



Newsletter

June/July 2015

In This Issue

[2015 General Assembly](#)

[RSB in the News](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

Quick Links

[RSB Website](#)

[Membership](#)

[List of Members](#)

[Certification](#)

[List of Certified Operators](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Facebook](#)

Highlights

2015 General Assembly



RSB Board of Directors - Left to right: Barbara Bramble (Chair), Khoo Hoc Aun (Vice Chair), Salvador Feranil, Willemijn van der Werf, Helena Chum, Maarten van Dijke (Treasurer), Arthur Barret, Charlotte Opal

The Annual General Assembly in Geneva had a busy agenda of workshops, official decisions and discussion panels over three days. RSB members and participants at the public sessions were enthusiastic about the quality of the discussions and opportunities for networking. Thanks to all those who contributed and the Swiss Secretariat for State Affairs SECO for its kind support.

Diverse Perspectives on Bioeconomy

The Assembly featured a diverse range of speakers from industry, NGO and UN organizations:

- Boeing, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), KLM, South African Airways (SAA) and SkyNRG, discussed how to develop innovative solutions to the challenges of establishing RSB-certified biojet fuel supply chains.

- Tetra Pak, Nestlé Research Center, The Coca-Cola Company, WWF, and Huttner Strategies looked at how brand owners evaluate the sustainability profile of feedstocks for bioplastics and the value of certification systems like RSB.
- The UN Sustainable Energy For All Initiative (SE4ALL), European Bioplastics Association, Addax Bioenergy, and PANGEA focused on how we can be proactive in promoting a more informed debate on the bioeconomy.
- UNCTAD, Sunchem, ICTSD, Institute of European and International Economic Law/WTI, University of Bern, and MHG reviewed how to strike a balance between sustainable 1st generation biofuels and a desire to promote rapid uptake of 2nd generation fuels.

New Low iLUC Risk Standard Approved

The Assembly approved the new "[Low iLUC Risk Biomass Criteria and Compliance Indicators](#)" which will be an 'optional module' for operations undergoing RSB certification. If you are interested to be among the first to implement the new module please [contact us](#). It was covered by various media outlets, including [UNCTAD](#), [Biofuels Digest](#), [Ethanol Producer](#), [Biofuels Journal](#), and [Biobased and Renewable Products Advocacy Group](#).

Board of Directors Elected

The Assembly re-elected the [Board of Directors](#), except for Helena Chum from National Renewable Energy Laboratory who stepped down after two years of outstanding service to RSB. Kevin Fingerma from Humboldt State University was elected to replace Helena.

[**Download Assembly Summary Report**](#)

RSB in the News

UN Sustainable Energy For All

The Bioenergy High Impact Initiative (HII) co-chaired by RSB and FAO was launched at the 2nd Annual Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Forum. The Bioenergy HII will contribute to the SE4ALL goals of doubling the global use of renewable energy and ensuring universal energy access by 2030. The launch was covered in a variety of publications in May and June including [Business Green](#), [Biomass Magazine](#), [Biofuels Digest](#), [Biodiesel Magazine](#).

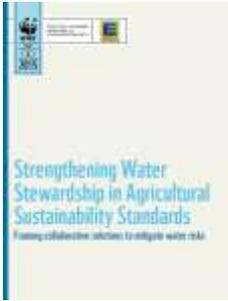


Project Solaris South Africa

[Boeing's 2015 Environment Report](#) includes a section on the collaboration between South African Airways (SAA), Boeing, SkyNRG and Sunchem SA to develop an aviation biofuel supply chain.

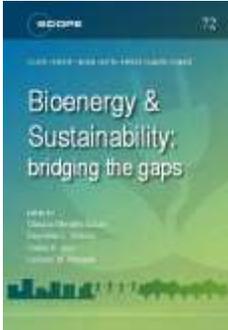
Customers flying with South African Airways (SAA) can now read about the collaboration with RSB in the provided in-flight magazine. [Download the excerpt here](#), or [visit the SAA website](#) to read the full magazine.





WWF Report Shows RSB with Highest Coverage Regarding Water

A WWF report published today, "[Strengthening Water Stewardship in Agricultural Sustainability Standards](#)," demonstrates the RSB as having the highest coverage regarding water across the four water stewardship outcomes.



RSB Mentioned in Report "Bioenergy and Sustainability: Bridging the Gaps"

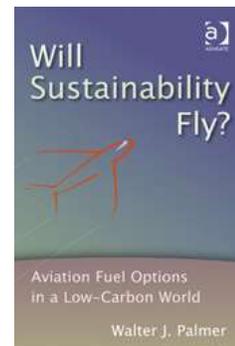
The Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) published "[Bioenergy and Sustainability: Bridging the Gaps](#)" in June.

The report refers to RSB-certified Addax Bioenergy in Sierra Leone and LanzaTech in China as examples of positive local community impacts and hybrid processing, respectively. The SCOPE report also notes RSB's efforts to address deforestation and indirect land use impacts.

New Book Highlights RSB

Walter Palmer's book "[Will Sustainability Fly?](#)" considers what aviation emissions policy has been, why and how commercial air travel is committed to its current liquid fuel, how that fuel can be made without using fossil-source materials, and the barriers to change.

Palmer notes that RSB's "credibility and usefulness derive from its commitment to strong, hard, measurable standards, along with its remarkable support by many players from different sectors, including agriculture, environmental and social advocacy, industry (manufacturing, transportation, banking), as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental groups."



Upcoming Events

Below is a list of upcoming (and ongoing) events that RSB staff are hosting, speaking at, or attending. [Visit our events web page](#) for updates.

19-22 July 2015 - [12th Annual World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology, Montreal, Canada](#)

Matt Rudolf will be moderating two plenary panels. The afternoon session called "Feedstock Sustainability in the Biobased Economy" will take place July 20 at 12:00 PM (EST). The morning session called "Sustainable Biomass: Leading the Way to Improved Outcomes" will be held July 20 at 10:30 AM (EST).

16-18 September 2015 - [RSB Auditor Training, Montefiascone \(VT\), Italy](#)

RSB trainings can help you achieve a balance between knowledge, skills and attitude and will help you develop professionally in a new area, as a consultant or industry expert on RSB. If you are an RSB certification applicant, the program can help you understand the inner workings of the RSB standards and prepare you for the audit. Contact [Mr. Liviu Amariei](#) to register for the European course by the registration deadline of 1 August or visit www.astracademy.net for more details.

22-24 September 2015 - [8th Annual Biofuels International Conference, Porto, Portugal](#)

Melanie Williams will be speaking at this event, which this year will include a tour of IncBio's biodiesel production facilities, a cultural walking tour of the city of Porto and a networking reception.

Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB)

International Environment House 2
7-9 Chemin de Balxert
CH-1219 | Chatelaine (Geneva) | Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 796 40 37
Email: info@rsb.org
www.rsb.org

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