Background
In early 2008, the Board of FSC Australia instigated a working party of experts selected by the three Chambers (Social, Environmental and Economic) to develop a formal Risk Assessment for ‘Controlled Wood’ in the Australian context. The final Controlled Wood Risk Assessment Matrix for Australia, published in July 2009, provides guidance to both companies and certification bodies seeking to identify risks in accordance with the FSC Standard for Company Evaluation of FSC Controlled Wood (FSC-STD-40-005 (Version 2-1)).

The Controlled Wood Risk Assessment Matrix for Australia (FSC-CWRA-001-AUS) has recently been approved by FSC International and is available to view on the FSC Australia website.

Importantly, the treatment of high conservation values (HCV) in the Controlled Wood Risk Assessment, and the resulting need for an Annex 3 determination by the company purchasing the Controlled Wood required a guidance document to be developed. Below is a draft of that guidance document, for stakeholder comment.

Submissions
The Directors of FSC Australia have determined to undertake a 90 day period for submissions and consultation from 7 October 2009 to 7 January 2010.

The Committee seeks stakeholder feedback, opinion and responses to this draft.

Submissions are due by 7 January 2010

You can forward your submission to us by: Email: hcv@fscaustralia.org Mail: FSC Australia, GPO Box 152, MELBOURNE VIC 3001 Fax: 03 8636 2674