
Overview of Changes SRP Chain of Custody Policy and Standard version 2



Title:	Overview of Updates in SRP Chain of Custody Policy and Standard version 2
Document number:	NO-250626-ED-EN-081
Scope:	International
Approval date:	June 2026

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About the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP)

The Sustainable Rice Platform e.V. (SRP) is a global multi-stakeholder alliance comprising over 100 institutional members from public, private, research, civil society and the financial sector. Originally co-convened by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and private sector partners, SRP is an independent member association, working together with its partners to transform the global rice sector by improving smallholder livelihoods, reducing the social, environmental and climate footprint of rice production, and by offering the global rice market an assured supply of sustainably produced rice.

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INTRODUCTION

This document provides a comprehensive overview of the revisions made to the SRP CoC Policy and Standard from version 2.2 to the latest version 2.6. Each version update reflects SRP's commitment to continuous improvement and responsiveness to stakeholder feedback.

Summary of Revisions to SRP Chain of Custody Policy and Standard

The SRP Assurance Scheme, launched in September 2020 after a public consultation, underscores the necessity of maintaining the integrity and traceability of sustainable rice production. This scheme recognizes three Chain of Custody models: 1) Identity Preservation (IP), 2) Segregation (Seg), and 3) Mass Balance (MB). Chain of Custody verification is crucial for on-product SRP claims and the use of the SRP-verified Label. This verification process ensures the credibility of SRP's sustainability standards, thus reinforcing consumer confidence and supporting market transparency.

The SRP Chain of Custody Policy and Standard Version 1.0 was released in October 2020. Version 2.0 was endorsed by the SRP Board in January 2022, and all users were encouraged to migrate to v2.0 at the earliest opportunity. Version 1.0 remained valid until 30 June 2022, after which v2.0 became mandatory and v1.0 was no longer recognized.

The SRP Chain of Custody (CoC) Policy and Standard have undergone several changes since the endorsement of version 2.0 by the Board in January 2022, which became effective starting in July 2022. Version 2.1, published in June 2023, introduced minor wording changes but was only in effect for one month as SRP decided to postpone the enforcement of the Transaction Certificate. Consequently, version 2.2, published in July 2023, removed the Transaction Certificate chapter until the introduction of RiceTrace.

Further updates from version 2.2 to version 2.3 aligned with the SRP Assurance Scheme 2.0, incorporating system, definition, and terminology changes. The primary alteration was the removal of the Assurance Service Provider (ASP), with the SRP Secretariat taking over the management of the Assurance Scheme starting 1 January 2024. The CoC Standard itself remained unchanged.

Version 2.4 marked the introduction of RiceTrace and the reintroduction of the Transaction Certificate. Detailed changes from versions 2.2 to 2.5 are documented in the section "Details of Changes." The version v2.5, introduced the SRP traceability platform, RiceTrace, providing further clarity on the standard wording and CoC models. SRP is also incorporating selective social elements into the Chain of Custody Standard, covering important aspects such as child labor, forced labor, worker health, freedom of association, and wage.

The version v2.6, published in June 2026, clarifies and strengthens requirements related to traceability, data integrity, and claim substantiation. Key updates include the formalization of RiceTrace as the sole official system for transaction validation and claim transfer, enhanced requirements for multi-ingredient products and private-label arrangements, strengthened Transaction Certificate procedures with mandatory buyer acknowledgement, and increased data integrity oversight by Conformity Assessment Bodies. These updates reinforce the credibility of SRP-verified claims and enhance market transparency.

Key changes in Version 2.6

RiceTrace Formalization

1. RiceTrace is now explicitly defined as the sole official system for SRP traceability, transaction validation, and substantiation of SRP claims.
2. All SRP-verified rice transactions, inventories, processing activities, and claim transfers must be recorded exclusively through RiceTrace.
3. Documentation outside RiceTrace may support audits but shall not substitute for RiceTrace records for claim substantiation.

Multi-Ingredient Products & Private-Label Arrangements

4. New definitions: Multi-ingredient products, Claim holder, and Private-label arrangement have been formally added to the definitions section.
5. Claim volume integrity oversight: SRP may request confirmation that cumulative SRP claims do not exceed verified volumes substantiated through Transaction Certificates.
6. Multi-ingredient requirements: For multi-ingredient products, SRP claims must substantiate only the SRP-verified rice component, not other non-rice ingredients.
7. Mass Balance for multi-ingredient: Claimable volumes calculated exclusively from SRP-verified rice input; non-rice ingredients excluded from calculations.

Transaction Certificate Strengthening

8. Mandatory evidence requirement: Valid Transaction Certificates now constitute mandatory evidence for SRP claim transfer between supply chain actors.
9. Buyer acknowledgement: Transaction completion is conditional upon buyer acknowledgement in RiceTrace before claims transfer is finalized.
10. Initial volume restrictions: Initial volume functionality in RiceTrace restricted to harvested rice from verified producers; may not be used to transfer SRP claims.
11. Withdrawn TC audit trail: Withdrawn Transaction Certificates remain in RiceTrace for audit trail preservation (invalidate claims but don't delete records).
12. New exemption provisions: Consolidation of multiple transactions permitted quarterly for high-volume retailers (minimum 100 transactions/quarter).

Data Integrity and RiceTrace Compliance

13. Mandatory AMP fields: Verification decisions cannot be finalized when mandatory Audit Management Platform fields remain incomplete.
14. CAB data verification: CABs must verify completeness and accuracy of data entered into the AMP; missing/incomplete/incorrect fields affecting RiceTrace = Minor Non-Conformity.
15. RiceTrace reconciliation: Indicator 1.2.4 updated to require POs verify consistency between RiceTrace records and physical inventory.
16. Data integrity as major issue: Data integrity failures affecting traceability or claim substantiation shall not be treated as observations only; they must be classified as conformities/non-conformities

Audit Scope and Timeline Clarifications

17. Pre-verification handling: POs awaiting Verification Statement issuance may provisionally handle SRP-verified rice if no Major Non-Conformities identified and no SRP claims made.
18. Audit alignment: When POs linked to SRP-verified producers and same CAB conducts both audits, CoC and farm audits may align with new anchor date flexibility.

19. New Scope Change Audit type: Explicit procedures for scope changes (site additions/removals, activity changes, CoC model changes) within verification cycle.
20. Annual audit window, when a Participating Operator is linked to SRP-verified producers or producer groups, and the same CAB conducts both the SRP farm or producer group audit and the Chain of Custody audit, the anchor date may alternatively be the date of the first full audit in the cycle of SRP farm or producer group audit, provided that the Chain of Custody audit is conducted no later than twelve (12) months after the previous Chain of Custody audit.

CAB Oversight and Assurance Scheme Alignment

21. SRP Assurance Oversight Manual binding: New requirement that CABs comply with the SRP Assurance Oversight Manual as a normative part of the Assurance Framework.
22. Cumulative obligations: CAB obligations under LRA, Assurance Oversight Manual, and CoC Policy/Standard are cumulative; compliance with one doesn't exempt from others.
23. Exception management: SRP Secretariat maintains consolidated exception list accessible to all assurance providers for consistent application.

Mass Balance Clarifications

24. Multi-ingredient mass balance: Claimable volumes calculated exclusively on SRP-verified rice input; non-rice ingredients explicitly excluded.
25. No credit/book & claim: Emphasis that SRP uses physical flow mass balance model only; credit/book & claim systems are NOT permitted under SRP CoC.
26. TC requirement for mass balance: Transaction Certificates remain mandatory for mass balance claim transfer; RiceTrace records substitute for physical segregation but not for claim verification.

Minor Enhancements and Clarifications

27. Contact update: SRP email updated to info@srpglobal.org in document header.
28. Indicator 3.1.2 enhancements: Expanded notes clarify discrepancy handling and multi-ingredient rice tracking requirements.
29. Indicator 4.1.6 clarification: Quarterly inventory reconciliation explicitly now includes multi-ingredient rice reconciliation (rice vs. non-rice separation).
30. Indicator 6.1.4: New provision emphasizes commercial documents alone insufficient for claim substantiation; valid TC required.

Details of Changes

The table below summarizes the main changes made to the SRP Chain of Custody Policy and Standard.

