

Fairtrade Standard for Cane Sugar

Applies to: Small producer organizations and traders

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Contact for comments: standards-pricing@fairtrade.net

For further information and standards downloads: www.fairtrade.net/standards.html





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Introduction

How to use this Standard

The Fairtrade Standard for Cane Sugar covers the requirements which are specific to sugar cane producers and traders.

Fairtrade cane sugar producers must comply with both the Fairtrade Standard for Small Producer Organizations and the Fairtrade Standard for Cane Sugar. For producers this standard complements, and should be read together with, the Fairtrade Standard for Small Producer Organizations.

Fairtrade cane sugar traders must comply with both the Fairtrade Trader Standard and Fairtrade Standard for Cane Sugar. For traders this standard complements, and should be read together with, the Fairtrade Trader Standard.

In cases where this standard differs from the Fairtrade Standard for Small Producer Organizations Standard or the Fairtrade Trader Standard on the same topic, the requirements presented in this standard apply.

Product description

This standard covers the purchase and sale of cane sugar. Cane sugar is produced from the juice of the sugar cane plant (Saccharum spp.). This standard also covers secondary products and their derivatives.

A secondary product can be a by-product, a co-product or a residue produced in the country of origin. By-products of cane sugar production are for example molasses, bagasse, bagasse ash, and filter cake. A derivative of a secondary product is a secondary product processed in the country of origin. Derivatives of a secondary product are for example rum produced with molasses and bio-plastics made from bagasse.

The definition of secondary products is included in the <u>Fairtrade Trader Standard</u>. An explanatory note for secondary products and a non-exhaustive list of products fitting in the secondary products definition is available on the <u>Fairtrade International website</u>.

Price and Fairtrade Premium

There is no Fairtrade Minimum Price for Fairtrade cane sugar. Fairtrade Premium levels for Fairtrade products are published separately to the product Standards.

There are no Fairtrade Minimum Prices defined for secondary products and their derivatives. The prices (at CIF or FOB level) of these products, from any origin, are negotiated between the importer and the exporter. A default Fairtrade Premium of 15% of the negotiated price must be paid in addition.

Chapters

The Fairtrade Standard for Cane Sugar has four chapters: General Requirements, Trade, Production and Business and Development.





Structure

In each chapter and section of the standard you will find:

- The **intent** which introduces and describes the objective and defines the scope of application of that chapter;
- The **requirements** which specify the rules that you must adhere to. You will be audited according to these requirements; and
- The **guidance** provided to help you to interpret the requirements. The guidance offers best practices, suggestions and examples of how to comply with the requirement. It also gives you further explanation on the requirement with the rationale and / or intention behind the requirement. You will not be audited against guidance.

Requirements

In this standard you will find two different types of requirements:

- **Core requirements** which reflect Fairtrade principles and all of which must be complied with. These are indicated with the term 'Core' found in the column on the left throughout the Standard.
- Voluntary Best Practices (VBP) which refer to the additional steps that all supply chain actors can take to foster even fairer trading conditions. They serve as your reference point for achieving best practice and contribute to greater sustainability in the entire supply chain. These practices are voluntary and not required in order for you to be in compliance. They will be however monitored on a regular basis in order to identify those actors that go beyond minimum compliance. These practices are indicated with the term 'VBP' found in the column on the left throughout the standard.

Scope

This standard applies to all Fairtrade cane sugar producers and all companies that buy and sell Fairtrade cane sugar. All operators taking ownership of Fairtrade certified products and / or handling the Price and Fairtrade Premium are audited and certified.

Different requirements apply to different companies depending on their role in the supply chain. You can find if a requirement is applicable to you in the column "applies to".

Application

This version of the Fairtrade Standard for Cane Sugar was published and is applicable as of **1 May 2017**. This version supersedes all previous versions and includes new and changed requirements. New requirements introduced in this version as well as in version v1.0 are identified in this standard by the word "NEW".

Definitions

Fairtrade eligible is the volume of all cane produce by certified producers that can be sold under Fairtrade conditions.

Producer means any entity that has been certified under the Fairtrade Standard for Small Producer Organizations. Individual producers are the members of those organizations.

Retro-certification occurs when a Fairtrade payer buys cane sugar from a Fairtrade producer or exporter under ordinary conditions (non-Fairtrade) and at a later stage converts it into a Fairtrade product.



