



## **Summary of Changes Fair for Life Standard Revision 2013 (Control Modules 1 & 4)**

### **Overview:**

Fair for Life Control Module 1 (Labelling and Control Procedures) and Control Module 4 (Fair for Life Handler requirements) were revised in 2 public consultation rounds (April 2013, July 2013) and are now published in updated Version Dec. 2013. The new requirements apply from 1.5.2014 onwards.

The general Fair for Life Programme has been updated accordingly and will be valid in the updated Version Dec 2013 from 1.5.2014 onwards. All other modules remain valid in the current version (February 2011).

### **General Changes:**

- Use of the term “Fair Trade” instead of “FairTrade” in the entire document, as agreed with FLO.
- Publication of performance rating on FFL website is compulsory; cancelled/suspended operations remain listed in separate section (1.1.3)

### **Final Consumer Product Labelling Requirements (Module 1)**

- Fair Trade content must always be displayed on pack and the Fair Trade ingredients indicated.
- If products contain below 80% (food) / 70% (other products) and use the Fair for Life seal front of pack, then the Fair Trade content must be displayed front of pack, near the seal.
- Exempt brandholders who are only registered may only use a specific version of the Fair for Life seal (‘registered trader’) (see 1.1.3.3)
- Additional versions of the FFL seal available (black/white on any background)
- Food composition rules revised slightly (Module 1, Annex 3):

For all single ingredient products the FT target level is 100%, for multi-ingredient products the target level is 80% with each type of FT ingredients used in FT only; clear rules for temporary exceptions for products above 50%, not yet reaching the target levels.



*The new labelling requirements apply for new packaging from May 2014 onwards, all product labels must comply with the new requirements by 1.1.2015, thus related instructions to update labels will be included in the 2014 certification decision.*

### **Control Requirements Fair for Life Producer Operations (Module 1)**

- Producer operations: Fair Trade sales or internal commitment to premium payments required for certification from year 3 onwards (1.1.2; CP10)
- Additional rules for producer operations labelling final consumer products in 1.1.2 (d) and 1.1.3.2 (d).
- Timing of inspection to match normal production season and allow interviews of a representative number of workers / producers. (1.3.3)

### **Fair for Life Control Requirements Handling Operations (Module 1)**

- Revised rules for retail own brand products which are produced and packaged by Fair for Life certified handling operations (1.1.3.3)
- New Annex 6 for extraordinary exceptions, e.g. temporary disruptions in a fair trade supply chain due to natural disaster.

### **For Life – Social Responsibility Control Requirements (1.2.2)**

- Intermediate traders in For Life supply chains must become registered. Module 4 and the registered handler section 4.4. was updated accordingly.
- Traders relabeling products from other Social Responsibility recognised schemes must become For Life certified themselves.
- In some cases the main manufacturer of the final product may become For Life certified instead of the final brand company.

### **Fair for Life and For Life Certification Procedures (Module 1)**

- After 4 audits with good performance, the physical audit frequency can be changed to biennial, with a desk based short review in between. (1.3.4)
- Some changes in required preparation of the audit by the operator (1.3.3) including information to workers/producers about the certification process.
- Increased participating of workers and producers in the audit process, e.g. representatives to be present during opening meeting, transparent mechanisms to share certification outcome with workers/producers (1.3.4.2)
- Audit procedures described in more detail for different types of operations. Minimum number of interviews changed to the square root of total number (half of which shall be individual interviews). See 1.3.4.2



- Completely revised complaint, appeals and allegation procedures following an escalation process (see 1.3.7)

### **Buying from other Fair Trade / Social Responsibility schemes (Module 1 and 4)**

- List of recognised Fair Trade and Social Responsibility schemes (Module 1, annex 2) updated: Ecocert Fair Trade and Fair Trade USA Trader certification added as recognized fair trade schemes. Basic requirements for recognition of any other certifications repeated here, e.g. declaration entire supply chain physical traceability confirmed, etc.
- Individual assessment of products certified under other fair trade schemes than those listed as recognized, is limited to purchase directly from producer operations, or (if through intermediate traders) to schemes that IMO has agreements with (status: Dec 2013: Naturland Fair, Fair Trade USA).
- In the list of recognised Social Responsibility schemes, Utz certified and Rain Forest Alliance listed as recognized with restrictions, sample audit reports will be requested to confirm adequate audit depth with regard to the social standard components (Annex 2).
- Requirements regarding MoUs with suppliers certified under other fair trade schemes revised slightly (Module 4, 4.1.3)

### **Fair Trade Handling requirements (Module 4)**

- Slightly updated section on accepted proofs for decent working conditions for Fair for Life handlers (4.3). In companies with less than 5 employees no separate report on decent working conditions required.
- Partnership and favourable terms of trade: more focus on efforts of buyers to provide continued business.

### **Contracted Processing, Registered Handlers**

- Contract processing in non-industrialized countries: in case of medium to high risk industries, the CB may require an initial spot check of decent working conditions.
- Registered handler requirements apply also to registered handlers of For Life products
- Reduced requirements for very small handling operations with less than 5 employees.
- Existing criteria for “Responsible Labour Practices” (RLP) for Fair for Life handlers have been included in Module 4 and revised slightly (environmental section and some voluntary control points removed; reference to applicable audit procedures).