Chapter	Change	Version
Definition	NEW: Claim holder: An entity that makes, communicates, or benefits from an SRP claim, including brands, retailers, private-label owners, and other actors placing SRP claims on products, packaging, or marketing materials. Claim volume integrity: The principle that cumulative SRP claims made by a claim holder do not exceed the SRP-verified volumes substantiated through Transaction Certificates and recorded in RiceTrace.	Changes in 2.6

	Multi-ingredient product: A product containing rice as one ingredient among other non-rice ingredients, where an SRP claim refers only to the SRP-verified rice content and not to the product as a whole. Private-label arrangement: A commercial arrangement in which an SRP claim is made under a brand or label owned by an entity other than the producer or participating operator, governed by a Private Label Agreement. Single-ingredient product: A product composed solely of rice, where the SRP claim applies to the entire product. MODIFIED: Transaction Certificate (TC): an SRP document issued through RiceTrace that records the transfer of SRP-verified rice volumes between supply chain actors and constitutes mandatory evidence for the transfer and substantiation of SRP claims. Verified Unit ID: generated ID number from the SRP Audit Management Platform, which is attached to the Verified Unit Name. For instance, the name of the VU is SunRice Co., Ltd., - VU0026, the Verification Unit ID is VU0026. DELETED: Finished product: a product where no further modification occurs (including repacking).	
Introduction 1.2.1	MODIFIED: The Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard applies to all Participating Operators seeking to make, transfer, or substantiate SRP claims, including under single-ingredient, multi-ingredient, and private-label arrangements, in accordance with the SRP Chain of Custody system.	Changes in 2.6
Introduction 1.2.3	NEW: RiceTrace is the sole official system for SRP traceability, transaction validation, and substantiation of SRP claims. All SRP-verified rice transactions, inventories, processing activities, and claim transfers shall be recorded and validated exclusively through RiceTrace. Documentation outside RiceTrace may support audits but shall not substitute RiceTrace records for claim substantiation.	Changes in 2.6
Introduction 1.2.5	MODIFIED: SRP may grant an exception to a Participating Operator and/or CoC CAB after receiving justification on the case for each exception and, where relevant, consulting with stakeholders. Such exceptions shall not weaken regulatory compliance, traceability requirements, or the integrity and substantiation of SRP claims.	Changes in 2.6
Introduction 1.2.6	MODIFIED: The SRP Secretariat shall maintain a consolidated list of approved exceptions and ensure it is accessible to all SRP-approved assurance providers and relevant clients for the purpose of ensuring consistent application within SRP assurance system..	Changes in 2.6
CAB 1.3.1.2	NEW: Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) operating under the SRP Chain of Custody system shall comply with the SRP Assurance Oversight Manual, including requirements related to quality monitoring, witness audits, compliance audits, and corrective actions. The SRP Assurance Oversight Manual forms a normative part of the SRP Assurance Framework and is binding on all SRP-approved CABs.	Changes in 2.6

CAB 1.3.1.5	NEW: Obligations of Conformity Assessment Bodies under the License and Registration Agreement (LRA), SRP Assurance Oversight Manual, and this SRP Chain of Custody Policy and Standard are cumulative. Compliance with one document does not exempt a CAB from complying with the requirements of the others.	Changes in 2.6
CAB 1.3.1.10	NEW: CABs shall verify the completeness and accuracy of data entered into the SRP Audit Management Platform (AMP). Missing, incomplete, or incorrect AMP fields that affect RiceTrace inventory records, transaction validation, or claim substantiation shall be raised as a Minor Non-Conformity (MiNC). Repeated or systemic data quality failures shall be escalated.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.1.2	NEW: As part of the audit scope, Conformity Assessment Bodies shall complete and verify that all mandatory fields in the SRP Audit Management Platform (AMP) are complete and accurate. Completion of mandatory AMP fields is a condition for verification validity, as AMP data directly feeds into RiceTrace inventory records, transaction validation, and claim substantiation.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.1.3	NEW: Companies producing and selling SRP-verified rice shall only market, sell or transfer SRP-verified products after being issued a valid Verification Statement of CoC compliance by an authorized SRP CoC Conformity Assessment Body (CAB), or after being formally included within the scope of a valid multisite Verification Statement.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.1.4	NEW: Pre-verification handling of SRP-verified rice. Access to RiceTrace and the issuance of Transaction Certificates shall only be permitted following the issuance of a valid Verification Statement or formal inclusion within a multi-site scope. Notwithstanding Clause 2.1.3, a Participating Operator that has completed an SRP Chain of Custody verification audit and is awaiting the issuance of its Verification Statement may, on a provisional basis, physically receive, purchase, process, pack, and store SRP-verified rice, provided that: a) no Major Non-Conformities have been identified during the verification audit; b) such activities are conducted strictly without making, transferring, or substantiating any SRP claims; c) no sale, marketing, or onward transfer of SRP-verified products as SRP-verified takes place prior to the issuance of a valid Verification Statement or formal inclusion in a multisite Verification Statement; and d) SRP-verified volumes handled during this period are fully segregated, recorded, and remain subject to verification once the Verification Statement is issued.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.1.8.e	NEW: All participating sites included within the multi-site scope shall be registered in the SRP Audit Management Platform (AMP) and in RiceTrace using the SRP multi-site functionality. The multi-site system administrator shall ensure that site information, scope, and relationships between the parent entity and participating sites are accurately reflected in both systems.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.2.2	NEW: Where a Participating Operator is directly linked to SRP-verified production units, SRP encourages the alignment of Chain of Custody audits with SRP farm or producer group audits in order to improve audit efficiency, data consistency, and volume reconciliation across the assurance system. In such cases: a) The Chain of Custody audit and the SRP farm or producer group audit may be conducted during the same site visit;	Changes in 2.6

	b) Each audit shall retain its own audit scope, checklist, sampling approach, reporting, and verification decision; and c) The Chain of Custody audit shall include reconciliation of volumes corresponding to the verified production season assessed under the SRP farm or producer group audit, including consistency with RiceTrace records.	
CoC Rules 2.2.3	NEW: Alignment of audit timing shall not reduce the frequency, depth, independence, or robustness of either the Chain of Custody audit or the SRP farm or producer group verification audit.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.2.5	MODIFIED: a) Annual audits shall take place between four (4) months before and four (4) months after the relevant anchor date. b) The anchor date shall normally be the anniversary date of the Verification Statement. However, where a Participating Operator is linked to SRP-verified producers or producer groups, and the same Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) conducts both the SRP farm or producer group audit and the Chain of Custody audit, the anchor date may alternatively be the date of the first full audit in the cycle of SRP farm or producer group audit, provided that the Chain of Custody audit is conducted no later than twelve (12) months after the previous Chain of Custody audit. c) If the PO does not have an annual audit process at the time set out in this CoC Policy and Standard, the Verification Statement and the access to RiceTrace shall be suspended. d) Annual audits shall evaluate all applicable criteria, and corrective actions associated with any open minor non-conformities.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.2.7	NEW: Scope Change Audit: The CAB may conduct scope change audits when a Participating Operator (PO) requests a modification to the scope of its existing SRP Chain of Custody Verification Statement. Scope changes may include, but are not limited to, the addition or removal of sites, changes in activities, changes in Chain of Custody model(s), or other material changes affecting the verified scope. Following conditions apply: a) A scope change audit may be conducted at any time during the verification cycle, provided that the effectiveness and integrity of the audit process are ensured. b) The scope change audit shall focus on those elements of the Chain of Custody system that are affected by the proposed scope change. Where new sites, activities, or Chain of Custody models are added, the applicable requirements of the SRP Chain of Custody Standard shall be evaluated for those elements. c) Following a scope change audit, the Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) shall issue an updated Verification Statement reflecting the revised scope. The issuance of an updated Verification Statement as a result of a scope change audit shall not reset or extend the three-year verification cycle, which remains based on the original (re-)verification decision date.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.3.9	NEW: Data integrity failures affecting traceability systems, including RiceTrace, constitute a risk to claim substantiation and shall not be treated as observations only.	Changes in 2.6
CoC Rules 2.3.10	NEW: Failure to use RiceTrace for current SRP-verified activities constitutes a non-conformity. During transition periods communicated by SRP, lack of familiarity or minor operational challenges in using RiceTrace alone shall not automatically trigger a Major Non-Conformity, provided that SRP-verified activities are recorded and corrective actions are implemented.	Changes in 2.6
Verification Process	MODIFIED: Opening meeting: The audit team shall initiate each audit with an opening meeting led by the CoC auditor in the presence of	Changes in 2.6

3.3.2	representatives of the audited PO and all audit team members assigned to audit the site at which the main opening meeting occurs. The audit team shall record the names of all opening meeting participants, agreements reached, and any objections or concerns raised by the operation's representatives.	
Verification Process 3.3.6	MODIFIED: Following the audit, the CoC auditor shall conduct a closing meeting with the operator representative(s). <i>The audit team shall record the names of all closing meeting participants, audit findings, any agreements related to post audit actions, and any objections or concerns raised by the operation's representatives.</i>	Changes in 2.6
Verification Process 3.5.7	MODIFIED: The final verification decision made by the designated reviewer after thoroughly evaluating all relevant documentation, findings and report. <i>Verification decisions shall not be finalized when mandatory AMP fields remain incomplete.</i>	Changes in 2.6
Verification Process 3.7.3	MODIFIED: Verification Statements are valid for 36 months from the initial verification decision date. During annual audits, the verification decision date will match the date of the annual audit decision. However, the anniversary date of the Verification Statement remains based on the original (re)verification decision date. <i>Where the annual Chain of Custody audit is aligned with an SRP farm or producer group audit in accordance with Section 2.2.5, such alignment shall not modify the validity period, anniversary date, or three-year verification cycle of the Verification Statement</i>	Changes in 2.6
Verification Process 3.7.5	NEW: Where a Participating Operator undergoes a scope change audit, an updated Verification Statement shall be issued reflecting the revised scope. Such Verification Statements may be issued annually where scope changes occur and do not alter the three-year validation cycle, which remains anchored to the original (re-)verification date.	Changes in 2.6
TC 4.3.2	NEW: SRP-verified volumes handled prior to the issuance of a Verification Statement shall not be eligible for Transaction Certificate issuance unless and until the Verification Statement is granted.	Changes in 2.6
TC 4.3.3	NEW: A valid Transaction Certificate (TC) issued through RiceTrace shall constitute mandatory evidence for the transfer of SRP claims between supply chain actors. SRP claims shall not be transferred, recognized, or substantiated without a corresponding Transaction Certificate.	Changes in 2.6
TC 4.3.5	NEW: Completion of a Transaction Certificate transaction in RiceTrace is conditional upon buyer acknowledgement. Until buyer acknowledgement is completed, the transaction shall not be considered finalized and SRP claims shall not be deemed transferred.	Changes in 2.6
TC 4.3.13	NEW: For private-label arrangements, Transaction Certificate use and volume integrity requirements apply in accordance with this CoC Policy and Standard and the applicable Private Label Agreement.	Changes in 2.6
Initial Volume 4.3.6	NEW: The use of initial volume functionality in RiceTrace is restricted to the registration of harvested rice from SRP-verified producers or by-products from processing to inventory records. It is not intended to transfer SRP claims within supply chain. Initial volumes shall not be used to substantiate, transfer, or validate SRP claims.	Changes in 2.6
TC 4.3.12	NEW: Where SRP claims are made on multi-ingredient products, a Transaction Certificate shall substantiate only the SRP-verified rice component. The issuance of a Transaction Certificate does not imply verification or endorsement of non-rice ingredients.	Changes in 2.6
TC 4.4.1	NEW: Transaction Certificates shall be requested and issued within the timelines defined in this section. Transaction Certificates shall not be used	Changes in 2.6

