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RSB Bulletin (April 2013)

Dear Members and friends of the RSB,
Welcome to the first Bulletin of the new RSB. A lot has happened since we began working from our new offices in Geneva and the Secretariat is happy to share the latest news, including the decisions of the first meetings of the Assembly of Delegates and Board of Directors.

- We now have a new name – 'Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials'.
- Four new RSB certificates were issued in 2013 with many more in the pipeline.
- The RSB Standard can now be used to certify bio-products and we are looking forward to the first certifications.
- The RSB now has an agreed approach to address indirect impacts (ILUC) and the Secretariat is developing an optional module for certification based on the LIIB (Low Indirect Impact Biofuels) methodology developed by WWF, Ecofys and EPFL.
- A new framework for classifying and modifying standards is in place which will make the standard more accessible and simplify the process updating it.

There are many other exciting new developments highlighted below and your active participation as RSB members has been essential in making them happen. So I hope you share our enthusiasm and sense of achievement for these new initiatives and I look forward to working with you in the near future.

With best regards,
Rolf Hogan

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RSB has a new name!

Following a decision by the RSB Assembly of Delegates on 18 March, RSB became the "Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials".

The name change reflects the expansion of scope of the RSB – a decision originally taken in 2010 – to apply our standards to other bio-products derived from biomass in addition to biofuels. The expansion of scope was made reality with the adoption by the Assembly of Delegates of a new standard that allows the existing RSB standards to be applied to these other bio-products. The term "Biomaterial" includes biomass and all bio-products derived from it. This includes biofuels, bioelectricity, bio-chemicals, bio-plastics, cosmetics and food additives.

How can Biomaterials be certified?

The new "RSB Standard for Certification of Bio-Products" is available [here](#). It describes how the existing RSB standards, which were initially developed for biofuels, can be applied to producers and processors of biomass for a wide range of bio-products other than biofuels. The standard is ready to be used for certification and RSB Services will soon start communicating with customers. As we gain experience with using the existing standards to certify bio-products, new standards are likely to be developed.

Will the RSB keep certifying biofuels?

The certification of sustainable biofuels will remain in the portfolio of our certification services. The RSB Standard will keep evolving to accommodate crop-based and advanced liquid biofuels, among other biomaterials.

What does it mean for RSB stakeholders?

The RSB Membership structure and governance will not change. As the standard is implemented and developed, the RSB will be actively looking for new members to provide their experience and expertise. The current chamber system should allow for the integration of new members from the biomaterials sector.

How will the name change be implemented?

The RSB's short name and logo, and the www.rsb.org and www.rsbservices.org website URLs will remain the same. We will continue to refer to "RSB" as our abbreviated name. Only the full name logos and website references will have the word "Biofuels" replaced with "Biomaterials".

New Certifications

Thanks to the dedicated work of RSB Services we are seeing a big increase in RSB certification. Four operators have already been certified in 2013 with many more in process.

SkyNRG -- First Jet Fuel Supply Chain to Earn RSB Certification

SkyNRG is the first biofuel operator worldwide to earn the RSB certification for their supply chain of renewable jet fuel including separation, blending and logistics. SkyNRG is the world's market leader for sustainable kerosene, supplying more than 15 carriers worldwide.

Dynamic Fuels

Dynamic Fuels is a leading renewable diesel and biojet fuel supplier currently in operation globally and one of the preferred suppliers for KLM and SkyNRG. It produces next-generation renewable, drop-in fuels from animal fats, greases, and vegetable oils that contribute to local energy independence and significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Addax Bioenergy -- First RSB certification in Africa

Addax Bioenergy Sierra Leone (SL) Limited has earned the first RSB sustainability certification for any biofuels entity on the African continent. This Addax Bioenergy project was initiated in 2008 and since early 2013 it has started producing sugarcane. In late 2013 it is planned to commence production of sustainable ethanol from the sugarcane for export and domestic use, as well as "green" electricity from the biomass to supply the factory and approximately 20 percent of Sierra Leone's national grid.

Piedmont Biofuels

Piedmont produces clean biodiesel out of cooking oil collected from food service establishments throughout North Carolina and waste fats oils and greases. Piedmont Biofuels is an innovator in having fuel come full circle, operating as efficiently as possible, sharing information, organizing a biodiesel cooperative, offering educational and research resources, and joining with the local community to make a difference.

New Working Groups

Standards Working Group (SWG)

At its 19 March meeting the RSB Board of Directors decided to set up a Standards Working Group (SWG) to facilitate and streamline future developments and modifications of standards and procedures. It will support the Secretariat in drafting future versions of RSB standards and will include a representative group of RSB members, in addition to external experts and RSB Services.

Smallholder Working Group

The RSB is involved in several projects aiming to enhance smallholder access to sustainability and certification. The Secretariat would like to set up a working group to help coordinate activities and exchange experience between members.

