

Contribution IV to TPAC Forum FSC International

15 April 2013

Gerard Persoon and Tieme Wanders both have a conflict of interest and should remove themselves or be removed from the TPAC Committee.

TPAC Committee

The SMK website says that the Timber Procurement Assessment Committee (TPAC) consists of five independent members and the chair. The members are:

- Erik Lammerts van Bueren MSc, director of ISAFOR consultancy (forest certification)
- Tieme Wanders MSc, senior consultant at Form International (planet)
 - Prof. Helias Udo de Haes, former president of the Leiden University Institute of Environmental Sciences (chair)
- Myrthe Haase MSc, programme manager TPAC at SMK (secretary)
- Kees Burger PhD, Associate professor at Wageningen University (profit)
- Prof. Gerard Persoon PhD, Associate professor at Leiden University (people)

◦ Source: TPAC website, committee members: <http://www.tpac.smk.nl/167/about/the-committee.html>

Two of these Members, **Gerard Persoon and Tieme Wanders, both work for WWF and FSC respectively. Both NGO's have been involved in legal procedures against TPAC-acceptance of any certification scheme other than FSC.**

Gerard Persoon

Membership of WWF NL

Gerard Persoon is a member of the supervisory board of the World Wildlife Fund Netherlands, with environment protection as his portfolio.

◦ Source: [http://www.wnf.nl/nl/overwnf/organisatie/directie_en_raad_van_toezicht2/Delegation leader Parliamentary field trip Kalimantan](http://www.wnf.nl/nl/overwnf/organisatie/directie_en_raad_van_toezicht2/Delegation%20leader%20Parliamentary%20field%20trip%20Kalimantan)

In 2006 (5 to 13 May) three Dutch MPs, Boris Dittrich (D66, Libdems), Tineke Huizinga-Heringa (CU, ChristianUnion) and Henk Jan Ormel (CDA, ChristianDemocrats) were invited by **World Wildlife Fund, Friends of the Earth and IUCN Netherlands** for a field trip to Kalimantan on Borneo to inform themselves about the threat to the remaining tropical forest on the island and the consequences for the indigenous peoples. **All these 3 ENGOS have been directly involved in legal proceedings against all other schemes assessed by TPAC EXCEPT the FSC.** The delegation leader was the anthropologist Dr. Gerard Persoon, so-called expert in the field of deforestation. This is a clear case of conflict of interest as his involvement in projects directly involving the 3 ENGOS named clearly indicate that he has worked in their interest. This then leads to the question of the impartiality exercised by Mr. Persoon in the assessment process of all non-FSC certification schemes.

◦ Source & account of field trip: <http://www.milieudefensie.nl/nieuws/archief/tweede-kamerleden-onderzoeken-houtkap-op-borneo>

Tieme Wanders

Director FSC in West Africa

Tieme Wanders is the Director for the Congo Basin Program for FSC certification in West Africa. This shows direct involvement with FSC and again raises the question of Mr.

Wanders' impartiality on the TPAC Committee when assessing all schemes other than the FSC. **His portfolio with the FSC Congo Basin project is most likely a paid retribution, implying that he is directly employed by FSC and can hardly be expected to be impartial in his role with TPAC when assessing all other certification schemes.**

Source, linkedin Profile: <http://nl.linkedin.com/pub/tieme-wanders/12/367/424>

FSC involvement in Congo Basin Program

The website of the Congo Basin informs the key partners in the program are FSC Netherlands and WWF/GFTN.

○ Source: <http://www.congobasinprogram.com/en/home>