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To: Forest Stewardship Council

Report on Legal Issues Affecting the FSC Online Claims Platform

Summary

At the request of Forest Stewardship Council Japan (hereinafter referred to as “FSC Japan”) on behalf of Forest Stewardship Council, we have looked at the potential legal issues or risks under the Laws of Japan affecting the FSC’s Online Claims Platform (hereinafter referred to as the “OCP”) from the viewpoints of handling of confidential information, data protection, tendency to impede competition and data security.

As a result of our consideration, our view is that the introduction of the OCP does not materially impact upon the legal issues affecting the OCP, nor does it present any significant legal risks for the FSC or its users as compared with current methods used by the FSC to verify the Chain of Custody (hereinafter referred to as “CoC”) in relation to FSC-certified products.

Disclaimer

This report relies on the facts reported by and the documents received from FSC Japan and is not based on an independent research by us, and we have assumed that the facts reported by and the documents received from FSC Japan are true and correct and that there is no other document that conflicts with them.

It should be noted that this report is not directed at, nor should it be relied upon by, members of the FSC.

It should also be noted that the contents of this report do not cover all the legal points to be noted regarding the OCP, that there may be other views different from the views contained in this report, and that we do not assume any legal liability to FSC Japan or any third party for the contents of this report.

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