

Appendix I – Scoring Methodology

Scoring Category & Indicators		Points
CATEGORY #1: POLICY COMMITMENT		38
1.1 – Content of Commitment		14
1.1A	The company has a policy specifically committing to achieve deforestation and conversion-free ⁱ production for its beef supply chain	4
1.1B	Policy specifies commitment to protection and restoration of landscapes that have been degraded due to production activities for beef products in its supply chain	2
1.1C	Policy commits to uphold human rights ⁱⁱ in the workplace, including gender equality and workers’ rights in relation to suppliers	3
1.1D	Policy specifies commitment to include support for smallholder producers to help them achieve compliance with commitments and access global supply chains	2
1.1E	Policy specifies commitment to uphold human rights with respect to local communities, including the rights of potentially affected Indigenous Peoples, ⁱⁱⁱ and to ensure all suppliers secure Free, Prior, & Informed Consent ^{iv} prior to any new developments, and commitment to remediation for any impacted communities	3
1.2 – Scope of Commitment		17
1.2A	Policy covers production and procurement of all beef products in its supply chain (including fresh, frozen, and processed beef products, and tallow), both own-brand and external brands, across all markets in which the company operates	4
1.2B	Policy extends globally, across all cattle-producing regions	3
1.2C	Policy applies to all suppliers of beef products, including direct and indirect suppliers	3
1.2D	Policy includes a target date for implementation such that the company will achieve deforestation and conversion-free supply in beef sourcing no later than 2025	3
1.2E	Policy specifies a cut-off date for deforestation and conversion, establishing a threshold after which products sourced from such areas are excluded from the company’s supply chain: For the Amazon biome, cut-off date is set at 2009 for direct suppliers and 2019 for indirect suppliers For all other biomes, cut-off date is set at 2021 or earlier for direct and indirect suppliers	4
1.3 – Advancing Industry Transformation		7
1.3A	Commitment includes incentives to reduce consumer demand for beef products, including a goal to increase sales of plant-based protein alternatives	2
1.3B	Company advocates for government policies that ensure forest and land rights protections	3
1.3C	Company participates in and aligns policy with industry groups that are advancing collective action toward deforestation and conversion-free beef, including at least one of the following: CGF Forest Positive Coalition Beef Working Group Tropical Forest Alliance GRSB-GTPS Joint Working Group on Forests Accountability Framework Initiative	2

Category #2: Monitoring & Verification of Compliance		44
2.1 – Company Internal Procedure		22
2.1A	Company conducts risk assessments to identify beef sourcing areas with high-risk of non-compliance ^v with any environmental, social, or legal protections stated in the commitment	3
2.1B	Company publicly discloses their supplier monitoring system ^{vi} to operationalize sourcing policies and engagement procedures in line with commitment	3
2.1C	Company procedure includes a conditionality clause mandating supplier compliance with commitment into contractual agreements with all beef suppliers	4
2.1D	Company procedure includes a protocol of ‘engagement, retention, suspension, and then exclusion’ in response to continued non-compliance with beef supplier requirements	4
2.1E	Company procedure includes a grievance mechanism that enables anonymous reporting of compliance violations tied to supplier activity ^{vii}	3
2.1F	Company procedure includes engaging non-compliant suppliers in the development and implementation of time-bound remediation plans to achieve compliance	2
2.1G	Company procedure includes verification mechanisms to confirm the accuracy of risk assessments and compliance monitoring systems – either through internal procedure and oversight or third-party verification ^{viii}	3
2.2 – Supplier Requirements		22
2.2A	Company requires suppliers to establish their own monitoring mechanisms for ensuring compliance across their direct and indirect suppliers, including those that evaluate: ties to both legal and illegal conversion of native ecosystems after relevant cut-off dates any association with human rights and land rights violations	4
2.2B	Company requires suppliers to report on compliance with policy commitment across global supply chain at least bi-annually ^{ix}	2
2.2C	Company requires suppliers to maintain an effective grievance mechanism for social and environmental violations, including land grabbing, that adheres to the Effectiveness Criteria of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights	3
2.2D	Company requires suppliers to disclose ownership and location of production and processing sites, including: Farm-level point of origin direct and indirect supplies Slaughterhouses	4
2.2E	Company requires suppliers to disclose aggregate assessments of all cattle sourcing areas in their direct and indirect supply chain, including the % of supplying properties for which they have traceability to the farm level	4
2.2F	Company requires suppliers to disclose aggregate assessments of all cattle sourcing areas in their direct and indirect supply chain, including the % of supplying properties with clearance or social violations	3
2.2G	Company requires suppliers to verify the accuracy of monitoring systems and reporting on compliance – either through third party auditors or utilizing accredited data sources ^x	2

Category #3: Public Disclosure & Reporting		18
3.1 – Retailer Reporting on Progress & Supply Chain Traceability		18
3.1A	Company publicly reports progress toward policy commitments at least annually, using standardized metrics, including quantitative and qualitative indicators ^{xi}	3
3.1B	Regular reporting includes volumes of conversion-free cattle products in its supply chain	2
3.1C	Regular reporting includes summary of grievances filed as part of the established grievance mechanism and actions taken to resolve the grievances, including actions taken with non-compliant suppliers	3
3.1D	Regular reporting covers the degree of traceability in the company’s supply chain, including: Country of origin for all cattle product sourcing % of product volumes sourced from each country % of volumes for both direct and indirect supplies traceable to slaughterhouses % of volumes for both direct and indirect supplies traceable to the farm level in high-risk regions	4
3.1E	Company publicly discloses results of environmental and social risk assessments and verification methods used in compliance monitoring of beef supply chain	2
3.1F	Company publicly discloses all tier 1 beef suppliers for sourcing regions where a high risk of non-compliance with policy commitment ^{xii} – including all environmental, social, and legal protocol – has been identified within the global supply chain	4
OVERALL SCORE		100

ⁱ Environmental protections stated in the Commitment should be in line with the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Applying the Definitions Related to Deforestation, Conversion, and Protection of Ecosystems](#)

ⁱⁱ See the Accountability Framework Initiative’s draft [Operational Guidance on Workers’ Rights](#)

ⁱⁱⁱ See the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Respecting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities](#)

^{iv} See the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Free, Prior, and Informed Consent](#)

^v Assessing risks of non-compliance with policy commitment should follow relevant methodology for rigorous and credible evaluation of supply chain risks, as detailed in the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Supply Chain Management](#)

^{vi} Supplier monitoring system should meet the standards for downstream companies as outlined in the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Supply Chain Management](#)

^{vii} Engagement protocol and standards for remediation processes should be in line with the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Remediation and Access to Remedy](#)

^{viii} Compliance monitoring systems used by retailers should satisfy the standards for effectiveness and credibility, as described in the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Monitoring & Verification](#)

^{ix} Regular compliance reporting should follow the guidelines for ‘business-to-business’ reporting as outlined in the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance for Reporting, Disclosure, and Claims](#)

^x Verification of supplier compliance monitoring and reporting should meet the criteria for credible verification processes as defined by the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Monitoring & Verification](#)

^{xi} Standards and content of annual reporting on progress toward commitments should be in line with the principles and methods detailed in the [Operational Guidance on Reporting, Disclosure, and Claims](#)

^{xii} Assessments of risk for non-compliance should follow relevant methodology for rigorous and credible evaluation of supply chain risks, as detailed in the Accountability Framework Initiative’s [Operational Guidance on Supply Chain Management](#).