

To: Cocoa producers and traders
Fairtrade members
cc: Standards Committee
Fairtrade International staff
FLOCERT staff

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Changes to the Cocoa Standard – suspension of requirement 3.4.8 Reporting on Deforestation Prevention

Dear partners,

Following the publication of the [project assignment](#) regarding the requested suspension of Cocoa Standard requirement 3.4.8 *Reporting on Deforestation Prevention* in October 2025, in their capacity to decide on suspension requests, the Director of the Standards & Pricing Unit and the Chair of the Standards Committee approved the requirement suspension as of date of this announcement with no end date. The suspension therefore is in place until a new requirement in a next standard review is approved by the Standards Committee following the Standard Operating Procedure for the Development of Fairtrade Standards ([SOP](#)).

- The updated Cocoa Standard can be found [here](#). The updated Interpretation Notes can be found there as well.

Requirement 3.4.8 Reporting on Deforestation Prevention was applicable to traders in the Fairtrade Standard for cocoa and has created technical difficulties and was a duplication of efforts, as SPOs are reporting this data as well. The other part of the requirement, which is to report on support to SPOs is not needed since this is covered also in requirement 3.4.4 Supporting producers to prevent and mitigate deforestation.

For more information and in case of questions, please contact Standards and Pricing team at: standards-pricing@fairtrade.net.

Best regards,

Andreas Kratz