Summary of Changes Fair for Life Revision 2013

(from Fair for Life Programme Version Feb 2011 to Version Dec 2013)

Red: Changes in Draft April 2013
Blue: new changes in July 2013
Green: Changes in Dec 2013

MODULE 1		
Reference	**Change**	**Comment**
Doc	Replaced term „FairTrade“ by “Fair Trade” in entire doc.	As agreed with FLO
Doc	“IMO” replaced in entire document by “the Fair for Life certification body”	
1.1.1	Fair trade content must always be displayed on the label, fair trade ingredients must be asterixed in the ingredient statement in all labelling categories	
1.1.1	Labelling Category B. “Made with Fair for life Ingredients” was renamed to “Made with Fair Trade ingredients”, and all related permitted label statements updated accordingly.	
1.1.1	FT content must be indicated front of pack if FFL seal used front of pack, and FT content below 70%	Principle agreed with several other Eco-social schemes at Expo West in Oct. 2013.
1.1.2 d)	Explanations included for producer operations doing the final consumer packaging and labelling, in order to make it sure that the Fair for Life label will be used only in those products sold under fair trade conditions.	
1.1.2	New CP 10 that for continued certification as Fair for Life producer operation some premium payments are necessary by year 3, i.e. at least one fair trade buyer, or an internal agreement to pay a FT premium internally for at least part of the production.	In the long run an organisation should not be Fair for Life certified without tangible benefits to the FT target groups (e.g. producers), but the operation could be For Life.
1.1.2	Workers representative to be present during opening and closing meeting of a producer certification audit. Workers must be informed about the company’s fair trade certification status, the audit process and their right to provide confidential information to the auditor.	GSCP requirement and recommended best praxis to ensure that workers are adequately included in the audit process and aware of their company’s certification.
1.1.2 and 1.1.3	Slight modification to the text: presence of workers/producer representatives is compulsory for the opening meeting. Their presence in closing meeting is encouraged, but alternatively the company can inform the workers/producers or their representatives after the audit about the outcome and summary of planned improvement actions.	This aspect was subject discussed in depth in the Fair for Life Stakeholder Committee and the proposed minor modifications agreed on.
1.1.3.2 (d)	Producer operations producing final consumer packaged goods can request that their direct buyers are exempted from the obligation to become Fair for Life handler certified as first buyers under certain conditions. Slight modification of the text to restrict it to producer brand only.	So far no exemptions for first buyers, but this rule is very restrictive for products with very short supply chains (e.g. fruits, handicrafts)
1.1.3.3	Simplified rules for retailer own brands in 1.1.3.3: *The retailer marketing the FFL products under their private brand does not need to undergo FFL brand holder certification if* • *the retail brand products are processed and packaged in a fair for life certified handling company* • *and the label indicates “produced by a Fair for life certified manufacturer in COUNTRY XX”,* • The Fair for Life handler has to coordinate and monitor	Previous rules to indicate manufacturer name on product did not work in practice and all relevant FFL handling criteria can well be audited at the certified manufacturer’s operation; The Stakeholder Advisory

MODULE 1		
Reference	**Change**	**Comment**
	the correct use of the Fair for Life seal in the advertisement campaigns and other PR activities of the retailers	Committee suggested to modify previous proposal (approval of all advertisement by CB)
1.1.3.3	Small brand holders, or those with a very limited Fair for Life assortment, who can be registered instead of being certified as Fair for Life handler may only use a specific "registered brand" version of the Fair for Life seal.	As requested by stakeholders for further improved transparency.
1.1.4	Additional print versions of the Fair for Life seal *(black or white on any background, text boxes of seal in different versions)*; Apart from use by certified handler on certified products. Use of seal may be permitted in other publication in individual cases. Text modified a bit to provide more guidance.	
1.2.2	Some minor changes to For Life control and labelling requirements: • *instead of the brand holder the main manufacturer producing the product may be the unit that is For Life certified,* • *any intermediate trader re-labelling products from other schemes to For life needs to be registered.* • *3 new versions of For Life seal* • *all intermediate traders of For Life products must become registered.*	
1.3.1	Publications of performance rating on Fair for Life website is compulsory; cancelled/suspended operations continue to be listed on website in separate section (no rating). Certification body reserves the right to publish a public statement in case of public allegation.	
1.3.1.1	Added sentence about no tolerance of verbal abuse or offense to the auditors.	
1.3.3	More information about preparation of audit by operator; operator must inform workers on the upcoming audit (pre-audit info form will be provided) Added sentence on auditor rotation. Timing of the inspection to match main production season when representative number of workers present to be interviewed.	
1.3.4	Frequency of audits: possibility to change audit frequency for very well performing operations: after 4 audits of good performance (5 leaves) the frequency can be changed to a physical audit every 2 years with desk review audit in between.	
1.3.4.2	Audit procedures revised and additional details added: • *Details on opening meeting; workers and/or producer representatives to take part (including reference to guidance on representation requirements in Module 2 and 3).* • *More details on steps in verification of employment practices.* • *Minimum number of workers interviews changed to the square root of workers (half of which shall be individual interviews); detailed guidance on workers interviews.* • *If workers are unionised, the union representative should be interviewed as part of the audit, or at least contacted to provide optional feedback.* • *Guidance for multiple location hired labour audits.* • *More details in for producer group audits; at least half the interviewed producers shall be individual interviews with field visits, other half can be group interviews.* • *Details on handler audits.* • *Management must have well defined process of communication with the workers / producers, to provide them with adequate information about the audit and certification outcome.*	Fine- tuned with GSCP requirements; improving workers role and involvement in the certification process Role of producers and workers in the audit process was subject to lengthy and detailed discussions in the FFL Stakeholder Advisory Board, and the revised proposal reflects the final consensus.
1.3.7	Completely revised detailed complaints, appeals and	Addressing shortcomings in the

