



**Standards Committee
Minutes
Meeting 98: September 29 and 30, 2021
Teleconference meeting**

SC members: Martin Boon, Jos Harmsen, Martin de la Harpe, Richard Kwarteng, Gustavo Lopez, Marike de Peña, Iresha Sanjeewanie, Emilie Sarrazin (Chair)

Excused: Martin Boon and Martin de la Harpe were excused on September 29 (one proxy to Jos Harmsen). Marike de Peña was excused from 15:00 to 16:30 hours the same day.

Observers: Fairtrade International and FLOCERT staff members have permanent observer status

Contributing Observers: We do not display the full names of observers and contributing observers to comply with 'The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)¹'. If you need additional information about the observers or contributing observers of this meeting, please contact standards-pricing@fairtrade.net

Disclaimer:

The Fairtrade International Standards Committee (SC) aims to reach consensus, but decisions may not always reflect the opinions of all people.

The section to introduce the topic (background information) has been written by the Standards & Pricing and may not have been discussed by the SC in full. Sections listing action points are an outcome of discussions of the SC but are not part of the decisions made.

Abbreviations

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
COSP	Cost of Sustainable Production
EC	Exceptions Committee
FI	Fairtrade International
FMP	Fairtrade Minimum Price
FOB	Free on Board
FP	Fairtrade Premium
FSI	Fairtrade Sourcing Ingredient
FT	Fairtrade
FBW	Fairtrade Base Wage
GPM	Global Product Manager
GPPP	Global Products, Programs & Policy
HL	Hired Labour

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation). <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/679/oj>



HML	Hazardous Materials List
HREDD	Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence
LI	Living Income
LIRP	Living Income Reference Price
LW	Living Wage
OC	Oversight Committee
PN	Producer Networks
S&P	Standards and Pricing Unit
SC	Standards Committee
SPM	Senior Project Manager
SPO	Small-scale Producer Organizations
ToR	Terms of Reference

Item 1 – Opening

The Chair officially opened the meeting.

Agenda: The Agenda was approved by the SC members and ground rules were read.

Declaration of conflict of interests: No conflict of interest was identified.

Review of actions items:

- Section 2.3 'Evaluation' of the ToR is planned for 2022
- Section 4.2.3 'Decision making between meetings' of the ToR was implemented for FSI coffee and for the Exceptions Committee nominations
- The S&P Unit will share an interim report on Tea pricing monitoring in mid 2022 for information and guidance. Currently, this topic is on hold, waiting for the FET decision on locally lead products
- In July, the S&P Unit organized a cocoa workshop to inform the SC about the cocoa standard review and collected suggestions and guidance from the SC members
- The next steps regarding the definition of a significant number of workers in SPO's are going to be discussed in this SC meeting
- The SC is going to be updated on the project 'Pricing for Impact and new economic mechanisms' in this SC meeting

Item 2 – News session

News from FI and the Fairtrade System:

The Global CEO updated the SC members on the following topics:

- The Board and a recruitment agency are working on recruiting a new Global CEO, 7 candidates were interviewed. The current Global CEO will stay in the organization until December full-time and until March next year, working 80%
- Regarding HREDD, all members agreed and highlighted that this is a very important topic for the system and one of the top priorities. There is still a need to agree on how to move forward on HREDD; so far, the aim is to have similar rules for all regions and products. A consultant supports the work on this topic; there will be a workshop hosted by the FET in the upcoming week to reach

a consensus and develop a framework to implement HREDD for Offer to Business and within our standards

- The Global CEO explained the priorities and implementation of the strategy; she went through the pillars of the strategy and explained the options to finance it. She reiterated that efficiency in all Fairtrade decision making processes is absolutely key in a situation of very limited resources to implement the strategy

News from SC:

- An SC member will be retiring next year
- The Chair explained the process to elect the new Chair and Vice-Chair of the SC

News from OC:

The last OC meetings took place on September 22 and 23; the following points were discussed:

- FLOCERT presented its new strategy
- The OC decided on the next steps regarding the certification of producers in conflict-affected areas. In these regions, it is very difficult for producers to comply with the Fairtrade standards. Following an evaluation, the OC decided to close the pilot that was carried out in these areas. The OC gave FI the mandate to evaluate the possibility of developing a new scheme with different certification rules that could give producers in conflict-affected areas the possibility of entering the Fairtrade scheme.
- The Global Director for compliance and ethics informed about the FI approach to ethics and compliance, its current work, and areas where assurance and oversight can support this matter.
- The OC decided on the assurance and licensing risk management plan

News from S&P:

- A student assistant joined the team to support the work on the cocoa consultation
- A senior project manager in the pricing unit is back from parental leave

Item 3 – Director decisions

Three decisions have been made since the last update in the 97 SC.