For a comprehensive list of definitions see the Fairtrade Trader Standard.

Monitoring of changes

Fairtrade International may change Fairtrade standards as explained in Fairtrade International's Standard Operating Procedures, see <u>www.fairtrade.net/setting-the-standards.html</u>. Fairtrade Standard requirements can be added, deleted, or changed. If you are Fairtrade-certified, you are required to check the Fairtrade International website regularly for changes to the standards.

Fairtrade certification ensures that you comply with Fairtrade standards. Changes to Fairtrade Standards may change the requirements of Fairtrade certification. If you wish to be or are already Fairtrade certified, you are required to check the compliance criteria and certification policies on the certification body's website regularly at <u>www.flo-cert.net</u>.

Change history

Version number	Date of publication	Changes
01.05.2011_v1.0	01.05.2011	New Standards Framework (NSF) changes: (1) reorganization of the standard into 4 chapters.
01.10.2015_v1.0	01.10.2015	Full review of the standard, alignment with the Trader Standard.
		New requirements on like for like rule, GMO contamination, reporting on indicators on sustainable production, drinking water for workers, additional reporting by conveyors, premium payment in case of multiple producers supplying the same mill, premium planning and regular meetings with producers.
		Addition of definition section, simplification of wording, reorganization of requirements, deletion of redundancies, added or improved guidance, new standard design.
01.10.2015_v1.1	01.05.2017	Full substitution of cane sugar with beet sugar allowed, added guidance in like for like requirement 2.1.1., amendment of requirement 2.1.2 on substitution of cane sugar with beet sugar.
01.10.2015_v1.2	10.06.2020	Addition of exceptions on maximum land size applicable in Belize, Fiji, Mauritius and Paraguay.
01.10.2015_v1.3	25.04.2022	Clarification on the guidance of requirement 1.1.1 on Exceptions on maximum land size, requirement 2.1.1 on Mass balance: like for like rule in sugar and requirement 4.4.1 on Agreement among multiple producers supplying the same mill.
01.10.2015_v1.4	15.09.2022	Clarification on the guidance of requirement 2.1.1 on Mass balance: like for like rule in sugar.









1. General Requirements

1.1.1 Exceptions on maximum land size

Applies to: Pro		to: Producers in Belize, Fiji, Mauritius and Paraguay
	Core	The maximum size of the cultivated land where a member grows cane sugar is equal to or
	Year 0	below 30 hectares (see SPO 1.2.3). Exceptions on the restriction on size of cultivated land are possible however are limited to a maximum of 15% of members. The maximum size of the land where members grow cane sugar cannot be higher than 100 hectares in any case.
Guidance: This requirement complements the requirement 1.2.3 in the SPO Standard. The exception on the cultivated land applies to 15% of the members for land size equal or below 100 ha.		





2. Trade

Intent: To provide maximum benefits to producers, while remaining credible to consumers.

Traceability

2.1.1 **NEW** Mass balance: like for like rule in sugar

Applies to: All traders that apply mass balance		
Core	You ensure that Fairtrade inputs are of the same kind and quality as the inputs used to	
Year 0	process the Fairtrade output (like for like).	
Guidance: This requirement clarifies how to interpret the TS requirement 2.1.11 related to ensuring that the Fairtrade inputs are of the same kind and quality as the output sold as Fairtrade.		
building a exchange • If yo	ty of cane producers are remunerated for the sugar sold. To maximize benefits for producers and to have companies long-lasting partnership and commitment with the supply chain at origin, more flexibility of the like for like rule and of inputs is allowed as long as it is not to the disadvantage of producers: u sell Fairtrade white and refined sugar, then you have purchased the equivalent volume of white and refined sugar or ifined sugar for direct consumption (selling unrefined sugar for direct consumption when you have purchased white and	

- unrefined sugar for direct consumption (selling unrefined sugar for direct consumption when you have purchased white and refined sugar is not allowed)
- If you sell and purchase any other type of Fairtrade sugar, you remain within the same specification/classification as per the box below
- If you sell Fairtrade organic sugar, then you have purchased the equivalent volume of organic sugar
- If you sell sugar as Fairtrade under mass balance with a specific origin claim, then you have purchased the equivalent Fairtrade sugar volume from the same origin

Sugar spe	cification / classification	
White and refined sugar	Pol. min. 99, 7°, colour max. ICUMSA 150, includes plantation white	
Unrefined sugar for direct consumption	Different colours and crystals / grains; from off white to dark brown (for example includes, but is not limited to, soft browns, golden browns and demerara)	
Non-centrifugated dehydrated sugar cane juice (as defined by the FAO Codex Alimentarius Commission)	E.g. panela, jaggery	
Raw sugar for refining can be further processed / refined to any specification.		

