To: Certified Producers and Traders
       Producer Networks
       National Fairtrade Organizations
       FLOCERT
cc: Standards Committee
       Fairtrade International staff

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10 October 2024

Subject: Updates in the Standard, Interpretation Notes and implementation timelines

Dear Fairtrade partners,

In this letter the Standards Unit at Fairtrade International seeks to inform you of various updates and changes regarding the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa.

First, the standard has been updated to reflect the following Director's decisions:
- Change in applicability from traders to payers and conveyors in req. 3.4.4. and 3.4.8
- Change in start data of applicability for section 3.1 (management systems) except for req. 3.1.1 see below on timeline for implementation.

The updated Standard translations are available here.
Also, applicability of requirement *3.4.4 and 3.4.8* to payers and conveyors was updated. Further, links to Interpretation Notes are now included in the requirement text, no longer in the guidance section. Interpretation Notes are binding for compliance with requirements.

The Interpretation Notes for requirements *2.1.1 (reference to updated guidance document) and 3.4.4, 3.4.7, 3.4.8 (incl. change in applicability to payers/conveyors only for 3.4.4 and 3.4.8)* were also changed. Please note that translations will be available shortly.

The Timeline for Implementation has been updated. There is now only one document which lists all requirements for which such timelines were drafted. The translations are available here. Some of these timelines were changed to allow more time for implementation of the stages. Further, requirement *3.1.1 Member information* was added to the list.

Finally, we would like to remind stakeholders that guidance documents are available here. These are relevant for implementation of management systems and farm record keeping.

Should you have any questions, please contact standards-pricing@fairtrade.net

Best regards,

Alina Amador
Head of Standards