The S&P Director approved an [interpretation note](#) defining the timeframe allowed for SPOs to transfer the FMP differentials to their members. It is related to the requirement 4.2.4 of the cocoa standard.

The Director also approved the [implementation for premium reporting](#) as of October 2021, related to the requirement 4.1.10 on Fairtrade Premium reporting.

In September, the Head of Pricing approved a [price extension](#) of the FMP for dates in Tunisia and Algeria as well as the introduction of a 'for processing' price for dates in Egypt.

Item 4 – Changes regarding FLOCERT's representation at the OC

The Assurance Manager (AM) informed the SC about a change the OC proposes for its Terms of Reference. The limitation that technical members can only serve two consecutive terms on the committee should not apply to the FLOCERT representative. Since this representative only represents one organization, there is no need for a rotation in this position.

Decision

Do you endorse the proposal of the OC?

The SC unanimously endorsed the proposal of the OC.

Next Steps:

The Assurance Manager to change the OC's ToR accordingly. The revised ToR will be presented to the SC for approval.

Item 5 – Change of Producer Representative in EC

The Assurance Manager asked the SC on behalf of the Fairtrade International Exceptions Committee (EC) to endorse the EC's decision on the removal of the current producer representative member from the EC. This request is in accordance with the EC's Terms of Reference, version 2.1.

Decision

Do you endorse the decision of the EC to revoke the membership of the current producer representative?

The SC unanimously endorsed the decision of the EC.

Next Steps:

- AM to draft a communication letter for the SC chair to sign and inform the respective member about the removal
- EC to make a call for a new producer representative.
- SC to appoint a new producer representative for the EC

Item 6 – Banana and Living Wage work streams

The Senior Project Manager summarized the work on living wage for banana by updating the SC on three work streams:

- 1.) The banana price review and implementation of a Fairtrade Base Wage (FBW) of 70% and no its impact on Cost of production. Labour cost increases due to the payment of the FBW70% are not charged in the price proposal for banana.
- 2.) The work on the further implementation of [Fairtrade Standard for Fresh Fruit for HL](#) (with focus on banana)
 - a. Requirement 3.1.2: FBW70%
 - b. Requirement 3.1.3: Premium distribution
 - c. Requirement 3.1.4: Provide data via [Form 3.1.4](#)
 - d. [Explanatory document 3.1.2](#)
 - e. [Explanatory document 3.1.3 and Tool 3.1.3](#)
 - f. [Explanatory document 3.1.4 and Form 3.1.4](#)
- 3.) Workshops held with PNs and FLOCERT Auditors and Clarifications given to stakeholders

Discussion

An SC member asked about the first workstream presented; the member asked about how high the business margin was before paying the FBW70%; the answer was 10% and hence has not changed much with the implementation of FBW70%. Regarding the calculations, another SC member asked if the calculations were done before or after Covid. All estimations were done "post" covid, approximately June-July 2021.

Another question concerned if and how the banana living wages will be included in the trader standard, which is not defined yet.

Lastly, it was asked how the IDH matrix will be included. There will be an update on this question soon.

Next Steps:

- There will be an update soon on the inclusion of the IDH salary matrix.

Item 7 – Banana Price Review

The banana price review process started in January, and it was planned to finish in September 2021, with the decision of the Standards Committee during its meeting number 98.

The project manager for the banana price review proposed a change in the purpose of the decision of the session from "decision" on prices values to "decision to reschedule the decision on prices."

The main reason for the change of the purpose of the session was the sharp price increase of key inputs on banana production, observed between July and September 2021. The price increases outdated the original price proposal that Pricing Unit recommended to the standards committee on September 16.

