



JOHN BITAR & CO. LTD.

A FREE ZONE COMPANY



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15th October, 2010

SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

John Bitar & Company Limited recognizes its responsibility on sustainability in terms of the sourcing of wood and fibre from third parties or timber harvested from its owned forest lands for the purposes of converting it into appropriate value added products in its core business.

For forests owned, leased or managed:

- ❖ We shall, as a minimum adhere to all relevant national laws and international treaties.
- ❖ We are seeking to achieve accreditation of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification scheme within the shortest possible time.
- ❖ We shall pursue the protection of natural forests so as to ensure conservation and sustainable uses of their biodiversity and as far as possible contribute to water flow and habitat protection.
- ❖ We shall contribute to the development of a forestry culture by means of an open information exchange with interested individuals. We will also promote meaningful relationships with Government, local communities, NGO's and other relevant stakeholders.


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- ❖ We shall allocate resources to sustainable forest management including education and training in forestry research and natural ecosystems.

On timber purchases from third parties:

- ❖ We shall ensure that all wood suppliers are legally compliant and preferably certified to FSC or a credible alternative standard.
- ❖ We shall further require that, as a minimum all wood suppliers guarantee their wood does not come from controversial sources.
- ❖ We are committed that within a reasonable time frame all our mills that use wood will be accredited with Chain-of-Custody Certification through FSC.

On other forest based products purchased:

- ❖ We shall require that all our suppliers meet the commitments expressed above on wood or fibre.
- ❖ We shall further commit to the implementation of appropriate communication, training and auditing procedures to ensure that all John Bitar & Company Limited operations meet the requirements outlined in this policy statement.

JOHN BITAR & CO. LIMITED
P.O.Box - 406
SEKONDI - GHANA

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GENERAL MANAGER
(MOHAMMED JOUNI)

For and on behalf of John Bitar & Co. Limited