2.1.2 NEW Mixing or substitution of cane sugar with beet sugar

Applies to: All traders that apply mass balance and sell white refined sugar

 Core
 In case you sell white refined sugar as Fairtrade under mass balance you are allowed to mix or substitute cane sugar with beet sugar. In your sales documentation you clearly indicate to your business customer that the sugar sold as Fairtrade is made from beet sugar or is a mix of both beet and cane sugar.

 Guidance:



This requirement complements the TS requirements on mass balance.

2.1.3 **NEW** Avoiding GMO contamination

Applies to: All traders that apply mass balance

Core You **do not use** genetically modified beet sugar in a Fairtrade product.

Year 0



3. Production

Intent: To promote additional practices that stimulate sustainable production and the well-being of workers.

Production indicators

3.1.1 NEW Reporting of indicators

Applies to: All producers	
Core	You report at least once a year on the following monitoring indicators : volumes and yields,
Year 3	kill/mill interval, use of inputs, water management. You send this information to sugar@fairtrade.net.

Guidance: Monitoring production practices facilitates learning processes and enables the introduction of more sustainable practices and competitiveness over time. In addition, this information provides key data to the market.

A reporting template is provided in <u>Annex 1</u> of this standard. You can use this template or use your own material, as long as you provide all the necessary information.

Occupational health and safety

3.2.1 **NEW** Drinking water for workers

Applies to: All producers	
Core	You and the members of your organization ensure that all field workers have clean drinking
Year 0	water.



4. Business and Development

Intent: To ensure that Fairtrade transactions are carried out under transparent and fair conditions, in a way that lays the foundations for producer empowerment and development.

Contracts

4.1.1 Contracts / Supply agreements

Applies to: Mills / exporters	
Core	You sign contracts / supply agreements with producers prior to or as soon as possible during
Year 0	the cane harvest, including for Fairtrade eligible cane.

4.1.2 **NEW** Bi-annual reporting by conveyors

Applies to: Fairtrade conveyors	
Core	You send to the producer, twice a year, a report including, for each purchase contract, the
Year 0	exact volumes that have been sold and Fairtrade Premium due.

Guidance: This requirement replaces the requirement 4.1.5 in the Trader Standard.

Price and Fairtrade Premium

4.2.1 **NEW** Payment and agreement on market price

Applies to: Fairtrade conveyors

Core	You agree with the producer the price and payment terms. If prices are defined by national
	authorities through mechanisms such as revenue sharing systems or if the price is set by the
Year 0	government, a written agreement is not necessary.

Guidance: This requirement replaces the requirement 4.2.1 in the Trader Standard. You are encouraged to share with producers information about how the payment system in your country works.

4.2.2 Fairtrade Premium for secondary products and / or its derivatives

Applies to: Fairtrade payers

Core	For secondary products and / or its derivatives, you pay at least a Fairtrade Premium of 15%
Year 0	in addition to the negotiated price.



Timely payment

4.3.1 Timely payment of Premium by payers

Applies to: Fairtrade Payers		
Core	You pay the producer (or the conveyor, if applicable) the Fairtrade Premium for the Fairtrade	
Year 0	products no later than 30 days after the receipt of the documents transferring ownership.	

4.3.2 **NEW** Aggregation of premium payment by conveyors

Applies	to: Fairtrade Conveyors
Core	Where requested and agreed by the producers, you can transfer premium payments in an
Year 0	aggregated manner, in which case this payment must be made no later than 30 days after the end of each quarter.

Premium payment in case of multiple producers supplying the same mill

4.4.1 **NEW** Agreement among multiple producers supplying the same mill

Applies to: All producers

		You have an agreement with other producer organizations delivering to the same mill on how
Y	ear 0	the Fairtrade Premium will be shared among the organizations. You inform the mill about the agreement in writing before harvest starts.

