaint alleges that whilst carrying out its forestry operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo Siforco violated the traditional and human rights of the Yaslika community in the Mongala district.

The complaint will be processed according to FSC's formal dispute resolution system (FSC-PRO-01-009, V2-0). This system is designed to be independent, fair, and transparent and as such an independent complaints panel will be established, composed of an equal representation of the environmental, social, and economic chambers, who will review the case.

FSC's disputes resolution system is democratic and egalitarian and it is one of the reasons that FSC remains the gold standard for forest management around the world. It ensures that everyone who uses the forest is held accountable and establishes an ongoing dialogue between all stakeholders, which helps to ensure an equal share of rewards and responsibilities.

As the dispute is ongoing we cannot comment further on it at this time. We will release an update once the complaints panel reaches a decision.

For further information, please contact:

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