	to retroactively legitimise SRP claims for transactions that fall outside the permitted issuance period.	
TC 4.4.4	NEW: Where a Transaction Certificate is withdrawn in RiceTrace, the transaction record shall remain in the system to preserve the audit trail. Withdrawal of a Transaction Certificate invalidates the associated SRP claim but does not result in deletion of the transaction record.	Changes in 2.6
TC 4.5.3	NEW: In case of excessive administrative burden for a large number of transactions that have to be recorded in RiceTrace, the Participating Operator may consolidate multiple transactions into a single transaction record, subject to the following conditions: a) Participating Operator has at least 100 transactions within a quarter b) Recording shall be done at least quarterly. Failure to comply with this condition will result in non-conformance to indicator 4.1.6 of Annex 2 of this document; c) This exemption applies only to sales of final products to retailer; d) Participating Operator shall upload a consolidated list of transaction details in spreadsheet format (XLSX, ODS) or PDF containing: purchase number, date, purchase order number, invoice date and number, volume, shipment date, identification code, material input, trade name, packaging, and buyer information. Individual purchase orders and invoices are not required; e) Material input specified in the list above shall correspond to material recorded in RiceTrace inventory; f) Multiple transactions may be shipped or sold to multiple buyers. A Participating Operator may register buyers grouped by destination country to consolidate multiple transactions. Only transactions with the same buyer group (based on destination country) may be consolidated into a single transaction record; transactions with different buyer groups shall be recorded separately. Buyer group names may use the PO name and destination country; g) A single transaction record may include multiple shipments to the same buyer. Each shipment shall be linked to one material input; therefore, multiple material inputs may be consolidated under the same transaction record through separate shipments; h) Participating Operator shall communicate the implementation of this exemption and its impact to buyers who have access to RiceTrace, notifying them that transactions under this exemption will not appear in the buyer's inventory.	Changes in 2.6
Claim 4.6.1	NEW: To safeguard the integrity of SRP claims, SRP may request additional confirmation or supporting information from claim holders, including private-label owners, brands, and retailers, to verify that cumulative SRP claims supported by Transaction Certificates and verified volumes recorded in RiceTrace do not exceed such verified volumes.	Changes in 2.6
Claim 4.6.2	NEW: Where applicable, such confirmation may be conducted annually, typically in the first quarter of the following calendar year and may include confirmation of cumulative purchased or claimed volumes, including single-ingredient, SRP-verified rice volumes used in multi-ingredient products and private-label arrangements.	Changes in 2.6
Claim 4.6.3	NEW: Failure to provide such confirmation may result in the suspension or invalidation of the associated SRP claims.	Changes in 2.6
Claim 4.6.4	NEW: Requests for confirmation under this section constitute an SRP oversight measure to safeguard claim integrity and do not replace or modify verification or audit activities conducted by Conformity Assessment Bodies under this Standard.	Changes in 2.6

Annex 2 3.1.2	ADD: The completeness and accuracy of data recorded under this indicator, including rice type, quantity, and claim category, are essential for downstream inventory management and Transaction Certificate issuance in RiceTrace. Missing, incomplete, or inconsistent data fields that affect the integrity of RiceTrace inventory or SRP claim substantiation shall be treated as a systemic data risk. For multi-ingredient products, the recorded quantity and claim category shall refer exclusively to the SRP-verified rice component used in the product formulation.	Changes in 2.6
Annex 2 4.1.2	MODIFIED: If a transaction from producer or producer group with no CoC verification statement uses the initial volume function in RiceTrace due to a missing Transaction Certificate, invoices and supporting documentation shall be used to support these transactions, and they shall align with the RiceTrace initial volume data.	Changes in 2.6
Annex 2 4.1.6	ADD: For multi-ingredient products, reconciliation shall demonstrate that SRP-verified rice volumes recorded in RiceTrace correspond to the rice input used in production, independently of non-rice ingredients	Changes in 2.6
Annex 2 6.1.4	NEW: Sales invoices, delivery notes, or other commercial documents alone shall not be considered sufficient evidence to substantiate SRP claims. The transfer and recognition of SRP claims associated with sales transactions require a valid Transaction Certificate issued through RiceTrace in accordance with section 4 of this document.	Changes in 2.6
Mass Balance	ADD: Mass Balance under SRP is a physical flow model. SRP claims shall only be made against SRP-verified product volumes that have physically entered the Participating Operator's supply chain and have been managed under the SRP Chain of Custody system. Credit/Book & Claim approaches, including the sale or transfer of SRP claims separately from the physical product, are NOT permitted under the SRP Chain of Custody system. The use of Mass Balance does not replace the requirement to issue a Transaction Certificate (TC) through RiceTrace for the transfer of SRP claims. A valid TC remains mandatory evidence for SRP claim transfer for all transfers, including those under Mass Balance. Mass Balance accounting (inputs, outputs, conversions, and resulting claimable quantities) shall be recorded and maintained in RiceTrace. Records maintained outside RiceTrace may support internal controls but shall not substitute RiceTrace records for claim substantiation.	Changes in 2.6
Definition	NEW: Child labor: refers to work that deprives children of their childhood, potential, and dignity, and is harmful to their physical and mental development. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), child labor includes any work performed by children under the age of 15, except for light work permitted for children aged 13 to 15, provided it does not harm their health or development and does not interfere with their schooling. Additionally, it encompasses hazardous work performed by anyone under the age of 18, which is likely to jeopardize their health, safety, or morals. Discrimination: any distinction, exclusion, or preference made on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction, or	Changes in 2.5

	social origin, which nullifies or impairs equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation. Forced labor: all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the person has not offered themselves voluntarily. Workplace harassment: violence and harassment in the world of work as behaviors, practices, or threats that aim at, result in, or are likely to result in physical, psychological, sexual, or economic harm. This includes gender-based violence and harassment.	
Introduction 1.1.3	MODIFIED: The SRP Assurance Scheme, launched in September 2020 after a public consultation, underscores the necessity of maintaining the integrity and traceability of sustainable rice production. This scheme recognizes three Chain of Custody models: 1) Identity Preservation (IP), 2) Segregation (Seg), and 3) Mass Balance (MB). Chain of Custody verification is crucial for on-product SRP claims and the use of the SRP-verified Label. This verification process ensures the credibility of SRP's sustainability standards, thus reinforcing consumer confidence and supporting market transparency.	Changes in 2.5
Introduction 1.1.5	MODIFIED: Sustainability does not end at the farm gate, and SRP aims to assure not only traceability but also continuous improvement and conformance with SRP's social criteria for all actors in the rice value chain.	Changes in 2.5
Introduction 1.1.6	NEW: In this version, SRP is incorporating selective social elements into the Chain of Custody Standard. These additions align with the SRP Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation, which cover important aspects such as human rights, occupational health and safety, and labor.	Changes in 2.5
Introduction 1.2.3	MODIFIED: All organizations in the supply chain – from farmer to the entity implementing final packaging of products carrying an SRP claim – shall be covered by the SRP CoC verification system, to be managed by an SRP-approved CoC Conformity Assessment Body (CAB). Verified Producers should also implement and verify with the CoC Standard if they have activities as outlined in 1.2.4.	Changes in 2.5
Introduction 1.3.1 21)	MODIFIED: The SRP shall ensure that the CAB and the Participating Operator agree to be registered and submit to potential oversight program conducted by SRP. SRP shall cover the costs of any oversight audits. However, if during oversight program, incidents related to CAB's activities are found that lead to follow-up audit visits, the SRP reserves the right to charge the CAB for such follow-up audit visits as required.	Changes in 2.5
Introduction 1.4.3	MODIFIED: Database administrator: A database administrator within the CAB manages the account within the SRP Audit Management Platform and ensures proper data input. His/her responsibilities are to: a) Input data on verification processes for Verified Units, ensuring each step follows the verification process timeline rules. b) Ensure data quality and update Verified Units information as needed. Data quality includes accurate Verification Statement information, as well as consistency of information across the various fields and attachments in the SRP Audit Management Platform. c) Upload the Audit report in the SRP Audit Management Platform. d) Update auditor records in the SRP Audit Management Platform with new training, performance evaluations and general auditor details. e) Shall be fluent in English and participate in SRP Audit Management	Changes in 2.5

