



## FSC Advice Note

**Title:** Qualification of FSC certification body auditors

**Document Code :** FSC-ADV-20-004 V1-0

**Approval Date:** 23 November 2009

**Status:** Approved by the Head of the FSC Policy and Standards Unit

**Normative reference:** FSC-STD-20-001 V3-0, Annex 2 Clause 1.2 (incl. Note)

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### Advice sought on

This Advice Note outlines an alternative option for certification bodies to train their auditors/ lead auditors on ISO 19011 by using in-house trainers.

### Background

A number of certification bodies expressed their dissatisfaction with the requirement for impartial trainers in delivering ISO 19011 training courses and argued that adequate in-house training could achieve the same results more efficiently.

FSC believes this could potentially be correct and will allow the testing of another alternative to formal ISO courses in this Advice Note during the phase-in period.

## **A       References**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Version*</b>	<b>Title</b>
ISO 19011	2003	Guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems auditing
FSC-STD-20-001	3-0	General requirements for FSC accredited certification bodies: application of ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996 (E)

## **B       Terms and definitions in the context of this Advice Note**

The definitions provided in FSC-STD-20-001 V3-0 apply.

## **C       ADVICE**

### **Amendment to the Note attached to Clause 1.2, Annex 2 of FSC-STD-20-001 V3-0**

The clause and the note remain unchanged but are amended by the following:

Certification bodies may also use in-house trainers under the following conditions:

- Training course agenda and course material require ASI approval in advance;
- ASI reserves the right to witness the implementation of trainings at its sole discretion.

NOTE: FSC will evaluate the implementation of the alternative training options after a period of 2 years. If applied rigorously and consistently, FSC may re-evaluate the formal ISO course requirement.

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