

Romanian Forest Certification Scheme 2017 – Annex 09

PEFC-RO DST 8009:2017



Procedure of arbitration
for setting up and running Romanian
Certification scheme

March 2017

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Document name: Procedure of arbitration for setting up and running Romanian Certification scheme

Document title: PEFC RO STD 8009:2017

Approved by: PEFC Romania General Assembly

Date: 2017-05-29

Issue date: 2017-05-29

Date of entry into force: 2018-04-01

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Procedure of arbitration

Establishment of an Arbitration Body by PEFC Romania

An Arbitration Body will be convened by PEFC Romania whenever necessary. It will consist of three to five persons, whereby this must always include one representative from the forestry, one from the environmental groups and, in particular, one representative of that interest group which is at the focus of the complaint. The members of the Arbitration Body must act independently and impartially. The members must always vote for a chairman from amongst themselves. The arbitration body may call upon the expertise of specialists.

Procedure of Arbitration

In order to initiate a procedure of arbitration, a written application must be made to the Secretariat of PEFC Romania, which must include the following items:

- facts of the case
- positions of those parties involved (if available)
- if required, reports of the certification body (if available)

The PEFC-Romania Secretariat confirms receipt of the complaint, informs the complainant and concerned parties about the complaint handling process, and makes a written request to the members of the arbitration body to convene. The hearing will take place within three months upon receipt of the complaint, and a decision is to be made within 60 days. In justified cases, which may lead to a delay (compiling expertise, etc.), the period required for making the decision may be extended by 30 days.

The decision is to be made by a simple majority; if the votes are equal, the chairman has the deciding vote. The PEFC-Romania Secretariat is responsible for keeping protocols of the hearings, as well as for making a formal communication informing those parties, which are involved, about the results of the arbitration. The decision made by the arbitration body is binding and forms the conclusion of the procedure of arbitration for PEFC Romania. Certificates and attestation of participation retain their validity until the arbitration body has made a decision.