	Platform training and webinars. f) Follow-up on specific data input needs or record updates in a timely manner. g) Shall complete an SRP Authorized CoC training delivered by SRP Authorized Trainers or CAB's in-house trainer	
Introduction 1.4.6 b)	MODIFIED: The Reviewer shall conduct a quality review of audit reports and ensure that accurate and consistent information is reviewed in the SRP Audit Management Platform. For example, the Reviewer should ensure that site information is recorded accurately in the audit report and in the verification audit record within SRP Audit Management Platform.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.1.1	MODIFIED: The SRP CoC requirements shall apply to any organization in the supply chain that handles SRP-Verified rice products, either physically or non-physically (i.e., trading), at a location under the organization's control, including outsourced contractors. After the end-product manufacturer, no further verification is required. An onsite CoC audit is necessary for any organization physically handling the product, while a desktop CoC audit is sufficient for any organization not physically handling the product.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.1.13	NEW: PO may purchase SRP-verified rice prior to obtaining their own verification status under the following principles: a) PO can process SRP-verified rice if they demonstrate that the rice originates from verified producers and complies with Chain of Custody (CoC) model requirements. Once the PO is verified and receives access to RiceTrace, all processes involving SRP-verified rice must be registered in RiceTrace accordingly. b) Products cannot be marketed or sold as SRP-verified until the PO has received a positive verification decision. Products sold prior to the verification decision are prohibited from being claimed as SRP-verified. c) Auditors must verify the product's traceability through documentation, field checks, and inventory systems. Additionally, auditors must review production aspects including, but not limited to, production yield and inventory management.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.2.2 b)	MODIFIED: If the PO does not have a re-verification audit process activated at the time that the Verification Statement is due to expire, the Verification Statement will immediately be terminated in the SRP Audit Management Platform, unless an extension with a justified reason is requested by the CAB through the SRP Audit Management Platform. SRP will verify the justified reason, and a verification statement will be granted. An audit should then be completed within four months from the expiry of the verification statement.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.4.3 a)	MODIFIED: As of the termination date, a PO with terminated status will have no access to RiceTrace and will not appear in the SRP marketing information list. Therefore, no further sale or transfer of ownership of SRP-verified rice may be claimed or recognized as SRP-verified, as transactions are made through RiceTrace. Should the PO have additional volumes of SRP-verified rice that it wishes to sell, it shall notify the CAB and request a sell-off period, so that the volume may be verified and approved as SRP-verified in the SRP RiceTrace platform after endorsement from SRP Secretariat. The sell-off period will begin on the termination date and continue for up to maximum six (6) months from termination date.	Changes in 2.5

CoC Rules 2.4.3 b)	NEW: To request a sell-off period, the PO must provide the necessary evidence to the CAB. The CAB will then verify the evidence and request the sell-off period from SRP. Upon approval, SRP will grant temporary access to RiceTrace for the sell-off period, up to a maximum of six (6) months.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.4.3 d)	DELETED: Following termination, and accounting for the sell-off period, the PO shall be deactivated in all applicable SRP systems, includes SRP RiceTrace.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.4.5	NEW: It is the responsibility of the CAB to notify the PO of any suspension or termination and to update the SRP Audit Management Platform (AMP) accordingly.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.5.2	MODIFIED: POs without CoC verification status, yet have received authorization from the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) to utilize the SRP trademark under specified conditions, must adhere to the following requirements: a) Fulfillment of SRP's verification service agreements, including the execution of a licensing agreement. b) Compliance with the SRP Brand Manual and Claim Guidelines for trademark usage and implementation of an effective traceability system. c) Ensuring these prerequisites are satisfied prior to marketing, selling, or promoting products as originating from SRP-verified producers.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.7.5	MODIFIED: The CAB auditor shall sample a minimum of the square root of the total population OR a minimum two samples for audit. If the population is below three, the auditor shall verify the full population. If the calculated sample size is a non-integer, the CAB shall round up the sample size to the next integer. CAB shall use the following guidance to determine the sample size for each audit type.	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.7.6	DELETED: In regard to sampling of documentation, the CAB auditor shall sample a minimum of the square root of the total population ¹ OR a minimum two samples for audit. If the population is below three, the auditor shall verify the full population. If the calculated sample size is a non-integer, the CAB shall round up the sample size to the next integer	Changes in 2.5
CoC Rules 2.8.2 e)	DELETED: Provide general training about the CoC Standard and the requirements applicable to different types of operations, including Standard interpretation by auditors for these types of operations. This training cannot be one-to-one or provided specifically to one PO.	Changes in 2.5
Verification Process 3.1.9	NEW: For a scope change audit, a new verification audit must be created in the SRP Audit Management Platform (AMP) within the same calendar year. This audit will only register and record the additional site(s) included in the scope change. The issuance date of the Verification Statement (VS) will not change; however, the annex of the VS must be updated by adding or removing site(s) as applicable. This ensures that any changes to the scope are appropriately documented and verified according to SRP CoC standard.	Changes in 2.5
Verification Process 3.4.6	NEW: For scope change audits, the auditors shall treat the audit as a new verification audit and utilize a clean and full checklist. Sampling should only be conducted for the additional site(s) included in the scope change. The auditors must complete evidence and findings for all CoC criteria applicable to the new site(s) and document the additional information and date of the scope change audit.	Changes in 2.5

Verification Process 3.5.5	NEW: CABs shall maintain copies of the original draft audit report and the reviewer's report and incorporate them into quality assurance reviews as indicated in the quality management systems of the CAB. Additionally, these two reports, along with other necessary documentation such as the application, audit plan, multi-site list, and finding evidence, must be uploaded in the SRP Audit Management Platform (AMP).	Changes in 2.5
Verification Process 3.6.3 a)	MODIFIED: The appeal shall be analyzed by an individual or appeal team who did not participate in the audit or in the decision-making process related to the verification, who does not have any conflicts of interest related to the operation, and who is qualified as a CoC auditor.	Changes in 2.5
Verification Process 3.7.2 a)	MODIFIED: PO that has undergone additional audits that necessitate changes in the Verification Statement e.g. scope change audit.	Changes in 2.5
Verification Process 3.7.3	MODIFIED: Verification Statements are valid for 36 months from the initial verification decision date . During annual audits, the verification decision date will match the date of the annual audit decision. However, the anniversary date of the Verification Statement remains based on the original (re)verification decision date.	Changes in 2.5
Verification Process 3.7.4	MODIFIED: The verification status depends on the results of subsequent audits and ongoing compliance with SRP rules and requirements.	Changes in 2.5
Disclaimer 4.2.1	MODIFIED: The Transaction Certificate system was reintroduced in Q3 2024, followed by the full launch of the RiceTrace system in November 2024. The TC system will be enforced starting January 2025, allowing SRP RiceTrace users time to learn how to operate the system.	Changes in 2.5
Disclaimer 4.2.2	MODIFIED: The adjustment period ensures all users of RiceTrace are ready and familiar with the platform. Consequently, SRP CoC requirements related to the Transaction Certificate system will be mandatory starting January 2025.	Changes in 2.5
TC Disclaimer 4.2.3	DELETED: Until the RiceTrace platform is ready, SRP CoC requirements that relate to the Transaction Certificate system will not be applicable.	Changes in 2.5
TC 4.3.1	MODIFIED: All supply chain actors, referred to as SRP CoC Participating Operators (POs), shall request a Transaction Certificate through RiceTrace from the SRP to transfer SRP Claims to another entity and maintain SRP compliance and sustainability claims.	Changes in 2.5
TC 4.3.3	MODIFIED: PO requesting a Transaction Certificate must have successfully met SRP CoC verification requirements through third-party assessment.	Changes in 2.5
TC 4.3.5	NEW: POs must register all buyers of SRP rice in RiceTrace. If buyers are not listed in RiceTrace, POs cannot request a TC, and the TC cannot be issued.	Changes in 2.5
TC 4.3.7	MODIFIED: The SRP Secretariat may issue a single Transaction Certificate that covers the information of multiple shipments, provided the following conditions are met: d) The maximum period that a single Transaction Certificate may cover is 30 days. Within this period, multiple shipments can be recorded on a single TC, including multiple lots, invoices, and containers. After the 30-day period expires, a new TC must be requested and issued for any subsequent shipments. This ensures that all shipments are accurately tracked and verified within a manageable timeframe,	Changes in 2.5

