

Certification Protocol version 4.3 December 2018

Changes document

Version 4.3 of the Certification Protocol was launched in December 2018, superseding version 4.2 January 2018. This document provides an overview of the main changes included in the new version.

General changes

Topic	Change	Justification for change
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapters, sections and subsections have been (re-)numbered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To allow for easier navigation through the document.
Topics covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topics adjusted<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ General Conditions (section 2.3.2.)○ Code of Conduct Certification Options (section 2.4.1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ For the case of Ivory Coast, to introduce changes to the rules for recertifying after decertification, and align them with the rules applicable after a non-certification.○ To provide a clearer definition of which members may apply for which certification option.

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Chapter 2: Certification Process

Topic	Version 4.3	Version 4.2	Justification for change
2.3.2 General conditions			
f. Decertification	In Ivory Coast, after a certificate has been canceled following a decertification, the member shall wait at least one harvest period (main/big or mid/small) from the end date of the withdrawn certificate (excluding any time extensions issued) before a new certificate may become active.	After a certificate has been withdrawn, the member shall wait to receive a new audit until at least the end date of the withdrawn certificate.	Decertification is a means to withdraw an active license after an unsuccessful certification audit, or in case severe NCs have been identified. As such, it makes sense to align the conditions for recertification with that following a non-certification, in particular in Ivory Coast where there are 2 harvests and where members are able to very quickly reapply for certification following a decertification.
h. Extensions	In case of Group Member extension, Independently of their number with respect to the group's original size, if the added new group members include large group members (more than 10 permanent workers or more than 20ha of certified area), an additional audit of these large group members is required before the extension is added to the existing certificate.	Not included.	To guarantee that large group members get audited, and comply with the Individual Code's Block C control points.

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Topic	Version 4.3	Version 4.2	Justification for change
2.4.1 Code of Conduct Certification Options			
Definitions	Reformulated description of <i>group member</i> . New definition of <i>large group member</i> .	A group member may not have more than 20ha of UTZ certified crop and/or more than 10 permanent workers.	To provide more clarity and prevent producers to be excluded from the program.
Group certification conditions	All types of producers may join a group. Large group members (more than 20ha of certified area or more than 10 permanent workers) must comply with the control points of Block C of the Individual Code of Conduct. This definition does not apply for Hazelnut producers, and applies differently in Brazil (see specific assurance rules for this country).	To be part of a group, a group member may not have more than 20ha of UTZ certified crop and/or more than 10 permanent workers.	To prevent members from being excluded from the program and allow large producers to form a group, whilst guaranteeing that they still comply with the stricter requirements from the Individual Code with regards to social topics. Specific assurance rules have been developed for Brazil, and the current Hazelnut module already covers rights of the workers.
Sample for certification audit	The sample of group members that is physically audited shall be representative of the entire group (including sharecroppers, farm operators and large group members), with a minimum of one large group member if the group includes any.	Not included.	To guarantee that at least one large group member is audited.
2.4.2 Code of Conduct Certification Procedure			
Threshold of audited members per day	In case of large group members, a maximum of 3 may be audited per day.	Not included.	To provide more time to auditors to audit large group members which need to comply with more complex CP from the Block C of the Individual Code of Conduct.

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