

ASI Standards Committee Virtual Meeting – Discussion Notes

5 February 2026 (Virtual)

Attendance ([Standards Committee](#)):

Abiba Mayaki Diallo	Soumah Ibrahima Dominique
Abu Karimu	Vishwas Kamble
Gesa Jauck	Yuri Herder
Jason Koevoet	
José Rubio	
Nikolas Kelling	
Louis Biswane	
Olivier Néel	
Patrick Brading	
Penny Laurance	
Piet Wit	
Sankon Mohamed	

Apologies (Standards Committee)

Bruce Han	Marina Wangurra
Francesca Fairbairn	Mike Danielson
Guilbert Ebune	Nicholas Barla
Li Didi	Vincent Ekka
Marcel Pfitzer	Wenjuan Liu
Margriet Biswane	

ASI Secretariat Participants

Cameron Jones, <i>Director of Assurance</i>	Mark Annandale, <i>Director of Research and IPAF</i>
Chelsea Reinhardt, <i>Standards Director</i>	Marieke Van der Mijn, <i>Director Partnerships</i>
Chris Bayliss, <i>Climate Change Director</i>	Thomas Robertson, <i>Assurance and Risk Manager</i>
Gabriel Carmona Aparicio, <i>Circularity Research Manager</i>	Vicky Tran, <i>Assurance and Claims Manager</i>
Lia Vacheret, <i>Standards Manager</i>	Jessica Pereira, <i>Human Rights Specialist</i>

Agenda Overview:

1. Opening and approval of meeting minutes: 14 January 2026
2. Discuss open issues and Approval of Group 2 drafts: Community Rights, Mine Closure, Displacement and Resettlement
3. Next steps and preparation for consultation

1. Opening and approval of meeting minutes

- The Committee **approved** meeting minutes from the 14 January 2026 Standards Committee meeting.

2. Open Issues and Approval of Group 2 Drafts

- The Secretariat introduced the remaining Group 2 consultation drafts, which had been shared with the Standards Committee for final approval.
- One participant noted that from a downstream Entity perspective, the proposals for consultation around the ‘streamlined certification option’ for downstream Entities will be very important. The ASI Secretariat reminded the Committee that the consultation drafts will seek further input on this proposal, which would allow certification for downstream Entities to focus only on *Climate, Circularity, and Responsible Sourcing/ Due Diligence* sections, where the impacts are most material. The Standards Committee would decide whether to confirm this streamlined option, likely during the June in-person meeting, and informed by feedback from the consultation.
- The Secretariat explained that no substantive comments had been received on the drafts, although a proposed amendment to the definition of mine closure was tabled for discussion
 - The Secretariat introduced the rationale for adjusting the mine closure definition, which included: recognizing closure as a process, incorporating more clearly the social aspects of mine closure, and moving away from ‘restoration’ language (which indicates a return to pre-disturbance ecosystems) in preference of ‘rehabilitation’.
 - The Committee **agreed** to the proposed amended definition and the minor wording adjustment under 9.3.1.1 which would replace ‘prior to planned closure’ with ‘prior to cessation of mining activities’, recognizing that closure is a process.
- The Committee **approved** the remaining Performance Standard V4 consultation drafts: *Section 7: Community Rights and Participation, Section 9: Mine Closure, and Section 11: Displacement and Resettlement*

3. Next Steps and Preparation for Consultation

- The Secretariat summarised the work in progress to prepare for the first round of consultation, which will launch on 17 February and run through 20 April 2026.
- There will be a dedicated consultation webpage with drafts and supporting resources, and a series of webinars for stakeholders.
 - The Committee queried whether the webinars will be designed to solicit stakeholder feedback. The Secretariat explained that webinars are intended more to clarify and provide context on specific thematic areas – to help stakeholders give informed comments, but not to collect comments directly via the webinars
 - It was clarified that a list of all survey questions will be available for users to download, in case they wish to consolidate input from multiple colleagues before submitting a response
 - It was asked whether governments will be included in stakeholder outreach; the Secretariat explained that they are certainly included, and are happy to have Committee members share any specific contacts for direct follow up
- The Secretariat clarified that the ASI Board has approved a blanket extension for all active Standards Committee members to extend their terms through the end of the revision – expected second half of 2027. ASI will issue a formal letter to document this for all Committee members
- Longer term priorities for the Committee for later in 2026 will include review of the guidance materials and the assurance framework evolution

- It was questioned whether the Committee should already be discussing the claims around leading practice/ differentiation. The Secretariat informed that there are several questions seeking stakeholder input on leading practices and potential claims as part of the consultation survey, and the Committee will need to discuss and confirm a direction on this after the consultation round, likely at the in-person meeting
- The in-person Standards Committee meeting is currently being planned for **16-18 June 2026** in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Secretariat will inform the Committee once the contracts are signed with the venue, so that flights can be booked. ASI will coordinate travel booking on behalf of CSO/ IPAF Members.
 - It was requested for ASI to inform Committee members of any potential side meetings (in addition to the IPAF sessions), so that travel plans can accommodate this.