The main factors contributing to costs increases are:

- Increase in sea freight due to the global container crisis, which increases the transport cost of key inputs, such as paper for packing, packing materials, etc.
- Substantial cost increases in raw materials: fertilizers, paper for carton box, plastic, pallets, inland freight, custom fees

Therefore, the project manager proposed an adaptation of the project timeline:

- On October 4, the submission of an updated rationale paper and updated price proposals
- Between October 4 and 6, feedback from the SC,
- Decision of the proposals on Fairtrade Minimum Prices for Banana by October 6
- In case of need an extraordinary SC meeting on October 6 or 8

The project manager highlighted the importance of a) setting prices updated to September 2021; b) a quick decision due to the ongoing negotiations of prices in the market and the period of contract signature between producers and buyers.

Discussion

The project manager informed that the banana contracts are usually annual contracts, and with the current steady and frequent price increases, producers request transparency in FMPs that allows them to seek options in the contracts to update the prices throughout the year. The pricing unit will continue to monitor the cost increases of the main components of the FOB-EXW differential.

A member asked about the proposal of having FOB prices indicating cents values and port information and if that position was not an excessive control from Fairtrade on prices. A discussion followed that inquiry with an explanation of how the market is operating; no strong objection was placed toward the proposal. The

project manager explained that the proposal provides transparency on the inland freight costs and custom fees in countries with more than one feasible port to export fresh bananas.

The project manager provided the background on why prices for Cameroon and Ghana are currently in Euros and not in Dollars. The explanation of the different currencies was based on a stakeholder request. Several members agreed that it would be easier if prices of all countries were in the same currency. A discussion followed on that matter and the specifics about the affected trade chains and stakeholders. Still, the proposal of having a different currency for Cameroon and Ghana remained, but not for the Fairtrade Premium.

Another member inquired about the increased complexity of having several prices among countries and the feedback from producers. One member that participated in the consultation process explained the challenges around the different price levels and how the competition on banana prices takes place at the level of the port of discharge and not so much at port or loading. In addition, there are also different tariffs applied for ACP countries which also affect the purchase values for specific countries. Further explanation was provided about how the consultation process took place and the price workshops that occurred with the participation of the producers with significant participation in Latin America.

A member asked whether the changes to the FMP proposal that the SC would receive by October 4 had been consulted with stakeholders. The project manager explained that changes in costs were reported on the 20th of September, 9 days before the planned date for the decision-making in the SC meeting. Based on the changes in costs, an amended proposal was shared with the project team members who represent producers and traders. The amended proposal for decision as presented to SC on October 4 counted with the full support of the project team. This approach to ensuring stakeholder participation was satisfactory for all members.

Another member recommended specifying whether the feedback comes from HLOs or SPOs in the SC decision paper. The project manager explained that the differences in COSP and the consultation feedback from HL and SPO were taken into account in the analysis and proposals presented for decision. However, the detailed differentiation between the two groups of producers was only partially described in the SC paper (pg. 5 and 6). In future papers, the description of feedback by producers type will be specified more clearly. One question concerning the statement in the rationale paper that "the producers were ok to sell the banana under low price" was raised. The explanation provided is that FMP is based on average COSP covering and market acceptance of the prices set. Producers were aware of very low market prices, and some producers agreed that COSP might not be fully covered. Since FMP are set equally for HL and SPO, the differences in COSP and consultation feedback were just aggregated for a final proposal presented. One member indicated that there are different production costs levels among SPOs and HLs, and setting values based on HLs declarations only could have a negative impact on the SPOs sales. Producers are willing to absorb costs in order to keep competitiveness.

The chair of the SC called for a closure of the discussion given the lack of time.

Decision

The SC agreed on: a) the next steps for having an addendum to the SC paper, which would be sent by email on October 4 and b) a decision to be taken on October 6

After the SC meeting on September 29:

On October 4, S&P sent the addendum to the SC paper for banana to SC members, requesting the following six decisions:

- Decision 1, Approval of Ex Works FMPs
- Decision 2, Approval of FOB-Ex Works differentials
- Decision 3, Approval of new FOB-Ex Works differential for secondary ports
- Decision 4, Approval of monitoring the price evolution of five components of the FOB-Ex Works differential, every quartile
- Decision 5, Approval of setting the currency of the FP for Ghana and Cameroon in US dollars
- Decision 6, Approval of announcing the SC decision on FMPs for banana as soon as possible

On October 6, S&P informed SC members about the late feedback from one stakeholder asking for minor adjustments in the prices proposal for Ghana and Cameroon, which was sent on October 4 in the addendum. The stakeholder requested increasing the Ex Works FMPs for Ghana and Cameroon but deducting the same amounts to their respective FOB-Ex Works differentials in such a way that the FOB FMPs do not change. The pricing unit included this last-minute feedback because it provides more accuracy to the proposal.