In case there is no agreement on how the Fairtrade Premium should be distributed among producer organizations delivering to the same mill, then a mediation process must be started immediately. If there is no conclusion within 4 weeks after the mediation process has started, you **accept** that the payer distributes the premium according to the volume of sugar cane delivered by each organization.

Guidance: The requirement also applies to multiple producers selling through the same exporter.

Mediation can be led by Producer Networks or Fairtrade International (GPM) or any other body that all parties can agree on.

Other alternatives for the distribution of premium are for example Fairtrade Premium equally divided by the number of organizations delivering to the mill or Fairtrade Premium distributed proportionate to the number of members in each organization.

4.4.2 **NEW** Agreement on membership lists

Applies to: All producers

Core	In cases where individual producers are members of more than one organization, you agree
Year 0	internally on your membership list and send it to the mill / exporter before harvest starts. The list includes the date and the expected overall volume of the organization and per member. Changes to the membership will not be accepted during harvest. Individual producers can only be a member of one organization at a time.



4.4.3 Documentary traceability

 Applies to: Mills / exporters

 Core
 You keep records with the names of the individual producers, the producer organization of the individual producers, the volumes, and the dates of the delivery. You seek confirmation of the volumes of cane supplied by each producer organization per harvest.

 Year 0
 You communicate to the payer the agreement reached by producers on premium distribution, or in case of no-agreement among producers, the volumes of cane supplied by each producer organization.

4.4.4 **NEW** Payment of premium when multiple producers supply the same mill

Applies	plies to: Fairtrade payers	
Core	You pay the premium according to the information provided by the mill / exporter.	
Year 0		

Premium use

4.5.1 **NEW** Premium planning

Applies to: All Producers

Core	When planning for the Fairtrade Development Plan, you discuss if investing the Fairtrade
Year 0	Premium in activities that increase quality and productivity would help your members to have more secure incomes. You present the results of this discussion to the General Assembly before approving the Fairtrade Development Plan.

Guidance: The intention of this requirement is that you and your members are aware that programs to increase productivity and quality may be an important tool to increase income and that you are able to assess whether or not these investments respond to the needs of your organization, members, workers and communities. You are encouraged to use at least 25% of the value of the Fairtrade Premium for productivity, quality and sustainable production improvement activities. However, it is recognized that producer organizations are free to decide on their premium use.



Access to finance

4.6.1 **NEW** Pre-financing Fairtrade contracts

Applies t	to: First	buyer	of cane
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 VBP
 You provide other forms of financial support to producers, as described in requirement 4.4.5

 in the Trader Standard.

Guidance: Since individual cane producers are paid directly by the mill or any-other body in the country of origin, pre-finance is

not applicable.

This requirement replaces the requirement 4.4.1 in the Trader Standard.

4.6.2 **NEW** Access to other types of finance

Applies to: Fairtrade payer		
VBP	You provide other forms of financial support to producers, as described in Trader Standard (req. 4.4.5.), for example, to pay the premium in advance.	
Year 0		

Sourcing and market information for planning

4.7.1 **NEW** Regular meetings with producers

Applies to: Mills / exporters or marketing body in the country of origin.

CoreYou invite representatives of all producer organizations you buy from, to regular meetings to
discuss how to improve sustainable production of sugar cane, sugar and its secondary
products. You share an annual report of Fairtrade sales as well as an overview of the
premium to be received. These meetings take place at least twice a year and agreements are
minuted.

Guidance: It is recommended that the meetings take place before the harvest and after Fairtrade sales are confirmed. The meetings are convened by the mill, the exporter or the marketing body. It is usually the body the producers have the contract with.

Retro-certification

4.8.1 Sourcing

Applies	Applies to: Producers		
Core	You can sell your cane as retro-certified for a maximum of one year before the initial		
Year 0	certification was granted.		



4.8.2 Confirmation of Fairtrade eligible

Applies to: Fairtrade payer		
	Core	You are allowed to retro-certify sugar. If you retro-certify you ensure you have a written
	Year 0	confirmation from the exporter that Fairtrade eligible sugar is available.