	maintaining up-to-date and transparent records for the SRP-verified products.	
TC 4.4.2	MODIFIED: A Transaction Certificate (TC) cannot be issued more than six (6) months after the date of the earliest shipment included in the certificate. Each TC can only cover transactions occurring within a consecutive 30-day period. This ensures timely and accurate documentation of transactions, maintaining the integrity and traceability of SRP-verified products within the supply chain.	Changes in 2.5
Criterion 1.3	NEW: The Participating Operator shall comply with social and environmental applicable laws.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 1.3.1	NEW: PO shall comply with all applicable laws at all sites within the verification scope, including those related to the environment, human rights, occupational health and safety, and labor.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 1.3.2	NEW: PO shall ensure that there is no practice of forced labor, child labor, discrimination and workplace harassment in all sites included in verification scope.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 1.3.3	NEW: PO shall have a system to receive grievances from workers, business partners, and other parties outside the PO management. PO shall document and follow up on the grievances.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 3.1.1	MODIFIED: Participating Operators (POs) are required to verify that supplied products originate from SRP-verified suppliers and match the accompanying documentation. This verification involves thoroughly examining supplier contracts, invoices, and supporting documentation.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 3.1.2	MODIFIED: For each purchase or receipt of SRP-verified rice tracked within the CoC control system, the PO shall identify, validate and record at least the following information: • identification of supplier(s) • identification of SRP-verified claim • quantity of delivery • date of delivery • claim category(es) • the supplier's SRP Verified Unit ID • Transaction certificate input Note: SRP-verified suppliers must ensure that claims on transaction documents align with the shipped products to avoid non-conformance. In the event of discrepancies, Verified Units undergoing audits must have a proper system to follow up and communicate these issues to the Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) and SRP Secretariat. Each purchase and receipt of SRP-verified rice should include the claim category and code of Verified Units in transaction documents, such as purchase orders, invoices, or packaging notes.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 4.1.1	MODIFIED: Invoices and supporting documentation for incoming SRP-verified rice shall be received and entered into the PO's system. All SRP transactions should be recorded in the SRP RiceTrace system.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 4.1.2	DELETED: Where applicable, the PO shall use documented conversion rates to calculate the equivalent output weight or volume associated with the received SRP consignment.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 4.1.2	NEW: If a transaction uses the initial volume function in RiceTrace due to a missing Transaction Certificate, invoices and supporting documentation shall be used to support these transactions, and they shall align with the RiceTrace initial volume data.	Changes in 2.5

Annex 2 4.1.3	MODIFIED: The PO shall maintain the accuracy of all measuring equipment used in the process. The equipment shall undergo verification and calibration at regular intervals, adhering to recognized standards .	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 4.1.5	MODIFIED: The inventory in SRP RiceTrace shall be restricted to products that are specifically rice products. RiceTrace is designed to register and record only rice products, ensuring the integrity and accuracy of the SRP verification process. Estimated harvested rice from verified producers must always be recorded in the RiceTrace inventory under the product name 'Rice'.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 4.1.6	MODIFIED: The PO shall undertake inventories of the input/output balance of SRP-verified rice in RiceTrace at fixed regular intervals, at least quarterly . This interval ensures timely detection and correction of discrepancies, supports compliance with regulatory standards, and aligns with typical business cycles, allowing sufficient time for necessary adjustments . The inventory in RiceTrace must be aligned with the PO's system and physical inventory.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 4.1.7	MODIFIED: Over each quarterly inventory period in RiceTrace , the volume of SRP-verified rice supplied to clients must not exceed the total volume received. This requirement ensures traceability and balance of the SRP-verified rice inventory.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 4.1.8	MODIFIED: If there is a positive balance of inputs and outputs (surplus) at the end of the quarterly inventory period in RiceTrace , the sustainability data associated with the surplus may be carried over into the next inventory period.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 4.1.9	DELETED: Sustainability data expires three (3) years from the date of entry into the system or when verification of the economic operator ceases, whichever occurs sooner.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 5.1.1	MODIFIED: The PO shall use a tracking system or maintain production records to document the processing of products for each claim category. Additionally, the PO must register the processing of SRP rice in RiceTrace, following the guidelines outlined in the RiceTrace User Manual. This ensures that all processing activities are accurately recorded and traceable within the RiceTrace system.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 2 6.1.2	NEW: The PO shall request a Transaction Certificate (TC) through RiceTrace in accordance with the SRP RiceTrace User Manual and chapter 4 of this document. This process ensures that all transactions are properly documented and verified, maintaining the integrity and traceability of SRP-verified products. The PO must follow the guidelines outlined in the SRP RiceTrace User Manual to accurately record and report all relevant transactions.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 3 1.1	MODIFIED: All processing, sales, and shipments of mass balance materials or products claimed as SRP-verified rice mass balance shall be made through the SRP RiceTrace . The registering process of mass balance and requesting a Transaction Certificate shall be conducted in accordance with the SRP RiceTrace User's Manual . Such sales within a calendar quarter shall be registered at the latest 28 calendar days after the quarter's end.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 3 1.2	DELETED: Mass balance credits are valid for a maximum of three years. If sales exceed purchases, sufficient verified inputs must be purchased by the end of the quarter to cover the excess.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 3 1.2	NEW: Transactions for purchases of SRP-verified rice using mass balance must accurately reflect the rice content percentage claimed on packaging. The outgoing amount of processed products claimed as mass	Changes in 2.5

	balance must be in accordance with the percentage of SRP-verified rice input. Example: If a PO received 4000 kg of SRP-verified rice and mixed it with 1000 kg of non-SRP rice (totaling 5000 kg of rice), the SRP content percentage is 80%. When the processed output produces 2000 kg, only 1600 kg (80% of the total output) can be claimed as mass balance SRP-verified rice, reflecting the input percentage.	
Annex 3 1.3	DELETED: Transactions for purchases of SRP rice using mass balance must accurately reflect the rice content percentage claimed on packaging. If no percentage information provided, it will be assumed that all products came from mass balance input.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 3 1.3	NEW: The outgoing amount of SRP-verified rice must not exceed the incoming amount over each calendar quarter. Any discrepancies must be identified and corrected to ensure traceability and balance within the inventory. This principle maintains that the inventory balance in RiceTrace aligns with the actual physical inventory and the PO's system.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 3 2.1	MODIFIED: SRP rice purchased from farms certified under multiple schemes may be sold with multiple certifications attached to the batch. However, certifications may not be split across separate material batches to avoid double counting. All transactions involving SRP rice, including those sold as non-SRP or under another scheme, must be recorded in the SRP RiceTrace Platform. Such transactions should be registered as 'non-verified transactions' in the SRP RiceTrace Platform.	Changes in 2.5
Annex 3 3.1	DELETED: Conversion of mass balance credits for further processed materials must be supported by documented conversion ratios consistent with actual processing conversions. Backward conversion or other inconsistent practices are not permitted.	Changes in 2.5
Addition	New chapter explaining the difference between the Mass Balance and Credit Systems	Changes in 2.5
Glossary	NEW: "RiceTrace": a comprehensive platform designed to trace SRP-verified rice transactions. This platform aims to facilitate transactions between SRP-verified producers and operators, involving SRP-verified rice and supports requests for Transaction Certificates and assessments of SRP-verified Label and Claim applications. "Transaction Certificate (TC)": an official document issued by SRP Secretariat through the RiceTrace platform to confirm that a specific shipment or batch of goods complies with the SRP standard requirements. It includes details such as quantity, transaction date, claim category of the verified products, identity of buyer and seller, unique identification number of verified unit. "Verification Service Agreement (VSA)": an agreement signed between an approved Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) and the producer/ producer group or participating operator which outlines the terms and conditions under which the CAB sublicense certain rights and register the producer/ producer group or participating operator under the SRP Assurance Scheme. "Verified Holder (VH)": represent a company holding who support the SRP audit program and manages verified units could be in different country. Therefore, one VH may relate to more than one VUs. If the VU has no	Changes in 2.4

	connection to a group holdings or international company, the VH record in the SRP Assurance Platform will contain the same information as the VU. "Verified Unit ID": following the publication of the Assurance Scheme and the decision not to use the GLOBALG.A.P. Platform, the Verified Unit ID will no longer be assigned as the SRP Verified Unit's GGN ID. Instead, the current Verification Statement should utilize the Verified Unit ID generated from the SRP Audit Management Platform, which is attached to the Verified Unit Name. For instance, the name of the VU is Sun Rice Co., Ltd., - VU0026, the Verification Unit ID is VU0026. "Verified Unit (VU)": an entity could be producer or producer group or participating operator that holds the SRP verification statement. This mean that the company signs the Verification Service Agreement (VSA) with the CAB, has its name on the Verification Statement and exclusively engages with one CAB. "Outsourcing Agreement": formal contract between Verified Unit with independent third party who provide service that handling SRP-verified rice (transportation service provider and warehouse for goods transit² are not included). The agreement outlines that outsource shall conform to SRP CoC standard requirements, shall track and control all materials that are outsourced for use in SRP-verified products, shall use only material provided by SRP VUs, shall maintain inventory, shall allow SRP or CAB to conduct audits of its operation include on-site audit as part of integrity program, shall not use SRP trademarks for promotional purposes or any other purpose.	
Glossary	MODIFIED: "Site": a geographical location with precise boundaries within which products may be mixed. These boundaries define areas where the rice is physically situated. Verification of all such operational sites is necessary to ensure traceability according to the chosen CoC system and to maintain the integrity of the product and associated SRP-verified claim. Trading activities without physical possession (e.g. trading office), can be combined with an operational site (with physical possession) if they share the same address OR if located separately, are in the same legal entity. Wholly-owned subsidiaries can be counted as one site if they are located in the same country and, when submitting the application to the CAB, can demonstrate that all subsidiaries' operating sites use the same internal control system and that their supply chains are connected. The CAB must verify all operating sites through a desktop audit, and on-site visits shall be conducted using the sampling method outlined in this document.	Changes in 2.4

² The goods that are already in the transit area with their final labels are not part of the audit scope. However, the audit should verify that the SRP-verified products, which are stored in a third-party warehouse, are properly labeled and marked for a specific buyer.