During the Email voting process, several questions for understanding were clarified to all SC members in writing. After receiving all information, all SC members sent their vote in time on the 6th of October.

By October 6, all SC members provided their votes and comments on the proposals stated in the amended paper via email. Regarding the approval of proposal 2 - FOB-Ex Works differentials; an SC member indicated that she would have preferred not to publish FOB values in times of frequent cost increases in packing material, but considering that this approach has cons and pros, she suggested reviewing this aspect in future consultations and always deciding in the best interest for producers. She also added that there is a need to strengthen the SC knowledge and understanding of different costs structures related to different ports.

About proposal 4; approval of monitoring the price evolution of five components of the FOB-Ex Works differential, every quartile; an SC member suggested to add to the proposal that the data will be published so the producers and traders can take them into account in their negotiations. The SC member added that ideally, the contracts should include a clause on price increases/cost compensation during the year based on these components in order to reduce supply chain risks at all levels (including trader-retailer level). Another recommendation would be to sign contracts for 6 months. Another SC member pointed out that the costs should be published in order to help the negotiation between producers and traders; the SC member also asked for an update on the monitoring of costs during the SC in March 2022.

Regarding proposal 5; approval of setting the currency of the FP for Ghana and Cameroon in US dollars; an SC member expressed her interest in discussing and deciding on the FMP in dollars instead of Euros in the future; the SC member stated that it would enable a fairer calculation of average ACP prices. Another SC member pointed out that the results of the consultation varied between SPOs and HLs and suggested including this aspect in the next consultation on banana prices.

Decisions:

Decision 1: Approval of Ex Works FMPs

The SC unanimously voted in favour of the proposal.

Decision 2: Approval of FOB-Ex Works differentials

The SC unanimously voted in favour of the proposal.

Decision 3: Approval of new FOB-Ex Works differential for secondary ports

The SC unanimously voted in favour of the proposal.

Decision 4: Approval of monitoring the price evolution of five components of the FOB-Ex Works differential, every quartile

The SC unanimously voted in favour of the proposal.

Decision 5: Approval of setting the currency of the FP for Ghana and Cameroon in US dollars

The SC unanimously voted in favour of the proposal.

Decision 6: Approval of announcing the SC decision on FMPs for banana as soon as possible

The SC unanimously voted in favour of the proposal.

As a result of this consultation, the 6 decisions proposed by S&P were approved.

Next Steps

- S&P will publish the Banana Price announcement with the new FMP.
- The SC will be updated on the evolution of costs in the first quarter of next year

Item 8 - Significant Number of Workers

The SC was informed about the next steps that S&P proposes for this work stream, as requested by the SC in its meeting 98. During the research phase, S&P will work together with PNs, FLOCERT, and the WRAC to ensure that the most practical definition of a significant number of workers is found. It will be especially important to get feedback from PNs to ensure that any changes proposed also reflect the realities of SPOs. As the definition will need to be easier to audit as compared to the current one, it will be important to get feedback from FLOCERT as well on how this can be improved. The consultation draft already contains a section covering the requirements that touch on basic human and labour rights that should become applicable to all workers regardless of the number of workers employed. The SPM proposed bringing the project to the SC for decision via email vote in Q1 2022.

Discussion:

The SC members gave the following guidance for this project:

- All requirements that touch on basic Human Rights should apply to all workers regardless of their number. This is correctly reflected in the draft of the consultation paper.
- The intention of reviewing the definition of a “significant number of workers” should be purely to simplify the definition, not to amend the level of what is considered as “significant”
- Timelines for the project are too tight; the plan should be amended also to not collide with harvest seasons
- The decision on this topic shall be taken during an SC meeting

Next steps:

The project team will be opened up for interested NFOs, and a representative for NAPP will be sought

Item 9 - S&P Progress Report 2021 and status Workplan 2022

The S&P Director informed the SC about the status of implementation of the workplan 2021 that is published on the website.

One SC member asked about the Contact Production Standard Review status initially scheduled for 2021; the S&P Director explained that it is postponed for the next year.