4.8.3 Record-keeping

Applies	oplies to: Exporters	
Core	You keep track of volumes of retro-certified sugar.	
Year 0		



Annex 1: Reporting template for production indicators

Fairtrade Standard for Cane Sugar

This template is designed to help you comply with requirement 3.1.1 in the Production section in the Fairtrade Standard for Cane Sugar. This template can also help you to comply with requirement 4.5.1 in the Cane Sugar Standard regarding Premium planning activities. It can be an effective tool to monitor production indicators and to assess whether further investments in productivity and quality respond to the needs of your organization, members, workers and communities. It is not necessary that you use this template in order to comply with the requirements, but it can help you to have a starting point, guide you through the process and provide you with ideas.

Unpredictable, volatile and low cane and sugar prices have threatened the viability of sugar cane production, especially for small farmers. Monitoring production practices allows you and your members to have an overview of your performance and enable you to take measures to increase your competitiveness and productivity. Such activities can include improving the use of inputs, production and/or harvesting methods, or seeking collaboration with research institutes and the industry. Decreasing unnecessary costs and using the right inputs to improve your productivity could result in an increased revenue / income. The development and monitoring of indicators offers you and your members a greater control over your organization, especially if you collect good quality data for comparison and analysis.

In addition, this information provides key data to buyers. The information generated by using this template can provide further evidence of measurable impact for producers while it also allows Fairtrade International to better understand producer organizations and consequently shape and improve the Fairtrade system by identifying target areas where further support for producers is needed.

Abbreviations used: MT (metric tons), ha (hectares), kg (kilograms)

General information of the organization:	
FLO ID	
Name of the organization	
Number of individual members producing sugar cane	
Production/crop year	
Guidance: all information reported should cover the same crop year.	
Are the figures provided a sample or do they include the information of all your individual members?	The information reported below include all my members
Guidance: You can collect the information based on the whole membership or on a selection of producers. If you decide to report on a sample, this should be representative for the whole membership (for example the size, area of production within the country, climatic differences, flat land or rocky / hilly areas, etc.). Also, indicate the percentage of producers that are covered and describe the criteria you used to choose your sample.	The information reported below is based on (%) of my members





It is recommended that you continue to report on the same group of members from year to year; otherwise you will not be able to compare the data. If from one year to another you select a different sample, please explain why.	
Average MT of cane per MT of sugar	
Guidance: Also known as "tc/ts" and is established on a daily basis as an average of the overall performance during the crushing period. Usually the processor informs the average after the harvest is completed.	
Total volume of in MT of cane produced by members in the last crop year.	
Guidance: This is the volume produced NOT the volume delivered to the mill.	
Total volume of MT of cane processed by your members in the last crop year	
Total land area under cane sugar production (ha)	
Guidance: This is the total land area from all members which was cultivated with cane sugar in the last crop year	

Торіс	Indicator	Unit of measurement	Data	Source of information (where does the information coming from)	Comment (Any additional information that gives background on the data provided and that explains it in comparison with the previous year and/or other reference data like region averages)
achieving best perform	is produced in very different geographical areas, therefor nance of yields, for example maintenance of ratoons bef f Good Agricultural Practices, among others.				
1.1 Cane /Sugar yield	Average MT of cane per MT of sugar	tc/ts	Example: 8.6	Example: provided by the processor	Examples of factors affecting yields, climate, logistics, number of days of unapproachable fields, number of day of mill breakdown, information on mill

				processor	unapproachable fields, number of days of mill breakdown, information on mill efficiency
1.2 Sugar yield	Average MT of sucrose per hectare	ts/ha			
1.3 Field yield	Total volume of cane produced by members / Total land area under cane production	tc/ha	Example: >80 tc/ha 1R; >70 tc/ha 2R; >65 tc/ha 4R		