	"Outsourcing": subcontracted manufacturing or other handling services of materials/products by an independent third party, has no legal relation with Verified Unit. However, Verified Unit must sign an outsourcing agreement to ensure compliance with SRP CoC Standard Requirements.	
1.1.4	MODIFIED: The SRP Assurance Scheme, launched in September 2020 following an open public consultation, recognizes three different types of Chain of Custody models: Identity Preservation (IP), Segregation System (Seg) and Mass Balance (MB). Chain of Custody verification is required for on-product use of SRP claims and use of the on-pack SRP- Verified Label only eligible for IP and Seg CoC models.	Changes in 2.4
1.3.1	MODIFIED: 13) The CAB shall clearly explain the SRP Data Management Rules for Assurance Scheme ³ to the producer or producer group or participating operator and obtain their written consent to share specified categories of data. 18) The CAB shall notify the SRP of any withdrawal or suspension of a verification. This shall be done as early as possible, but no later than the next scheduled update of SRP Audit Management Platform, which occurs during the first week of each month.	Changes in 2.4
1.3.3	MODIFIED: In case of withdrawal or suspension of a CAB Agreement by the SRP, the SRP shall immediately update the SRP Audit Management Platform.	Changes in 2.4
1.4.2	MODIFIED: Update and communicate with CAB staff and Verified Units in regard to any changes in the verification program.	Changes in 2.4
1.4.3	MODIFIED: a) Input data on verification processes for Verified Units, ensuring each step follows the verification process timeline rules. b) Ensure data quality and update Verified Units information as needed. Data quality includes accurate Verification Statement information, as well as consistency of information across the various fields and attachments in the SRP Database.	Changes in 2.4
1.4.5	MODIFIED: Auditor team: The auditor team comprises qualified and registered auditors, one of whom shall act as CoC auditor, along with additional technical experts as needed. All team members must participate in either the official SRP CoC Policy and Standard, and SRP Assurance Scheme training course, or training session held by CAB's in-house trainer. However, they must pass the respective examinations officially assigned by SRP Secretariat. Additionally, SRP CoC auditors who audit Internal Management Systems (IMS) of Multisite Participating Operators shall have attended an auditor training course based on ISO 19011 principles, with duration of at least 2-days (16 hours). A qualified auditor with experience as a lead CoC auditor in a social/ environmental assurance scheme with similar CoC requirements (e.g., RA SAS CoC, FSC CoC, PEFC CoC, RSPO SCC) may also meet the qualification criteria	Changes in 2.4

³ The SRP Data Management Rules for Assurance Scheme is part of the verification service agreement (VSA) as an annex. CAB should send it together with VSA.

2.1.5	MODIFIED: b) the multi-sites' internal management system and for verification of each individual site's compliance with the CoC Policy and Standard. In accordance with definition of "site", trading activities without physical possession (e.g. trading office), can be combined with an operational site (with physical possession) if they share the same address OR if located separately, are in the same legal entity. And the audit to trading activities could be done through a desktop audit.	Changes in 2.4
2.1.6	MODIFIED: d) A Multi-site system administrator with a processing and handling site is counted as a Participating Site with physical possession, and therefore requires an onsite audit at least during the verification or re-verification audit. During the annual audit, it must be included as part of the sampled sites, but this audit can be conducted remotely (See table in 2.7.5).	Changes in 2.4
2.1.7	MODIFIED: Wholly-owned subsidiaries of a group of companies located in different regions may apply for SRP CoC Multi-site Verification. under the following conditions: a) Wholly-owned subsidiaries must have the same source (SRP-verified farm) within the supply chain and demonstrate their supply chain relationship when submitting the application to the CAB. b) Participating Sites of the subsidiaries may be located in different regions; the PO shall provide the CAB with proof of their relationship at the application stage. c) To minimize the risk of integrity violation, it is highly recommended that the supply chain within the same country hold one Verification Statement to avoid the risks associated with long-distance distribution and transportation between country.	Changes in 2.4
2.1.9	NEW: PO engagement with outsourced contractors is not considered as Multisite PO, however, it is critical for PO to establish a control system over the outsourced contractors. An Outsourcing Agreement must be signed between the PO and outsourced contractors.	Changes in 2.4
2.2.1	MODIFIED: The CAB shall record each audit process for the different types of audits in the SRP Audit Management Platform at the time of confirmation of the audit date as described in Section 2.2.2 onwards. An on-site audit is required for organizations involved in manufacturing, packaging or labelling SRP-verified rice. Desk audits may be applied for traders not involved in any transformation or repackaging.	Changes in 2.4
2.2.2	MODIFIED: If the PO does not have a re-verification audit process activated at the time that the Verification Statement is due to expire, the Verification Statement will immediately be terminated in the SRP Audit Management Platform.	Changes in 2.4
2.2.3	MODIFIED: If the PO does not have an annual audit process at the time set out in point a), the Verification Statement shall be suspended from the SRP Audit Management Platform.	Changes in 2.4
2.2.4	NEW: c) The PO will cover the expenses for a follow-up audit to address and resolve the non-conformities (NCs), which may be conducted as either a desktop review or an on-site audit based on the specific nature of the NCs.	Changes in 2.4

2.3.6	MODIFIED: If one or more MaNCs are identified during an annual audit, CoC verification remains active, and the PO shall undergo a follow-up audit within four (4) months of the decision. If, during the follow-up audit, the PO demonstrates corrective actions sufficient to close the MaNCs, the Verification Statement will continue as active. However, if the PO cannot close the MaNCs within four (4) months, the verification will be suspended. If there is no action within four (4) months of the suspension decision, the Verification Statement may be escalated to termination.	Changes in 2.4
2.4.3	MODIFIED: a) As of the termination date, no further sale or transfer of ownership of SRP-verified rice may be claimed or recognized as SRP-verified. Should the PO have additional volumes of SRP-verified rice it wishes to sell, it shall notify the CAB and request a sell-off period through the SRP RiceTrace platform, so that the volume may be verified and approved as SRP-verified in the SRP RiceTrace platform after endorsement from SRP Secretariat. The sell-off period will begin on the termination date and continue for up to maximum six (6) months from termination date. d) Following termination, and accounting for the sell-off period, the PO shall be deactivated in all applicable SRP systems, includes SRP RiceTrace. e) A PO with a Verification Statement terminated due to fraud cannot re-enter the SRP Assurance Platform, both Audit Management and RiceTrace within a period of one (1) year from date of termination.	Changes in 2.4
2.5.2	MODIFIED: POs without CoC verification status, who have received endorsement from SRP to use the SRP trademark under specific conditions, must comply with SRP's verification service agreements (licensing agreement) and meet the requirements for trademarks and traceability system before they can market, sell and/or promoting products as originating from SRP-verified producers.	Changes in 2.4
2.5.4	MODIFIED: Unless within the previously approved sell-off period, no product may be sold with SRP- verified claims before a new CoC Verification Statement is issued by CAB or suspension have been lifted.	Changes in 2.4
2.6.1	MODIFIED: The CAB is responsible for complying with the defined timelines and for recording the process in the SRP Audit Management Platform within the applicable timelines (see Annex 1 for details).	Changes in 2.4
2.7.5	DELETED: "follow-up audit" A verification audit could also be used to add new, potentially high risk, sites to the scope. NEW: "Scope change audit" To add a new site to the verification scope, a full checklist of audit is required. For sites with potentially high risk, an on-site visit should be conducted beforehand. If adding more than one new site, sampling is applied. However, if only two sites are involved, both sites should undergo audit.	Changes in 2.4
3.1.4	MODIFIED: a) All sites, include outsourced contractors handling/ purchasing/ trading SRP-verified rice have been included. b) CoC models used on each site are clearly stated.	Changes in 2.4

3.1.5	MODIFIED: The CAB shall ensure that the PO's information is recorded in the SRP Audit Management Platform and updated based on any changes to the PO's information or verification scope.	Changes in 2.4
3.1.6	MODIFIED: The process of PO registration in the SRP Audit Management Platform shall comply with the registration rules set up for producers and producer groups of the SRP Assurance Scheme as well as with the requirements of the SRP Data Management Rules for Assurance Scheme.	Changes in 2.4
3.3.6	MODIFIED: d) The auditors shall allow the representatives of the operation to question findings and submit evidence that could lead to modifications of conformity decisions within the time limits established by the CAB but no longer than 14 calendar days.	Changes in 2.4
3.4.2	MODIFIED: Following completion of the review process as described in Annex 1, the CAB shall take the verification decision and registers the decision in the SRP Audit Management Platform.	Changes in 2.4
3.4.7	MODIFIED: The CAB shall upload the audit report in the SRP Audit Management Platform.	Changes in 2.4
3.5.7	NEW: The final verification decision made by the designated reviewer after thoroughly evaluating all relevant documentation, findings and report.	Changes in 2.4
3.7.5	MODIFIED: a) The legal name and, if necessary, the trade name of the Verified Unit. b) The location of the Verified Unit. e) List of sites included in the Verification Statement scope, with company type and CoC Models that are implemented. f) The unique Verification Statement code number generated by the SRP Audit Management Platform, which corresponds to each successful verification audit.	Changes in 2.4
4	NEW: SRP Transaction Certificate 4.1 Establishment of Transaction Certificate System 4.2 Disclaimer 4.3 Transaction Certificate Requirements 4.4 Timeliness for Issuance of Transaction Certificate 4.5 Exemptions	Changes in 2.4
Annex 1	MODIFIED: CAB receives application for CoC verification and review within ten (10) calendar days of receiving CoC application CAB sends audit plan to the PO at least five (5) calendar days before start of audit Auditor prepares the draft report and supporting evidence within 14 calendar days from the end of audit date	Changes in 2.4

