

Date: 27/07/2021

Public Notification: RSPO Initial Certification Audit of Brabanta Palm Oil Mill, Socfin SA (RSPO Membership: 1-0269-19-000-00)

Dear Stakeholders,

This is to inform that Brabanta Palm Oil Mill under the Parent company Socfin SA with RSPO membership number (1-0269-19-000-00) had appointed BSI Services Malaysia Sdn Bhd ("BSI Malaysia") to conduct the Initial Certification Audit located at Ilebo territory, Kasai province, Democratic Republic of Congo. The audit will be conducted from 30/08 to 02/09/2021 against the requirements of RSPO Principles & Criteria 2018.

RSPO PO ID number of the Brabanta Palm Oil Mill is: RSPO_PO1000011313

The Socfin Group specializes in the development and management of oil palm plantations and rubber tree plantations. To date, the Socfin Group is present in 8 Central African countries and 2 countries in Southeast Asia, managing a total of 15 agro-industrial projects. The Socfin Group's strength is based on its expertise and the integrated nature of its activities, but also on its knowledge of the sector and its adaptability to current social issues.

The "Brabanta" plantation was created at the beginning of the 20th century by the "Plantations et Huileries of the Belgian Congo - HCB", on an original concession of 23,000 ha.

HCB was founded by "Lever Brothers", which later became the Unilever group. The first opening works of the plantation began in 1916, and the first blocks were planted in 1923.

The first planting period was between 1923 and 1941, during which 5,242 hectares of oil palm trees were planted. An additional 777 ha of Tenera oil palm trees were planted during the second period, from 1956 to 1960. The company was nationalized in 1975 and reintegrated into the Unilever group in 1978, it was then called "HUILMA" for "Huilerie de Mapangu" within PLZ "Plantations Lever Zaire". The Unilever group sold its plantations in South Congo, including Huilma, in the 1980s in a process of gradual disengagement from the country.

From 1968, the 1,341-ha of oil palms in Sanga Sanga, Kadima and Kanangai were exploited in the form of scheme smallholding by independent service providers supervised by the company. This situation still existed when the Socfin group acquired Huilma in 2007. The Huilma company was then renamed Brabanta.

The 3 estates were replanted between 2009 and 2014 with 1,341 ha of new generation palm trees. In 2014, the company finalized the construction of an 18 MT/hr palm oil mill.

1. The information of the production data to be assessed are as follows:

Brabanta Palm Oil Mill and Supply Base		
Mill Name		Brabanta Palm Oil Mill
Mill Capacity (tons/hour)		18 MT/hr
Address / Location		Mapangu, territoire d'Ilebo, province du kasai, RD Congo
GPS Reference (in degree, minute & second)	Latitude	04° 22' 36.114" S
	Longitude	20° 17' 22.95" E
Forecast Annual Output (MT)	CPO	6,040.54 mt
	PK	-
	FFB	24,357.00 mt

2. The Supply Base / Estates details are as follows:

No.	Estate / Member	Location	GPS Reference		Area Summary (Ha)		Annual FFB Forecast (MT)	Liability Status (L/NL)	Date join (for ISH)
			Latitude	Longitude	Total Area to be Certified	Planted Area			
1.	Sanga Sanga Estate	Sanga Sanga, Mapangu, territoire d'Ilebo, province du kasai, RD Congo	04° 21' 186" S	20° 12' 267" E	533.30	508.00	8,278.00	NL	N/A
2.	Kadima Estate	Kadima, Mapangu, territoire d'Ilebo, province du kasai, RD Congo	04° 22' 969" S	20° 13' 646" E	351.96	321.00	5,224.00	NL	N/A
3.	Kanangai Estate	Mapangu, territoire d'Ilebo, province du kasai, RD Congo	04° 23' 421" S	20° 18' 444" E	623.33	512.00	10,855.00	NL	N/A
TOTAL					1,508.59	1,341.00	24,357.00		

Note: L – with Liability; NL – No Liability

The Supply Base to this certification does not involve new development. Consequently, there is no NPP process.

BSI Services Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. is accredited to provide independent, third-party RSPO P&C and RSPO SCCS certification services. BSI Malaysia is a subsidiary of BSI Group, a Royal Charter Company. BSI is the world's Trusted brand in providing business improvement solutions with more than 86,000 clients in over 193 countries. BSI's mission is to share knowledge, innovation and best practice to help people and organizations make excellence a habit. BSI is the U.K.'s National Standards Body. BSI Services Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. has RSPO affiliate offices in Indonesia, Australia, China and India.

The audit team for this audit will consists the following:

Audit Team	Role/Area of Requirement	Qualification and Experience
Dennis Yaw Acquah	Team Leader Social aspect and workers welfare, worker consultation, stakeholder consultation, impact assessments, policies, supply chain for mill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holds a BSc. in Natural Resource management with specialization in Forestry from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and technology, Kumasi, Ghana; MSc in logistic and Supply Chain Management from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and technology, Kumasi, Ghana. - Currently work as a Project Coordinator (Forest and Biodiversity). Also experienced in implementing forest governance project, building relations, and sustaining communications with forest communities, acting as resource person for awareness and training activities and engaging government towards policy reforms. He has 14 years of experience as an Operation Managers having worked with two of the leading timber processing industries in Ghana. - Successfully completed the RSPO P&C 2018 Lead Auditor Course; RSPO SCCS Lead Auditor Course, FSC Forest management/CoC Lead Auditor Course, Rain Alliance Sustainable Agriculture Standard (RA SAS) Farm/CoC Lead Auditor Course. Have has also participated in ESIA and SEA trainings.
Joseph William Osei	Team Member Occupational health and safety, operation procedure, organization commitments,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He obtained qualification in BSc. Natural Resources Management from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana; MSc. in Tropical Forestry with specialization in Forest Economics from the Technology University of Dresden,

