CERFLOR: The Brazilian Forest Certification System

ITTO International Workshop on Comparability and Equivalence of Forest Certification Schemes

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OUTLINE

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Final Remarks
BRAZIL – NATIVE FORESTS DISTRIBUTION

FLORESTA AMAZÔNICA
MATA ATLÂNTICA
MATA DAS ARAUCÁRIAS
MATA DOS COCAIS
CAATINGA
COMPLEXO DO PANTANAL
CERRADO
CAMPOS GERAIS
MANGUES LITORÂNEOS

BRAZIL – PLANTED FORESTS

TOTAL: 4,805,930 ha

Outros: 165,890 ha

Fontes: SBS, Bracelpa, 2000
CHARACTERISTICS OF CERFLOR
(Requirements internationally accepted)

• In line with ITTO and Tarapoto Proposals
• Compatible with National Forestry Policies / Legislation on SFM
• Voluntary
• Impartial
• Independent 3rd party certification
• Multistakeholders participation
• Transparent (standards published and available, public access)
• Consultation process / Meetings in different regions
• Non-discriminatory
• Responsible adoption of new technologies
• Periodic review
• Complaint procedures
• Complete set of standards / procedures for certification
CERFLOR HISTORY

PHASE 1 – Conception and Development of a set of P, C, I
1993 – Created by Entrepreneurial Forest Associations, Academy, Government Agencies and NGOs
1995 – First Pilot Field Test
1996 / 97 – ABNT – assumes the coordination of the standardization process and establishes the Forest Technical Committee
1998 – First draft of standards for planted forests
1999 – Public consultation of first draft
    – Second Pilot Field Test of P, C, I standards for planted forests

PHASE 2 – Insertion of Cerflor in the Brazilian Conformity Assessment / Accreditation System
    : New set of standards: Forest Management / Chain of Custody / Forest Auditing
2001 April – Establishment of SCT / CBAC: Preparation of additional rules for accreditation / conformity
2001 Oct / Dec – Public consultation of a new set of standards and approval
2002 February – Standards published by ABNT (5 standards)
PRESENT SITUATION

- **Technical Standards Approved and Published**
  - NBR 14789* – Forest Management – Principles, Criteria and Indicators for Planted Forests
  - NBR 14790 – Forest Management – Chain of Custody
  - NBR 14791 – Guidelines for Forest Auditing – General Principles
  - NBR 14792 – Guidelines for Forest Auditing – Audit Procedures – Auditing of Forest Management
  - NBR 14793 – Guidelines for Forest Auditing – Audit Procedures – Qualification Criteria for Forest Auditors

* **Principle 1** – Compliance with the Law
  **Principle 2** – Rationality in Management and Forest Resources Striving for Sustainability
  **Principle 3** – Care for Biological Diversity
  **Principle 4** – Care for Water, Soil and Air resources
  **Principle 5** – Socio-economic and Environmental Development
PRESENT SITUATION

- Technical Standards under Preparation
  - NBR nnnn – Forest Management – Principles, Criteria and Indicators for Native Forests

- Additional Rules for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment*
  - Additional Criteria for Accreditation of Forest Management Certification Bodies (Finished)
    - Performance of forest management – report model
    - Group certification of small forest owners
    - Temporary provisions for forest auditors

- Specific Rule for Conformity Assessment of CoC (under preparation)
  - % Content of certified wood / fiber by product family
  - On / off - product labelling claims (use of Cerflor logo / trademark)

* Complement to the ISO Guides 02, 62, 65, 66, to the IAF Guidance to the ISO / IEC Guides 62, 66 and to the ABNT Technical Standards NBR 14789, NBR 14790, NBR 14791, NBR 14792, NBR 14793, NBR nnnn
OPERATIONALIZATION PLANNING AND NEXT STEPS TO CONSOLIDATE CERFLOR

• Accreditation of certification bodies / auditors (June 2002)

• Certification of forest management / CoCs - planted forests (2002)

• Finalization of standards for native forests (2003)

• Manual for the application of standards in assessing SFM

• Training capacity and building courses in application of standards - in forest (2002)
  - in CoC (2002)

• Workshops aiming for dissemination / promotion of Cerflor (2002)

• Analysis of the requirements and viability of establishing international recognition agreements
Additional rules for conformity assessment and accreditation for forest management / COC certification bodies
CERFLOR PARTICIPANTS SETTING STANDARDS