If you are interested in joining any of these working groups, please contact the [Secretariat!](#)

Summary Report – Assembly of Delegates (18 March 2013)

The RSB Assembly of Delegates (AOD) held its first Annual General Meeting on March 18, 2013 in Geneva. The meeting was attended by 16 of the 19 RSB Delegates (including four represented by proxies), the quorum for official decisions (9) being reached. The full AOD Summary Report is available [here](#). Most important decisions include:

Election of the Board of Directors

The following members of the RSB Board of Directors were elected:

Khoo Hock Aun, Cosmo Biofuels	Willemijn van der Werf, Lanzatech
Maarten van Dijk, Sky NRG	Arturo R. Barrit, ALU-TUCP
Leonardo Rosario, Trowel Foundation	Barbara J. Bramble, National Wildlife Federation
Helena Chum, NREL	

Dues for RSB Members (as per April 1, 2013)

Annual dues for members were set up as follows:

- Public sector and not-for-profit organizations

Size	Annual Operating Budget	Dues (USD)
Small	< 15 million	250
Medium	15-30 million	500
Large	30-150 million	1000

Size	Annual Operating Budget	Dues (USD)
Very large	>150 million	2000

- All other organizations

Size	Annual Operating Budget	Dues (USD)
Small	< 40 million	1000
Medium	40-200 million	2000
Large	200 million – 2 billion	5000
Very large	> 2 billion	10000

- Associate members' dues are set at 60% of the dues of the respective category.
- Dues were waived for associate members that are participating operators (i.e. engaged in the RSB certification process).
- Membership dues can be replaced by a substantive in-kind contribution of a member.
- A waiver or reduction of the membership due may be requested in writing by a member for a specified period of time of not more than a year at a time.

RSB Standards and Development/Modification process

The Assembly of Delegates approved:

- The new RSB Standard for Certification of Bio-products (RSB-STD-02-001), with amendments (Standard available [here](#)).
- The updated RSB policy for certification of biofuels based on residues and by-products (RSB-STD-001-020), with amendments (Standard available [here](#)).
- The reclassification and renaming of RSB Standards, Procedures and other documents which will be progressively implemented over the next months.

Changes to the RSB Articles of Association (available [here](#))

Several amendments to the current Articles were approved. The most important being the renaming of the Association as *The Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials*. A transition plan is being implemented, including the update of website and documents.

Way Forward on indirect impacts

Based on the results of extensive consultation in 2012, RSB Delegates voted in favor of incorporating an optional additional "low indirect impact risk" module in the RSB Standard to certify certain projects that can be demonstrated to result in low risk, following the [LIIB](#) Methodology developed by WWF, Ecofys and EPFL. The RSB Secretariat should implement this option in the RSB Standard within 1 year, pending sufficient resources.

Meeting of the Board of Directors (19 March 2013)

The RSB Board of Directors (BOD) met on March 19, 2013. The meeting was attended by the seven elected Directors (See above). The full BOD Summary Report is available [here](#). Most important decisions include:

Election of Officers

The following officers were elected

1. Chairperson: Barbara Bramble
2. Vice Chairperson: Khoo Hock Aun
3. Treasurer: Maarten van Dijk
4. Secretary (non-voting): Alwin Kopse. The Board of Directors also expressed its wish to appoint a Director to this position as soon as possible.

Finances

The Board approved the budget for 2013 and discussed options for fundraising.

Establishment of Committees and Working Groups

The Board of Directors decided to establish a Member Relation and Fundraising Committee and a Standards Working Group (SWG) to support regular standard development.

RSB Greenhouse Gas Calculator

The Board of Directors approved the use of Biograce (www.biograce.net) as an alternative to the RSB Calculator in order to comply with RSB Criterion 3a. The BoD mandated the RSB Secretariat to further compare the GHG emissions obtained through the RSB Methodology and other GHG methodologies such as Biograce, GHGenius or GREET through a sensitivity analysis.

RSB Services Foundation

The Board of Directors decided to invite the CEO of the RSB Services Foundation to be a regular observing participant at meetings of the Board of Directors.

New Member: INEOS Bio

INEOS Bio's advanced bioenergy technology takes wastes and sustainably turns them into advanced biofuel and renewable power. More at www.ineos.com

INEOS Bio is now a member of RSB Chamber 2. Welcome to the family!

New Faces in RSB

March 2013 – Jason Burroughs Newest Team Member at RSB Services



Jason Burroughs joined RSB Services in March as Regional Director for Business Development in North America. Prior to this, Jason Burroughs helped form a nonprofit cooperative to raise awareness of biodiesel in Austin, Texas. He also founded DieselGreen Fuels, a company that turns waste vegetable oil into biodiesel and dedicated his time to building a market for alternative fuels in Central Texas. In his new role with RSB Services, Jason is helping expand RSB's outreach in the United States and Canada in biodiesel, biomass and other biofuel types.

February 2013 – Richard Palmer Joins RSB Services Board



In February Mr. Richard Palmer became RSB Services Foundation's newest Board member. Mr. Palmer is President and CEO of Global Clean Energy Holdings, Inc., a multi-national biofuels and renewable chemicals feedstock developer. He is also a Trustee and President of the Center for Sustainable Energy Farming, a non-profit research center focused on the development of sustainable energy farming practices.

For more details about RSB Services' activities, please visit www.rsbservices.org

Forthcoming events

- [World Biomass Power Markets](#): Amsterdam, 15-17 May 2013
- [21st European Biomass Conference and Exhibition](#): Copenhagen, 3-7 June 2013
- [ISEAL Annual Meeting](#): London, 11-13 June 2013

You are receiving this bulletin as representative of an RSB Member organisation. This bulletin aims to keep you informed about the important decisions and latest developments at the RSB. To unsubscribe, please contact the Secretariat.

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