

MOTION 26²⁰²⁵

Strengthening FSC Auditor Expertise, Oversight and Accountability



This motion proposes

> Qualified auditors

- Social, environmental, and forestry expertise
- Local experience and use of national experts

> Improved training

- Practical modules, evaluation methods, and calibration between CBs

> Better supervision of affiliate offices and subcontractors

- Prior competence assessment
- Mandatory participation in CB training and procedures
- Full integration into quality control systems

> Proportionate approach

- Scale / intensity / risk-based implementation

> Stronger FSC involvement in ASI oversight



Why this motion?

> Field observations:

- Audits conducted without targeted expertise
- Poor oversight of subcontractors
- Inconsistent application of standards

> A solid foundation to build on:

- FSC-STD-20-001 V5-0 (April 2025)
- Motion 31/2020 on ASI
- Motion 56/2021 on social expertise

> A balanced response:

- Proportionate approach (e.g. smallholders, CoC/CW audits)
- Recognizes skilled auditors and rigorous CBs
- Strengthens FSC's credibility without creating unnecessary cost burdens



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