4 Groups

- Non vested interests
  - Embrapa, Tecpar, IPEF, INPA

- Producers
  - SBS, Bracelpa, Abracave, Abipa, Abimci, Forum, Small forest owners

- Consumers
  - Abimóvel, IDEC, NGOs

- Government / Regulatory Bodies
  - INMETRO - MDIC, IBAMA - MMA, Fundacentro, BNDES
THE CERFLOR VIEWPOINT ON COMPARABILITY AND EQUIVALENCE OF CERTIFICATION SCHEMES TOWARDS MUTUAL RECOGNITION

CERFLOR POSITION

- Certification ⇒ Important tool to promote SFM and to maintain / access market

- Diversity of schemes is inevitable ⇒ Different approaches

- Existence of various certification schemes ⇒ Confusion to the consumers and market

- Different intents, processes and attributes ⇒ to be considered in the dialogue on comparability

- Globalization of certification and its impacts on trade ⇒ strategy capable of providing reliable information on SFM to all interested parties

- There is not a single scheme reflecting all peculiarities and conditions worldwide
THE CERFLOR VIEW POINT ON COMPARABILITY AND EQUIVALENCE OF CERTIFICATION SCHEMES TOWARDS MUTUAL RECOGNITION

• MR can be a powerful solution to:
  - promote SFM / credibility to the certification schemes
  - reduce market confusion / minimize difficulties for global companies
  - reduce costs for compliance with different schemes
  - increase competitiveness for - certified products
  - developing countries

• INMETRO ⇒ member of IAF and IAAC and defends the inclusion of SFM in a sectorial multilateral / mutual recognition arrangement as well supports the IFIR and others credible initiatives

• CERFLOR ⇒ supports the idea and the dialogue aiming at building and establishing a framework for MR in a proactive and interactive way
INMETRO - INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

**IAF** – International Accreditation Forum

**ILAC** – International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation

**OIML** – International Legal Metrology Organization

**BIPM** – International Bureau of Weights and Measures

**IATCA** – International Auditor and Training Certification Association

**IAAC** – Interamerican Accreditation Cooperation

**INMETRO** – Inspection Bodies and Laboratories

**Legal Metrology**

**Industrial and Scientific Metrology**

**Personnel and Training Organisms**

**Regional Accreditation Bodies**
CONCERNS

- Consensus on scope and set of criteria for comparability
  - Standards setting process
  - Certification body
  - Accreditation body
  - Framework of forest management system
  - Procedures for conformity assessment
  - Chain of custody / claims / labelling rules
  - Compatibility with national forestry policies / legislation
  - Compatibility with intergovernmental agreed accords
  - Auditing
  - Performance / certified wood contents

Not all initiatives cover all aspects

- Better understanding on concepts and terminology
  ⇒ recognition, arrangements, agreements, international recognition (CASCO GUIDE 523) ⇒ to be harmonized
CONCERNS

• Trust and Acceptance ⇒ depends on How and Who will validate and monitor the MR agreements in a transparent way
  - IAF context  \{ Internationally accepted procedures
  - IFIR context \{ Independent Body
  - Leading to: acceptance of conformity assessment results
    • guarantee to the customers that product came from responsible managed forest

• Non-discrimination ⇒ the national schemes should be integrated in the process in an equitable way

• Reciprocity among schemes
FINAL REMARKS

- National Forest Certification Schemes and Standards
  - Meet international requirements
  - Different options for MR

- MR agreements among certification schemes require
  - Recognition of theirs similarities and differences
  - High level of standards
  - Independency and transparency

- Consensus and Acceptance of Comparability require
  - More integrated efforts and higher cooperation of all interested parties
  - Promotion of reliable informative reference to society on its significance
  - There are initiatives and models already implemented or in development giving important contributions to this process

- Alliances with / among key stakeholders are important to
  - Increase confidence in forest certification and labelling schemes
  - Customers / end-users trust
  - Consensus and credibility
FINAL REMARKS

• Efforts of tropical timber producing countries towards SFM and their integration in global forest market must be recognized and supported

• Conflict among certification schemes and theirs defensors have negative impacts on SFM, on forest activities and on forest sector

• If we don’t have a good solution on comparability and recognition of idoneous certification schemes we will weaken SFM and competitiveness of forest products. Otherwise customers can perceive forest product as non green product
The responsibility of SFM and its recognition is an issue of global interest and there is no time to lose. Let’s try to have a consensus in a very short time. The well managed forests will be thankful!
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