	<p>legal compliance, long term economy plan, time bound plan, supply chain for mill</p>	<p>Germany and Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Strategic Management, from the Paris Graduate School of Management, Paris, France.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natural Resources Manager with specialization in Forest Economics and more than 16 years' experience in forest plantation and natural forest management. Led and participated in over thirty Forest Management/Chain-of custody audits, Forest Carbon, FLEGT VPA and RSPO baseline assessment in over 8 countries in Africa. - He is also an auditor for Health and Safety, Best Agriculture Practices, Environmental, and HCVs since March 2020. - Successfully completed the RSPO P&C 2018 Lead Auditor Course; FSC Lead Auditor Course; ISO 14001 Lead Auditor Course and other certification schemes including the UEBT, VCS.
<p>John Manyitabot TAKANG</p>	<p>Team Member Best Management Practice for Mill and Estate, environment aspect, GHG & HCV, continuous improvement, supply chain for mill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holds a Bsc. in Environmental and Resource Management and MSc. in Environmental Sciences from the University of Cologne, specializing in environmental law and governance. - He was a Resident Scholar at the United Nations University's International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (UNU-IHDP) in Bonn-Germany. John has also served at the International Forest Policy Unit, in the Department of Natural Resources Governance and Climate Change of the German Technical Cooperation (GIZ). He was the Academic Officer of the International Master of Environmental Sciences (IMES) Programme at the University of Cologne, where he equally taught classes in international environmental law. Additionally, he has taught classes in international environmental law in the Technology and Resources Management master study programme offered at the Institute for Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Subtropics of Cologne University of Applied Sciences. John is involved in a number of governance initiatives. Among others, he is a Fellow of the African Good Governance Network (AGGN). Since 2011, he is founding Executive Director of the Environmental Governance Institute (EGI), where he is engaging in the conception and implementation of a wide range of projects including, policy, development, renewable energies, sustainable agriculture among other. - Successfully completed the RSPO P&C 2018 Lead Auditor Course, ISO 14001:2015 Lead Auditor Course (attended), RSPO Smallholder Academy (Partner to the Academy) and training in HCV/HCS.
<p>Aimé Fulgence</p>	<p>Translator/ Technical Expert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He obtained qualification in Vocational Bachelor in Quality Control and Environment Management, ESTC, Abidjan (2018), Vocational training Certificate in cooperation, specialised in Cooperative management, Ecole Régionale d'Agriculture du Sud (ERA Sud Bingerville), Abidjan (2010), Marketing-Communication and Advertising Design Engineer, Institut des Technologies d'Abidjan (2009), Marketing-Communication and Advertising Techniques Engineer, Institut des Technologies d'Abidjan (2008), Bachelor of Arts in literature, specialised in English, Université de Cocody,

		<p>Abidjan (2005), HND in Human Resources Management and Corporate Communication, ESSECT Henri Poincaré, Abidjan (2005), and Baccalauréat in Literature, Lycée Moderne d'Aboisso, Aboisso (2002).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience in social audit, sustainable agriculture, and certification of agricultural production systems. - Successfully completed the ISO 9001 Lead Auditor Course, Endorsed RSPO P&C Lead Auditor Course, Child Labor Centered Due Diligence Process / Abidjan, and Gender workshop for Associated trainers / Abidjan.
Gueye Sarah MASSOLOU	Translator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holds a Master's degree in business law and taxation at Omar Bongo University. - Currently, Sarah self-employed with a few companies and some public entities, as a legal consultant. Previously at Axe consulting, she drafts of service provision contracts, equipment rental contracts, confidentiality clauses and procedures. At SGRA/LOURMEL (France), the company's status and of contracts between companies and insurance and reinsurance companies. At ANUTTC (National Agency for Town Planning, Topographical works and Cadastre), she worked on the project of taxation of land titles and final titles. - Trainings attended: Budget management, Contract negotiation, and Legal document assessment.

In preparation for the assessment, related stakeholders are invited to provide written input regarding this assessment by commenting on related aspects to the certification unit. Topics that you may wish to comment on are as follows but not limited to:

- Environmental Protection & conservation
- Human rights & workers welfare
- Opportunity for employment
- Company approach to community development
- Your relationship with the company
- Participation in decision making
- Free, prior and informed consent
- Suggestion for improvement

Comments that are received within 30 days from the date of this letter will be considered in the Assessment. Please include the following details in case we may need to contact you for clarification or follow-up on any issue raised by you.

Name: Email:
 Position: Phone Number:

If you wish your comments to be treated confidentially or to remain anonymous, please mark your reply "CONFIDENTIAL". You may direct your comments to:

Scheme Manager:

Mr. Nicholas Cheong
BSI Services Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.
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Tower, Mid Valley City Lingkaran Syed Putra
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AND / OR**Auditee:**

Mr. Pascal Desmedt
Brabanta
Mapangu, territoire d'Ilebo
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We thank you and appreciate for your comments.

Yours sincerely,



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Nicholas Cheong
Global Food Scheme Manager (Agriculture)