

RJC Standards Committee meeting

Date: 17th June 2025

Standards Committee Attendees:

- Purvi Shah, Philippe Telouk, Robin Kolvenbach, Joelle Ponnelle, Didier Backaert, Marie-Charlotte, Noora Jamsheer, Charlene Nemson, Silvia Bezzone, Alexander Gul, Ainsley Butler, Jennifer Hillard, Sara Yood, Gavin Hilson, Renata Lawton Misra, Marcin Piersiak.

RJC Management Team:

- John Hall, Melanie Grant, Suzanne Brooks, Caroline Watson, Megan Gannon.

Apologies:

- Effie Marinos, Jasmeet Baggha, Maggie Gabos, Monica Barcellos Harris, Salah Hussein, Alexander Gul, Kim Wenzel, Laurent Massi, Marco Quadri, Eduard Stefanescu.

- **Welcome and introduction**

After the introduction by Ainsley Butler, as non-industry Co-Chair of the Committee, Committee members were reminded of the RJC Terms of Reference and Anti-Trust Policy. The roll call was taken. A committee member noted an adjustment that needs to be made to the previous meetings minutes. These will be re-circulated to the committee.

- **Executive update**

The Executive Director confirmed there are two focused areas currently. The first being the roll out of the three new standards; the comms team is using various communication methods including video and social media. The standards roadshows also form part of this communication, with various events being held throughout the remainder of the year and into 2026.

The second focus area is changes to audits and certifications which begin on the 1st of July.

The Executive Director also confirmed a review has been completed of the RJC's digital systems by an external consultant, and implementation has begun based on recommendations. The RJC will be hiring a Head of Digital and IT to implement changes and improve efficiency. A Head of Operations Support will also be hired to create better synergies. An AGM was held on the 4th of June, with new board members appointed, and some who have left.

- **Strategic Taskforce**

There are three strategic taskforces with an RJC team representative on each. It was confirmed that work in these workstreams will be reviewed and presented to the standards committee for recommendation and prior approval. A detailed update on the taskforces will be provided by the chair of strategic taskforce in the July meeting.

- **Standards Committee update**

An update was provided of topics discussed in the informal May meeting. These included strategic priorities for the standards team, with the LGMS standard and guidance identified as a top priority, along with benchmarking timelines. It was confirmed that an update of the carbon research project would be provided at the July meeting. The Theory of Change document will also be brought to the Standards Committee for review when ready by the Impacts team.

- **Reformation – Process overview**

The RJC has been assessing the future needs of the Standards Committee and has curated a list of over 20 candidates. The standards General Manager, and the two Co-Chairs will be reviewing the terms of reference, which will be shared with the committee for feedback. By September, the RJC aims to have a list for submission to the board for Executive approval. Discussions are underway for how the RJC identifies two new Co-Chairs, for the committee to be updated in due course.

- **Translation Progress**

An overview of the translations status was provided. The LGMS guidance document has being sent to the translation agency. For the remaining files and languages, a final review will be required once the documents are re-formatted (through a process of desk top publishing (DTP)).

Translation of the standards and guidance into non-priority languages will be considered and under review with the Communications team, alongside other member-supporting documents. The COP self-assessment is currently in the process of being translated.

- **COP and COC Standards**

It was confirmed that the COP self-assessment was released on the 12th of June. The next self-assessments to be developed are the COC and a combined COP and LGMS assessment, and finally a standalone LGMS version. Translations of all assessments will follow.

The RJC noted that training of auditors is ongoing, and the first stage of internal benchmarking has commenced. This phase focuses on reviewing the RJC's currently recognised standards and ensuring they are up to date for the audits. For upcoming roadshows, the RJC will also hold member clinics where appropriate, offering 30-minute one-to-one meetings with members to address specific queries.

- **Laboratory-Grown Material Standard**

The communications campaign for the LGMS standard is on-going, with any change requests being logged in the issues log. The guidance has now been completed and is available on the RJC website. This was communicated to members and the RJC business development team at the same time the self-assessment workbook was released (12th of June). The RJC will reach out for help on the review and corrections phase on the guidance. The RJC confirmed mandatory auditor training is to begin soon.

- **AOB and Closing**

For the RJC Strategic Taskforce a broader update will be provided by the chair of the strategic taskforces in July and work continues to progress the EU Conflict Mineral Regulation alignment assessment. An update on the RJC Climate Research Project will be provided at the July meeting.

Upcoming 2025 meetings confirmed, with 16th July meeting changed to the 9th July. There will not be a meeting in August, and the remaining meetings are confirmed for the 17th September 15th October, 12th November, and 10th December. There will be an in-person meeting proposed for October with location to be confirmed. Other meetings at the same time e.g. CIBJO meeting will need to be considered to help ensure committee attendance. Feedback on proposed dates will be brought to the July committee meeting.

The Standards Manager confirmed the ASM workstream is to begin in the next couple of months, with a project plan to be presented to the Standards Committee once ready.

The meeting was closed with thanks by the industry Co-Chair, Purvi Shah.