The S&P Director then informed the SC about the additional work of the unit on top of the workplan and about the tentative workplan 2022, pending formal approval of budgets and plans by the FI Board in October.

One SC member expressed interest in having an information session on compliance criteria reviews cycles with FLOCERT. An SC member mentioned that the trader standard review is very important for France because of government regulations and asked to prioritize this standard. An SC member mentioned the fast track methodology and asked about its relation with LIRP; the S&P Director answered that until now the Senior Advisor LI has been elaborating LIRP values and methodology as pilots and that it is planned to transition the further work on this and the incorporation of LIRP into the usual Fairtrade work in the midterm to the Pricing Unit. The concrete conditions and timelines still have to be defined.

It was clarified that there is no plan to review HML next year; but following the monitoring review, some changes had been introduced in the implementation phase.

Next Steps:

Once the final version of the workplan is approved, it will be shared with the SC and published on the website.

Item 10 - Project Updates

1. Outcome Based Standards (OBS)

The Head of Standards informed the SC of the status of the project OBS. Firstly, she indicated that the project is a joint effort between Standards, Assurance, Global Impact, and FLOCERT. She stated that the

objective of the project is to define a structure for a sound assurance, reporting, and monitoring scheme. During the last months, surveys, interviews, and a workshop were conducted to get feedback from many stakeholders on this topic; this process is being facilitated by a consultant. From these consultations, the basic principles on which this project should be based were identified, some of which are:

- Key topics: Living income and living wage, human rights and environment
- Hybrid approach; a combination between compliance and progress
- Engagement of all supply chain actors
- Flexible and based on producer organizations' priorities
- Transparent reporting system and self-assessment
- Leverage what we have
- Indicators linked to the Theory of Change (Sustainable Development Goals considered)
- Simple and targeted set of criteria
- Learning from others
- Easy to market and communicate

The Roadmap of the project is as follows:

1. Quarter 4, 2021 – Quarter 1, 2022: Research, leverage existing systems
2. Quarter 2, 2022: Planned consultation for fresh fruit and trader standards
3. Quarter 2 – Quarter 4, 2022: Testing tools for reporting, monitoring and assurance
4. Quarter 4, 2022: Workstreams with different units.

The Head of Standards indicated that currently, the project assignments of the Trader Standard and Fresh Fruit are under development.

2. Trade Standards Review

The SPM informed the SC about the upcoming project, Trader Standard Review. The SPM mentioned that the last full review of this standard was carried out in 2013-2014, and the publication was in 2015. The SPM indicated that the scope and project assignment is currently being developed.

In the initial project scoping, the learnings from the monitoring review conducted in 2019 are being considered; some of the non-conformities identified were in the area of FP payer or conveyer roles. Another aspect considered in the review is the report led by Fairtrade Germany that gives many recommendations in the Gap Analysis on the topic of HREDD.

The third element considered is the Monitoring logs (2016-2021), which have more than 100 entries. Some of them are related to the scope and applicability of the standard, the request to make it more explicit, define the roles of payer and conveyor; other aspects are related to documentations and physical traceability, mass balance, sourcing plans, pre-financing, unfair trading practices, etc. In addition, product sourcing and other inputs from the Exceptions Policy Review will be considered. The SPM added that interviews and focused workshops will be carried out to elaborate on the proposal for the consultations.

The proposed timeline to be confirmed is as follows:

- Start: October 2021
- 1st Consultation, synopsis and draft proposals to SC: April – October 2022
- 2nd Consultation synopsis, standard draft to SC: November 2022 – May 2023
- Standards Committee decision: June 2023

- Publication & Implementation: Quarter 3 and 4, 2023

Next steps:

- Workshop with the SC to discuss ideas and expectations on the standard review.
- Alignment on timelines with other projects.
- Checking of project managers' availability
- Distribution of topics
- Invitation to PNs and NFOs to join the project.

Discussion:

One SC member asked if it has been considered to have 2 standards, one for traders in the south and one for traders in the north. The SPM answered that at the moment, this had not been considered, but the topic can be discussed.

3. Pricing for Impact

The SPM gave an update on the project, informing about the engagement with PNs and selected NFOs, exchange with FLOCERT, and the interface of the project with the Cocoa Price Model Evaluation.

