Musim Mas – Statement on POIG Verification Journey and Status

Following the approval of our Palm Oil Innovation Group (POIG) membership on 16 November 2015, we undertook a labour assessment of our plantations and mills by international labour NGO, Verité in August 2016. The labour assessment was a pre-requisite by POIG as an entry requirement for membership. The work process involved extensive discussion around terms and conditions of the assessments, audit time and implementation of innovative solutions as corrective actions.

After completing the labour assessment in 2016, we moved forward with finding a POIG-approved Certification Body. Subsequently, we underwent a verification audit to assess Musim Mas operations against the POIG Verification Indicators, conducted by Rainforest Alliance (RA). In December 2016, RA started the verification process at two of our mills, out of a total four mills selected as a sample. The verification process was finalised for all four mills in February 2017, and the consolidated report was completed in November 2017.

Since the initial verification process in 2016-2017, we have developed an action plan to address the non-conformances / partial conformance that were identified. We underwent our second POIG verification audit in 2018, which entailed assessments conducted at four mills and verification of the findings from our first POIG audit. The results concluded that Musim Mas has made progress towards compliance in accordance with the action plan. Several non-conformances have been verified as closed. The timelines to meet compliance for the other indicators were made available to RA by Musim Mas, and the progress for each was also verified to be in accordance with its relevant timeline. RA is currently working on the report for verifying the action plan, which will most likely be published in September 2018.

Musim Mas is working to close all remaining non-conformances that were identified in our action plan. Some of these non-conformances have been highly dependent upon the progress of third-party assessments and have required an extended timeline. Until the major non-conformances have been addressed, Musim Mas's POIG verification status remains in progress. As per POIG’s audit requirements, Musim Mas must be POIG verified within 24 months of the approval of the action plan, which was developed in conjunction with the initial POIG verification audit in February 2017. Musim Mas therefore aims to complete the POIG verification process prior to February 2019.
Timeline - Musim Mas’ Journey Towards POIG Verification

- Musim Mas underwent social compliance assessment by Verité
  - AUG - SEP 2016
- Musim Mas First POIG verification final report
  - NOV 2017
- Verification against MM action plan to address non-conformances identified in First POIG verification
  - MARCH 2018
- Publish MM first POIG verification report & verification report against MM action plan
  - SEPT 2018

- Musim Mas joined POIG
  - 16 NOV 2015
- First POIG verification in four sites (SSM 1, SSM 2, AGRO, and Batang Kuli) by RA
  - DEC 2016 - FEB 2017
- Action plan to address the non-conformances identified in MM First POIG verification was finalised
  - FEB 2018
- Final verification report against MM action plan
  - JUNE 2018
- MM address non-conformances identified in First POIG verification
  - FEB 2019