	Reviewer reviews the draft audit report within ten (10) calendar days from the date of receiving the report PO reviews and approves draft audit report within five (5) calendar days	
Annex 2 1.1.1	MODIFIED: The PO shall identify the scope of the Chain of Custody system, and this scope should be clearly stated in the SRP application form sent to the CAB.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 1.1.2	MODIFIED: The PO shall define the unit of verification, including, for multi-site operators, the number of sites and type(s) of operations covered by the scope of their SRP CoC. When applying the Mass Balance system, a PO shall implement it at the level of a single site as per Annex 3. If more than one legal entity operates on a single site, each legal entity shall operate its own mass balance system	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 1.2.4	MODIFIED: The PO shall conduct an annual internal audit against the SRP CoC standard requirements to review performance, evaluate the effectiveness of the quality management systems, and assess sites (including outsourced contractors) conformance. The internal audit scope shall align with the scope identified during the application of the SRP CoC verification audit.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 1.2.5	NEW: Non-conformities identified during the internal audit shall be promptly addressed through root cause analysis and appropriate corrective actions. These corrective actions shall be well-documented and prepared for third-party assessment by the CAB upon request.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 1.2.6	MODIFIED: All workers involved in implementing the CoC Standard shall participate in the SRP CoC training course to ensure they have sufficient knowledge and awareness of the SRP CoC requirements. At least one responsible staff member must be trained by an SRP Authorized Trainer and shall train other relevant staff handling the SRP CoC system for SRP-verified rice.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 2.1.1	MODIFIED: A PO applying the Identity Preservation (IP) CoC model shall demonstrate segregation starting from the producer or producer group level up to point of sale, maintaining identity of the producer or producer group from which the rice source originates and preventing mixing with non-verified rice.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 2.1.2	MODIFIED: A PO applying the Segregation System CoC model shall demonstrate segregation of SRP-verified rice from any non-verified rice stored at or passing through its operational sites. PO shall demonstrate effective segregation system at all operational site(s) where the rice is stored or passes through.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 2.1.3	MODIFIED: A PO applying the Mass Balance CoC model shall establish and maintain a Mass Balance system that conforms to the requirements specified in Annex 3, ensuring accurate accounting and balancing of SRP-verified rice quantities throughout processing and distribution.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 2.1.4	MODIFIED: The PO shall track and segregate SRP-verified rice with distinct claim categories (IP/Seg/MB) throughout all stages, purchasing, receiving, processing, storage, shipping, marking, delivery and sales. Comprehensive record-keeping of these activities shall be maintained.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 3.1.1	MODIFIED: The PO shall verify that the supplied products comes from SRP-verified suppliers and matches the accompanying documentation by checking the supplier contract, invoice and/or supporting documentation.	Changes in 2.4

Annex 2 3.1.2	MODIFIED: For each purchase/ receipt of SRP-verified rice tracked within the CoC control system, the PO shall identify, validate and record at least the following information: • identification of supplier(s) • identification of SRP-verified claim • quantity of delivery • date of delivery • claim category(es) • the supplier's SRP Verified Unit ID • Transaction certificate (when applicable)	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 4.1.1	MODIFIED: Invoice and/or supporting documentation of incoming SRP-verified rice shall be received and entered into the PO's system and RiceTrace. All transactions shall be listed and subsequently reported to the CAB on an annual basis until the RiceTrace is ready.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 4.1.3	MODIFIED: The PO shall maintain the accuracy of any measuring equipment used in the process.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 4.1.4	MODIFIED: The volume of SRP-verified rice received, along with its associated sustainability characteristics, shall be recorded in the PO's system following the process outlined in 4.1.1., after confirming its validity (Indicator 3.1.1).	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 4.1.6	MODIFIED: The PO shall undertake inventories of the input/ output balance of SRP-verified rice at fixed regular intervals, not exceeding 28 calendar days, for each operational site. This interval ensures timely detection and correction of discrepancies, supports compliance with regulatory standards, and aligns with typical monthly business cycles.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 4.1.7	MODIFIED: Over each inventory period of up to 28 calendar days, the volume of SRP-verified rice supplied to clients must not exceed the total volume received. This requirement ensures traceability and balance of the SRP-verified rice inventory.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 4.1.8	MODIFIED: If there is positive balance of inputs and outputs (surplus) at the end of the inventory period, the sustainability data associated with the surplus may be carried over into the next inventory period.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 5.1.1	MODIFIED: The PO shall use a tracking system or maintain production records to document the processing of products for each claim category.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 5.1.2	MODIFIED: The PO shall ensure that any off-site processing or handling at a contracted facility adheres to the same CoC procedures as those implemented by the PO. This off-site processing must be governed by a signed outsourcing agreement ⁴ , as described in 1.1.4 of this Annex, requiring conformance with the applicable requirements of this Standard.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 5.1.3	MODIFIED: All products that cannot be identified as belonging to one of the claim categories defined in criterion 2.1 shall be kept separate from all other products until documented evidence of the claim category is obtained.	Changes in 2.4

⁴ SRP provides an outsource agreement template for use. Please request the template from your CAB.

Annex 2 6.1.1	MODIFIED: The PO shall ensure that correct claim information is provided on sales invoices and shipping documents, including: • Description of the product and the claim category • Quantity of each product per claim category • SRP Verified Unit ID.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 6.1.2	MODIFIED: reflects the requirements of the CoC system implemented by the PO. The claim category of an SRP-verified product cannot be upgraded, even if higher CoC system are used by supply chain participants.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 7.1.1	MODIFIED: The PO shall sign a verification service agreement directly with the CAB prior to using any SRP label and claims or SRP logos.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 7.1.3	MODIFIED: The PO shall submit all draft SRP claims and label designs to the SRP Secretariat for approval before release.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 8.1.1	MODIFIED: b) Annual internal audit conducted by the Multi-site System Administrator at all sites; c) New sites shall undergo an internal audit, and findings from the audit must be submitted to the Conformity Assessment Body before being included; and d) For sites that are not under a common ownership structure, consent from each site acknowledging participation in the SRP Chain of Custody system and granting authority to the Multi-site System Administrator for internal audit and sanction.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 2 8.1.2	MODIFIED: b) Result of internal audits and external audits and	Changes in 2.4
Annex 3 1.1	MODIFIED: All sales and shipments of mass balance materials or products claimed as SRP-verified rice shall be recorded through the SRP RiceTrace. Sales within a calendar quarter shall be registered within 28 calendar days of the quarter's end.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 3 1.2	MODIFIED: Mass balance credits are valid for a maximum of three years. If sales exceed purchases, sufficient verified inputs must be purchased by the end of the quarter to cover the excess.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 3 1.3	MODIFIED: Transactions for purchases of SRP rice using mass balance must accurately reflect the rice content percentage claimed on packaging. If no percentage information provided, it will be assumed that all products came from mass balance input	Changes in 2.4
Annex 3 2.1	MODIFIED: SRP rice purchased from farms certified under multiple schemes may be sold with multiple certifications attached to the batch. However, certifications may not be split across separate material batches to avoid double counting. Sales under an alternative scheme should be recorded as "Sold as non-SRP" in the SRP RiceTrace Platform	Changes in 2.4
Annex 3 3.1	MODIFIED: Conversion of mass balance credits for further processed materials must be supported by documented conversion ratios consistent with actual processing conversions. Backward conversion or other inconsistent practices are not permitted.	Changes in 2.4
Annex 3 4.1	MODIFIED: The PO shall collaborate with their supplier to develop a time-bound plan for upgrading their SRP-verified procurement model from mass balance to either IP (Identity Preservation) or Segregation Systems.	Changes in 2.4

	This plan should aim to increase the proportion of SRP-verified procurement and must be available during CoC audits as evidence.	
Annex 3 5.1	MODIFIED: POs using the Mass Balance system are prohibited from displaying the SRP-verified Label on-pack.	Changes in 2.4
Glossary	NEW: "Assessment": The combined processes of audit, review and decision on a producer's or producer group's or participating operator's compliance with the requirements of a standard. "Assurance": Demonstrable evidence that specified requirements relating to a product, process, system, person or body are fulfilled. "Audit": A systematic, documented process for obtaining records, statements of fact or other relevant information and assessing them objectively to determine the extent to which specified requirements are fulfilled. "Auditor": Person who performs the audit. "Chain of Custody": The custodial sequence that occurs as ownership or control of the material supply is transferred from one custodian to another in the supply chain. "Claim": A message used to set apart and promote a product, process, business or service with reference to one or more of the pillars of sustainability: social, economic and/or environmental. "Compliance audit": An audit that is carried out by a party independent of the CAB that carried out a preceding audit, to assess the quality of that preceding audit. "Conformity Assessment Body (CAB)": An entity that can issue a third-party statement that fulfilment of specified compliance requirements has been demonstrated. "Integrity audit": An audit carried out by SRP as part of oversight of assurance. These may be 'compliance' or 'witness' audits. "Internal Audit": An internal, systematic, documented process, conducted on themselves by a producer, producer group, participating operator or CAB, for obtaining relevant information and assessing objectively to determine the extent to which specified requirements are fulfilled. "Logos": Both SRP-verified Label and SRP Organizational Logo. 'Label' refers to the SRP-verified Label indicating the integrity of claims to sustainable best practices according to the SRP Standard, as verified through the SRP Assurance Scheme. The SRP-verified Label symbolizes a seal of approval.	Changes in 2.3