The SPM explained more details of the concepts, as requested by the SC in the last meeting. He developed on the following aspects:

- Making the concepts easy to communicate
- Definition of operational elements
- Possible variation of the concepts
- Proposal for FT premium approach

Finally, the SPM shared the next steps of the project:

- Engagement platform
- Further precision on the concepts with members
- Stand-by for cases to test

Discussion:

One SC member asked about the project's timeline; the SPM explained that the test is expected to be conducted in Q4 and that he is waiting for a request to test the concept, rather than imposing in which product or country the concept should be tested.

4. Coffee Updates: FOB deductions & COSP study

The PM informed that there are 3 main streams on projects related to coffee; FOB deductions (Coffee standard, 2.2.6), FOB deductions values for two origins, and a COSP study.

Regarding the FOB deductions, as the implementation of the coffee standard review, requirement 2.2.6 'Price Breakdown ', is due in January 2022; the goal is to provide clear guidance on the items (values)



allowed to be deducted from the Fairtrade Minimum Price at FOB levels. The document aims to be a guideline for FLOCERT, producers, and traders. The project assignment is currently receiving feedback.

About the second workstream, FOB deductions values for two origins; the goal is to provide a specific guideline with values per item to be deducted from the FMP at FOB levels. The guideline will contact items and values of reference. The countries of origin will be Peru and Colombia.

Regarding the Cost of Sustainable Production (COSP) Study, the PM explained that the goal of the project is to assess current COSP from main origins, using previous COSP studies conducted in 2016/2017 as a baseline. The study is a preparation for the upcoming price review. The PM indicated that the stakeholders showed interest in collecting data from 3 different levels, farm level, SPO, and exporters level. The project assignment is currently being discussed; the project is expected to finish in June 2022.

5. Pricing Table

The PM informed the SC that in the last months, a number of inconsistencies between price announcements and the pricing table on the website were identified. She explained the reasons of the inconsistencies and the measures that the unit is taking to solve this problem.

Item 11 - Plan for SC meetings and decision making 2022

The S&P director presented the plan for SC meetings and decision-making in 2022, suggesting to keep quarterly meetings that allow alignment with FI governance meetings, use of email voting, and use of workshops or webinars as a format to share in-depth information with interested SC members. Later, the S&P director invited the SC members to reflect on the approach and quality of papers and documents provided by the S&P.

The SC members recommended to use Email votes for easy decisions which do not need discussion or additional clarification. In general, the SC members acknowledge good quality of the papers and do appreciate whenever presentations can be shared ahead of the meeting.

Item 12 – SC Chair and vice-chair election

The SC chair presented the key responsibilities of the SC chair and vice-chair according to the ToR and reminded that the chair and vice-chair are elected for 1 year.

The SC members interested in becoming the next chair and vice-chair self-nominated as candidates. Following the anonymous voting, the SC members elected Iresha Vithanage as the chair and Martin Boon as the vice-chair for the next one-year period.

Item 13 – AOB, next meeting date and closing

AOB

- B-LAB Partnership: The Global Resource Mobilization Senior Advisor presented the new partnership of Fairtrade International with the B-LAB (owners of B-Corp certification). The purpose of this partnership is to effectively share knowledge, resources, and experience at the global level and to work together on collaborative projects to advance the strategic agenda of both

organizations. For example, in the area of standard - to exchange on good practices and challenges specifically when it comes to Outcome Based Standard, Trader Standard review and topic of HREDD, Climate standard and topics on environmental development. The other areas of collaboration are on advocacy of topics of Climate Change and COP26 as well as HREDD, public campaigns, and expansion to new markets.

This partnership has formally started in July 2021, a number of intro and follow-up meetings with PNs and Fairtrade National Organizations have been carried out, and some member organizations shared their feedback. The SC members expressed interest in having a follow-up presentation with updates in the upcoming SC meetings to better understand the impact of collaboration on standards-setting better. Overall, SC members see this collaboration as a good opportunity, but at the same time, one SC member expressed concern about possible outcomes resulting in the increase of several requirements that would be a burden at the producer level.

- One SC member mentioned the approval of the proposal for Bobby Beans project, which unfortunately could not be launched due to COVID restrictions. However, the demand is still on the market. Therefore, there will be follow-up conversations with the pricing team to move this project further.
- The S&P Director and SC members agreed on the 6th of October to meet for the decision on the revised banana prices, if necessary.
- The next SC meeting will take place on November 24 and 25 at 14:00 (CET)

The meeting was formally closed.