Торіс	Indicator	Unit of measurement	Data	Source of information (where does the information coming from)	Comment (Any additional information that gives background on the data provided and that explains it in comparison with the previous year and/or other reference data like region averages)		
	is interval is the time between cutting/burning the cane ntent in canes harvested.	e and delivering to the	e mill and is generally optimized by ha	rvesting at peak maturity (ripe	eness) of the cane and reducing		
The interval depends cane to the mill, the h	on your transport methods from the collection point to the igher the sugar yield.	e mill and the distance	to the processor. The cane needs to be	crushed as fresh as possible, th	erefore the quickest you can deliver the		
The difference of the green cane.	threshold of 96 hours (48 hrs x 2) for green (fresh) cane to	akes in consideration t	the fact that sucrose content of burnt car	e deteriorates approximately tw	ice as fast than the sucrose content of		
	Harvesting green or burnt cane has interdependency with the processing/crushing. In Fairtrade origins burning cane as a harvesting method is a practice of small farmers / workers and manual cane cutting that exist in some countries. Cane cutting is done manually and harvesting burnt cane is one method to prevent death or injuries of cutters / farmers by snake bites.						
2.1 Average Kill/Mill interval burn cane	Volume of burnt cane that was milled below 48 hours	MT					
	Volume of burnt cane that was milled above 48 hours	MT					
2.2 Average Kill/Mill interval green cane	Volume of green cane that was milled below 96 hours	MT					
	Volume of green cane that was milled above 96 hours	MT					
3. Use of inputs		1	'	-	'		
example of fertilizers	ecording the use of inputs will enable you to take informed should be applied in amounts that respond to the nutrient andard for Small Producer Organizations requirements 3.2	need of the crop. The	use of resistant cane varieties and integ	rated pest management decrea			
3.1 Use fertilizers	Do your individual members keep records of the use of fertilizers?	Yes/No	□ Yes □ No				
	How many of your individual members apply fertilizer based on: a) their own knowledge b) results of soil sampling	Number of individual members applying fertilizer based on	a) members apply fertilizer based on their own knowledge b) members apply fertilizer based on results of soil sampling				



Торіс	Indicator	Unit of measurement	Data	Source of information (where does the information coming from)	Comment (Any additional information that gives background on the data provided and that explains it in comparison with the previous year and/or other reference data like region averages)
	c) industry recommendationsd) others (please specify)	the examples provided	 c) members apply fertilizer based on industry recommendations d) members apply fertilizer based on 		
3.2 Use of pesticides	Main pesticides used	names of the (Kg/ha) pesticides Eg. Lorsban: sugarcane borer (1.6			
	Main pests targeted	Name of pest	1		
Kg of the pesticide applied per	Kg of the pesticide applied per ha	kg/ha			
3.3 Use of herbicides	Main herbicides used	Commercial names of the herbicides	Commercial name: targeted weed (Kg/ha) Eg. AAtrex: weed control (2 Kg/ha)		
-	Main weeds targeted	Name of weed	1.		
	Kg of the herbicide applied per ha	Kg/ha	2. :(Kg/ha) 3. :(Kg/ha)		



Торіс	Indicator	Unit of measurement	Data	Source of information (where does the information coming from)	Comment (Any additional information that gives background on the data provided and that explains it in compariso with the previous year and/or other reference data like region averages)		
4. Water management							
Good management practices include water. Too much water can damage soil and result in higher cane growth but less overall sugar production, while too little water can result in poor growth and damaged crops. Production and productivity evolve under different conditions even in the same geographical location. Monitoring water use, irrigation and drainage practices will enable you or your research institutes / industry / partners to develop more precise recommendations that will help the members of your organization to improve productivity and quality. There are additional costs involved in irrigation projects, therefore recording the water use could be important to see how (or whether) those costs are validated by the production and productivity gains. See the Fairtrade Standard for Small Producer Organizations requirement 3.2.26 for more information on water management							
4.1 Irrigation	Hectares of rainfed cane production	ha					
	Hectares of cane production under irrigation	ha					
	Volume of water in m3 per hectare used for irrigation	M3/ha					
	Type of irrigation systems used	List of methods	Example: drip irrigation				

4.1 Irrigation	Hectares of rainfed cane production	ha		
	Hectares of cane production under irrigation	ha		
	Volume of water in m3 per hectare used for irrigation	M3/ha		
	Type of irrigation systems used	List of methods used	Example: drip irrigation	
4.2 Drainage	Hectares of cane production with drainage	ha		
	Type of drainage methods used	List of methods used	Examples: placing pipes (underground drainage),use of pumps	



The English version of the standard is the official version. Fairtrade offers translations into other languages for information purposes only. Although Fairtrade strives to ensure accuracy in translations, the English version of the standard is the basis for all certification decisions, particularly if conflicts on these decisions should arise.

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