MODULE 1		
Reference	**Change**	**Comment**
	allegation procedure, following an escalation process: • ***1st stage – Normal review:*** *Normally applicable for verbal objections complaints, simple cases.* • ***2nd stage – Management review:*** *The complaint will be reviewed by a managing staff.* • ***3rd Stage – Top Management Review:*** *The complaint will be reviewed by the CB´s Director.* • ***4th Stage – Review by the Bio-Foundation:*** *The complaint will be reviewed by the Swiss Bio-Foundation, which is the standard holder of the Fair for Life Programme.* • ***5th Stage – External arbitration panel:*** *The last level for resolution of very difficult cases will be an external arbitration panel.* Simplification of the complaints, allegation and appeals procedure, and inclusion of the complete procedure in the Module 1, section 1.3.7.	present system; aligning with ISO requirements and best practices in other social systems. Procedures were simplified in response to feedback received in stakeholder consultation and in the FFL Stakeholder Advisory Committee
Annex 2	Ecocert listed as equivalent FT scheme (provisionally) mutual equivalence. FT USA Handler (of products of producers certified by equivalent schemes e.g. FLO) accepted as equivalent. Some restrictions added for some of the schemes. Basic requirements for recognition of products certified under other FT schemes added. Individual assessment of other FT schemes restricted to direct purchase from producer operations or schemes with which the FFL CB holds a collaboration agreement. UTZ and Rainforest Alliance listed as recognized with restrictions (sample audit documents will be requested to assess social audit depth). Slight modification of procedure for individual assessment of other SR schemes.	To be confirmed in August 2013
Annex 3	Food composition requirements of Fair for Life certified products revised slightly: • *More explicit mentioning that in single ingredient products the fair trade target level is 100%, 80% for multi ingredient products.* • *Clearer procedures and rules to grant exceptions for products over 50% but below the target levels.*	Clearer presentation of composition requirements (and procedures and criteria to grant exceptions.
Annex 5	Added paragraph about raw materials in artisanal production (criteria in module 5, section 5.2 apply)	
Annex 6	New annex for extraordinary exceptions e.g. temporary disruptions to a fair trade supply chain due to natural disasters, exceptions to traceability requirements.	
Annex 3-5	These annexes apply more explicitly for Fair for Life as well as For Life certification.	

MODULE 4		
Reference	**Change**	**Comment**
Doc	Replaced term „FairTrade“ by “Fair Trade” in entire doc.	As agreed with FLO.
Applicability	Slightly revised overview; Improved presentation on difference between registered handlers and Fair for Life certified handlers. Some text sections updated to apply also to For Life registered handlers.	
4.1.3	Updated version on specifications required in MoUs or sales contracts when buying from other fair trade schemes. New CP on minimum supply chain information in case of buying products from other schemes.	Aligned with handler guidance document on buying from other FT schemes, updated with recent split FLO / FT USA and updated list of equivalent FT

	Detailed MoU with suppliers certified under other schemes: CP 7 mandatory only from year 2 onwards. Wording more general to apply to all equivalent FT schemes instead of specific texts about FLO / Fair Trade USA purchases.	schemes. Need for transparency of supply chains and clear agreements with suppliers certified by other schemes confirmed in FFL Stakeholder Advisory Board discussions.
4.2.1	Partnership and favourable trading terms: more focus on efforts of the buyer to ensure continued business.	
4.3	Updated Section on Social responsibility of Fair for Life handlers: • *Responsible labour practices verification by CB added.* • *BSCI audit reports added as accepted proof.* • *Some specifications added for social audit sections in organic reports.* • *In companies with only up to 5 full time employees or less, only the Fair for Life handler report is complete.,*	Responsible labour verification practices were introduced after last revision and were not yet presented in Module 4.
4.4.1	Contract processing: in high risk industries in non-industrialized countries an initial spot check of decent working conditions may be required to assess the risk level. High risk operations must become registered and submit annual proof of decent working conditions.	
4.4.2 (c)	New option for small companies with less than 5 full time employees: commitment to responsible employment practices in the registration form is sufficient.	
Annex 1	The existing Criteria for Responsible Labour Practices (RLP) for Fair for Life Handlers (Annex 1) are included in the consultation draft, with the following minor adjustments proposed: • Audit procedures according to For Life procedures (Module 1, 1.3) but some parts indicated as not applicable for RLP • CP 11 No discrimination → mandatory • Revised wording regarding written definition of employment condition • Some voluntary commitment CP's taken out • Environmental section removed	Responsible labour practice standard focus on minimum compliance – For Life certification for operations that want to proof good social practices. Some wording reviewed analogue ETI Based code.