



Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber

PRESS RELEASE

The Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber's new policy framework drives members' commitment to sustainable rubber production and sourcing

Singapore, 23 September 2020: On Wednesday, members of the Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber (GPSNR) convened the annual General Assembly, which saw the approval of a members' sustainability policy framework and the creation of a new membership category for smallholder producers of natural rubber.

The newly approved policy framework will help GPSNR member companies, who account for almost 50% of global natural rubber volume, to establish or update strong supply chain sustainability commitments through their natural rubber purchasing policies, on all aspects of sustainability: economic, environmental, and social. Modeled around the Platform's 12 Principles of Sustainable Natural Rubber, the new policy framework sets out eight overarching themes that include commitments to legal compliance, community livelihoods, healthy, functioning ecosystems (including no deforestation), and respecting all human rights.

"This is a tremendous milestone for the Platform and for the natural rubber industry. In just under two years, GPSNR members developed and approved concrete policy commitments for companies to integrate into their sustainable natural rubber policies.

Today, and despite the challenges we all faced during this global pandemic, GPSNR members send a signal to the world about their commitment to achieving a fair, equitable and environmentally sound future” said GPSNR Director Stefano Savi.

Around 85% of the world’s natural rubber is produced by smallholders. In order to transform a sector that is primarily reliant on smallholder producers, GPSNR is embracing smallholder inclusivity and a concept of shared responsibility through the establishment of a Shared Responsibility Working Group, which will identify how the responsibilities and costs of implementation can be equitably distributed across all stakeholder categories, with the understanding that smallholders should not carry the burden of a higher cost to implement sustainability activities in complying with the policy or implementation guidance to be developed.

“Smallholders are a crucial link in the natural rubber value chain, and they have a key role to play in driving awareness on-the-ground and setting the global agenda for sustainable natural rubber” remarked Director Savi.

This year, GPSNR welcomed 28 smallholder members from seven rubber-producing countries. These smallholders now constitute a newly approved standalone category and play an equal role in decision-making within GPSNR alongside the other four categories: producers, processors, and traders; tire manufacturers and other natural rubber makers/buyers; car manufacturers, other downstream users and financial institutions; and civil society.

GPSNR’s virtual General Assembly drew more than 120 attendees, including members of the Platform, partners and invited guests. In addition to voting on resolutions, GPSNR members also elected representatives to the 2020-2021 Executive Committee, which



comprises representatives from each of the membership categories. And for the first time, three newly elected smallholder producers with diverse geographical backgrounds will participate in Executive Committee discussions and decision-making.

END



NOTE TO EDITORS

The Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber (GPSNR) is an international, multi-stakeholder, voluntary membership initiative seeking to lead improvements in the socioeconomic and environmental performance of the natural rubber value chain. Development of the GPSNR was initiated by the CEOs of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Tire Industry Project (TIP) in November 2018. Members of the platform include tire manufacturers, rubber suppliers and processors, vehicle makers and NGOs. Representatives from each of these stakeholder groups have contributed to the development of the Singapore-based platform and the wide-reaching set of priorities that will define GPSNR strategy and objectives.

GPSNR members at the time of the 2nd General Assembly, 23 September 2020, per membership category, alphabetical order:

Producers, Processors and Traders

1. Halcyon Agri Corporation
2. Hevea-Tec Indústria e Comércio LTDA
3. Industrias de Exportacion Universal, S.A. (Grupo Introsa)
4. ITOCHU Corporation
5. Kirana Megatara
6. MARDEC
7. PRASIDHA
8. SIPEF
9. SIPH
10. Socfin
11. Southland Global
12. Thai Eastern Group
13. Weber & Schaer GmbH & Co. KG

Tire Makers and Other Natural Rubber Makers/Buyers

1. Apollo Tyres
2. Bridgestone Corporation
3. Continental AG
4. Cooper Tire & Rubber Company



5. The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
6. Hankook Tire Co., Ltd.
7. Kumho Tire Company Inc.
8. Michelin
9. Nexen Tire Corporation
10. Nokian Tyres
11. Pirelli & C. S.p.A.
12. Sumitomo Rubber Industries
13. Toyo Tire & Rubber Co., Ltd.
14. The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.

Car Makers, Other Downstream Users, and Financial Institutions

1. BMW Group
2. Ford Motor Company
3. General Motors
4. Renault SAS
5. Toyota Motor Corporation

Civil Society Organisations

1. Birdlife International
2. Conservation International
3. FSC
4. HCV Resource Network
5. Mighty Earth
6. NEPCon
7. PEFC
8. Rainforest Alliance
9. RESOURCE TRUST NETWORK
10. SNV
11. World Resources Institute
12. WWF
13. Zoological Society of London

Smallholder Producers

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Amiruddin Kasseng | Indonesia |
| 2. Apiwat Wongmonthon | Thailand |
| 3. Baroan Roland | Côte d'Ivoire |
| 4. Chris Kobina Assifuah | Ghana |



5.	Dang Quoc Thong	Vietnam
6.	Daw Yee Win	Myanmar
7.	Fatimatta Keita	Ghana
8.	Febrius Suryajaya Wibisana	Indonesia
9.	H Nasoro Nie	Vietnam
10.	Kliwon	Indonesia
11.	Laine Sedeu Yacouba	Côte d'Ivoire
12.	Le The Nghia	Vietnam
13.	Maria Teresa Soubhia	Brazil
14.	Masran	Indonesia
15.	N'Guessan Akissi Jacqueline	Côte d'Ivoire
16.	Nguyen Van Duong	Vietnam
17.	Nguyen Van Long	Vietnam
18.	Pathiphon Phommasen	Thailand
19.	Pham Van Xa	Vietnam
20.	Prasit Kunprasat	Thailand
21.	Sahifo Gbo	Côte d'Ivoire
22.	Soontorn Rakrong	Thailand
23.	Supriyanto	Indonesia
24.	Suvit Thonghom	Thailand
25.	U Aung Win	Myanmar
26.	U Lwin Htun	Myanmar
27.	U Shwe Win	Myanmar
28.	Vo Van Luan	Vietnam

Affiliate Members

1. Aka Kouamé
2. CIFOR
3. CIRAD
4. CMO
5. Control Union
6. CSR Europe
7. The European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers' Association (ETRMA)
8. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
9. Global Traceability
10. Gremial de Huleros de Guatemala
11. Hevea Connect
12. Hubert de Bonafos



13. Japan Automobile Tyre Manufacturers Association, Inc.
(JATMA)
14. Peterson
15. ProForest
16. Tanintharyi Region Rubber Planters and Producers
Association (TRRPPA)
17. University of Sheffield
18. U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association (USTMA)
19. Wirtschaftsverband der deutschen Kautschukindustrie eV
(WDK)

The 2020-2021 Executive Committee of GPSNR comprises the following members:

Producers, processors and traders

- SIPH
- Socfin
- Southland Global

Tire Makers and Other Natural Rubber Makers/Buyers

- Bridgestone Corporation
- Continental AG
- Michelin

Car Makers, Other Downstream Users, and Financial Institutions

- BMW

Civil Society

- HCV Resource Network
- Mighty Earth
- WWF

Smallholder Producers

- Baroan Roland (Côte d'Ivoire)
- Soontorn Rakrong (Thailand)
- Dang Quoc Thong (Vietnam)

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