

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF FSC MEMBERS TO SERVE IN THE FSC AFRICA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FSC seeks to fill three posts on the first FSC Africa Advisory Committee

FSC Members from Africa, representing the interests of the following chambers are encouraged to actively participate to nominate or self-nominate candidates for this FSC Africa Advisory Committee:

- One FSC Member of the Economic Chamber
- One FSC Member of the Environmental Chamber
- One FSC Member of the Social Chamber

Candidates are requested to forward their nominations to the FSC Secretariat by 23 January 2023; in the understanding that, at the Secretariat's discretion, this period could be extended.

All candidates must be nominated by a FSC International Member from Africa (self-nominations are possible)

Any individual FSC International Member from Africa or designated representative of a member organization of the FSC may be nominated.

All nominations shall include the following:

- name of the candidate,
- organization represented by the candidate (if applicable),
- two letters of support by an FSC International Member from Africa (one letter of support from the same chamber the candidate is nominated)
- updated CV of the candidate

Candidates must meet at least 4 criteria to be eligible to serve at the FSC AFRICA ADVISORY COMMITTEE, see Section 3 Criteria for nominating FSC Members to be members of the Advisory Committee.

Candidates will be selected/appointed by the FSC International Board of Directors for a two-year term.

Please fill in the application form and send it to Guillermina Garza [g.garza@fsc.org](mailto:g.garza@fsc.org) by 23 January 2023.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

As a follow up to the approval of the updated FSC Network Policy in December 2021, FSC Africa was given the 'green light' from the International Board of Directors to pursue a proposal to establish an FSC Africa Advisory Committee (AC). The motivation to establish such a committee stems from the need to engage more actively with African governments and strengthen African membership engagement at both the regional level and global levels. This is in recognition of the fact that most of the forest resources in Africa; be they be natural forests or plantations, are owned by governments.

Going by that, it was deemed that strengthening FSC's outreach and collaboration with African countries, and with a more effective engagement of FSC Africa members with the governments, were of strategic importance to FSC, in its quest to increase its positive influence on sustainable forest management in Africa.

It is worth pointing out, that the committee is not meant to usurp the powers or privileges of FSC members from Africa, but instead, will provide a 'bridge' for both members and other stakeholders to reach and engage governments more effectively, than has historically been the case. The initial set-up is that 7 seats are allocated to individuals who represent the diverse geographic and work areas of FSC Africa and have attained high levels of professional recognition in forestry, environment and natural resources management, in addition to influence in relevant Government and non-governmental bodies; 3 seats will be allocated to FSC members, each representing one of the 3 chambers, while the Regional Director of FSC Africa will participate and be the committee's secretary.

In view of the above, this document presents the key functions of the advisory committee and lays out the criteria that will be followed to nominate the 3 members from the African Members of FSC into the committee.

## 2. THE FUNCTIONS OF THE FSC AFRICA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Provide policy direction for targeted engagement with governments and regional institutions in sub-Saharan Africa, and ensure that FSC certification in Africa delivers social, economic and environmental benefits to producer countries.
- Challenge the thinking and priorities set for FSC Africa's contribution to FSC's Global Strategy.
- Act as a panel of 'eminent spokespersons' for FSC in the continent effectively supporting FSC Africa in high level policy advocacy.
- Support and offer advice on FSC Africa's work to promote responsible investments in the forest sector – the investments would preferably be in natural forests, small-holder and industrial scale plantations, rehabilitation of degraded landscapes, all of which will be compliant with FSC principles and practices for responsible forest management.
- Support FSC Africa's engagement with institutions such as; the African Union, Regional Economic Commissions, COMIFAC, AFR100 Secretariat and others.

## 3. CRITERIA FOR NOMINATING FSC MEMBERS TO BE MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In addition to criterion 1 which is basic to membership of FSC, the nominees should meet at least 4 other criteria listed below:

1. A member of good standing; fully paid up and has participated in at least one Meeting of FSC's General Assembly
2. Evidence based history of involvement in standards development processes, technical working groups and participation in GA related motions
3. Current and past participation in public policy making (includes legislative processes)
4. Proven experience and knowledge in government programmes and processes and history and ability to reach or influence policy makers in the forest, environment and trade sectors
5. Experience in project / program development and/or fundraising on a national or regional scale
6. Experience and participation in national and regional level forest and natural resource management processes – strategic and action planning
7. Conversance with the requirements of bi- and multilateral funding agencies active in the forest, environment, and natural resources sectors.

In addition to above, considerations for geographical representation, gender, and generational diversity will also be taken into consideration in the selection.