



PEFC Council
International Cointrin
Center
Route de Pré-Bois 20
CH-1215 Geneva
Switzerland

t +41 22 799 45 40
f +41 22 799 45 50
e info@pefc.org
www.pefc.org

**Association "Centre for the Development of Forest Certification"
(PEFC Russia)**

Andrey Ryshkov
Ассоциация «Центр развития лесной сертификации»
комн.308Б, Ulitsa Institutskaya, 15A,
141202 Pushkino, Moscow Oblast
Russian Federation

Geneva, 4 March 2022

Dear Andrey,

The PEFC community is deeply concerned about the war outbreak and invasion of Ukraine led by the Russian Government with the support of the Belarus' Government as it contradicts the core values that inspire PEFC causing unspeakable and unacceptable pain and death to innocent people, including women and children.

After considering our standard rules, and following the recent UN resolution, we need to inform you that the PEFC Council Board of Directors has issued a statement today clarifying that all timber originating from Russia and Belarus as 'conflict timber' and therefore cannot be used in PEFC-certified products. The clarification that timber from Russia and Belarus is to be categorised as conflict timber is based on the UN General Assembly Resolution A/ES-11/L.1 "Aggression against Ukraine" during the 11th Emergency Special Session, which "deplores in the strongest terms the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine [...] [and] the involvement of Belarus" This clarification enters in force since the quoted UN General Assembly resolution was adopted on 2 March 2022.

This statement follows requests by members, stakeholders and market partners to the Board to provide such a clarification. PEFC will provide consistent clarification in case of future UN resolutions in comparable situations.

The clarification is initially valid for six months. We deeply hope that the situation is resolved soonest, in which case the Board will undertake a review.

We would like to stress that this decision is strictly circumscribed to the decision of President Putin to invade a sovereign country with the support of the Belarus' Government. The PEFC community values outstandingly the efforts of the members of PEFC Russia including its staff during the past years and is fully aware of the challenges that this decision might cause.

We would like to recall that neither the membership of PEFC Russia in the PEFC Council nor the endorsement of your national system is affected. Therefore, we encourage you to continue administering your national system operations.

PEFC-International stands ready to continue supporting you if required in the future.

With best regards

On behalf of the PEFC Council Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eduardo', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Eduardo Rojas Briales
Chair of the PEFC Council Board of Directors