	'Logo' refers to the SRP Organization Logo, used to uphold SRP's brand value and recognition and to ensure consistent application across all SRP programs, tools and communication materials. "Non-compliance" (synonym: non-conformity): An identified occurrence of non-conformance with one requirement of a standard. "Oversight": The processes of ensuring that assurance is conducted efficiently and credibly. This includes reviewing audit reports, conducting integrity audits, reviewing and calibrating CAB performance, overseeing remediation of CAB NCs, and applying sanctions as necessary, as well as ensuring competence and qualifications of personnel. "Risk": The chance of something happening that will have an impact on objectives. It is measured in terms of a combination of the probability of an event and the severity of its consequences. "Verification": Process that if successful leads to the issuance of a statement that fulfilment of specified compliance requirements has been demonstrated. "Witness audit": An audit that is observed by a party independent of the CAB to assess the quality and integrity of the CAB's audit.	
Glossary	DELETED: "Assurance Service Provider (ASP)": organization mandated by SRP to operate the SRP Assurance Scheme. GLOBALG.A.P. serves as SRP's only ASP. "Verification Body (VB)": an independent organization that has signed a License Agreement with the ASP to provide conformity assessments and verification statements to participating operators that meet the SRP Chain of Custody Policy and Standard requirements. "Verification Code": a unique code awarded to an organization which has certified or verified part or all of its products according to the Assurance Scheme.	Changes in 2.3
Glossary	MODIFIED: "Claim category": Reference to SRP rice products being processed and sourcing of SRP Verified Rice products. In the SRP Assurance System, three categories of claim are recognized based on the Chain of Custody model selected: 1) Identity Preservation, 2) Product Segregation, and 3) Mass Balance. "Participating Operator (PO)": an individual, company, or organization having ownership and control of rice and/or all rice-derived products, from origin to market, for one or several steps in the supply chain. "Reporting period": this will be one year, starting from verification date unless otherwise agreed between CAB and PO.	Changes in 2.3
Glossary	DELETED: "Sustainability characteristics": sustainability characteristics refer to whether or not a consignment of paddy, milled rice and any other rice by-product, complies partly or fully with SRP environmental, social and economic criteria. When residues and waste are produced, in	Changes in 2.2

	addition to the main product, sustainability characteristics shall equally apply to all.	
Glossary	DELETED: Transaction Certificate definition.	Changes in 2.2
1.2.2	MODIFIED: All organizations in the supply chain – from farmer to the entity implementing final packaging of products carrying an SRP claim – shall be covered by the SRP CoC verification system, to be managed by an SRP-approved CoC Conformity Assessment Body. CoC verification shall cover all relevant activities conducted by the verified Participating Operator, including purchasing, processing, storage, marking, record-keeping, to ensure the integrity of SRP-Verified rice. In the case of Identity Preservation (IP) and Segregation System (Seg), the segregation of SRP-verified rice from non-verified rice is crucial. For Participating Operators implementing the Mass Balance CoC model, compliance with additional specific requirements for Mass Balance, as outlined in Annex 3, is also mandatory.	Changes in 2.3
1.2.3	DELETED: applies to any Participating Operator purchasing, handling and/or trading SRP-Verified rice.	Changes in 2.2
1.2.4	MODIFIED: SRP Secretariat may grant an exception to a Participating Operator and/or CoC CAB after receiving sufficient justification on the case for each exception and if necessary, consulting with relevant stakeholders.	Changes in 2.3
1.3.1 – 5) i.	MODIFIED: Receive updated SRP CoC tools and information on database access.	Changes in 2.2
1.4.4	MODIFIED: In-House trainer: The In-house trainer shall comply with CoC auditor qualification requirements in Section 1.4.5 and obtain an SRP certificate of participation in an official SRP CoC Policy and Standard, and SRP Assurance Scheme training course. In-house trainers shall be fluent in English. The CAB shall maintain at least one SRP In-house trainer to ensure adequate internal knowledge-sharing and harmonized interpretation	Changes in 2.3
1.4.5	MODIFIED: Auditor team: The auditor team comprises qualified and registered auditors, one of whom shall act as CoC auditor, plus additional technical experts as needed. All team members shall pass the official SRP CoC Policy and Standard, and SRP Assurance Scheme training courses and respective examinations and be qualified as a lead CoC auditor according to a social/environmental assurance scheme with similar CoC requirements (e.g., RA SAS CoC, FSC CoC, PEFC CoC, RSPO SCC).	Changes in 2.3
2.1.2	NEW: Companies producing and selling SRP-verified rice may only market a SRP-verified product having successfully been issued with a Verification Statement of CoC compliance by an authorized SRP CoC Conformity Assessment Body (CAB). <i>(in accordance with SRP Assurance Info Note No.2)</i>	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.1.5 – b)	MODIFIED: An entity that administers two or more sites where trading or processing of a SRP-verified rice product takes place. It is the entity that signs the agreement with an authorized CAB and takes responsibility for development, implementation and maintenance of the producer group's internal management system and for verification of each individual site's compliance with the Chain of Custody Policy and Standard.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.1.6	NEW: Multi-site Participating Operators (PO) may apply for a CoC Multi-site audit to any SRP Authorized CAB under the following conditions: a) The Multi-site system administrator shall define the geographic area, the number and identity of sites, the supply chain model	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3

	and the types of operations covered by the scope of their multi-site Chain of Custody system. b) The SRP supply chain model of a representative sample from the participating site shall be reviewed and verified by the CAB during the verification audit. c) The Multi-site system administrator acting as Internal Management System (IMS) office is considered as a participating site and shall always be part of the sampled site. d) A Multi-site system administrator that has a processing and handling site is counted as a Participating Site with physical possession, and therefore requires an onsite audit. Wholly-owned subsidiaries of a group of companies may apply for SRP CoC Multi-site Verification. Under the following conditions: • Wholly-owned subsidiaries have the same source (SRP-verified farm) within the supply chain and can demonstrate their supply chain relationship on submission of the application to the CAB. • Participating Sites may be located in different regions; the PO shall provide the CAB with proof of their relationship at the application stage. • To minimize the risk of integrity violation, it is highly recommended that the supply chain within the same country hold one Verification Statement to avoid risk of distance distribution and transportation between country • If outsourced contractors are used by the wholly-owned subsidiaries within the supply chain, the CAB shall conduct a risk assessment to determine whether an audit of the outsourced contractor is required as per 2.1.8. • The Multi-site system administrator shall justify the grouping of operational sites into sets according to activities undertaken • The Multi-site system administrator shall have a centrally administered and documented IMS for management and implementation of the SRP Chain of Custody Requirements • The Multi-site system administrator shall appoint a management representative with overall responsibility for ensuring that all operational units comply with the SRP Chain of Custody Standard requirements. <i>(in accordance with SRP Assurance Info Note No. 5)</i>	
2.1.7 - c)	MODIFIED: A Multisite PO may register sites in different countries under one SRP Verification Statement issued by a single CAB.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.1.7 - d)	MODIFIED: Any new facilities shall be approved by the CAB before they can be included within the scope of the Verification Statement.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.1.7 - e)	MODIFIED: Facilities involved in manufacturing, packaging or labelling may require an on-site audit or desk review by the CAB, depending on complexity and the CAB's assessed risk.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.1.10	NEW: Outsourced contractors that only store SRP-verified products in external warehouses may be considered as low risk if the PO has a sufficient control system in place to maintain the integrity of the SRP product. The CAB shall verify the control system of the PO, which if deemed sufficient, shall not trigger an audit of the outsourced contractor.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.2.3 - b)	NEW: If the PO does not have an annual audit process at the time set out in point a), the Verification Statement shall be suspended from the Chain of Custody Database.	Changes in 2.2

2.2.4 - b)	MODIFIED: A report checklist from the main audit shall be used and the adjustment made to only the required elements related to evaluation or all major NCs.	Changes in 2.2
2.3.9	MODIFIED: If any open MiNC(s) remain following the verification or annual audits or raised in the next verification cycle, the PO should demonstrate corrective actions sufficient to resolve each MiNC before the next verification decision.	Changes in 2.3
2.4.1	MODIFIED: A PO's CoC Verification Statement shall be subject to sanctions (suspension) for any of the following reasons,	Changes in 2.2
2.6.2	MODIFIED: The CAB has four (4) months to perform a follow-up audit and shall announce a new verification decision within this period.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.6.3	DELETED: The VB has 30 business days from the date of appeal to review the appeal.	Changes in 2.2
2.7	DELETED: Multi-site change to "Sample Planning"	Changes in 2.2
2.7.1	MODIFIED: The CAB shall audit a representative sample of the PO's member sites to evaluate effectiveness of the multi-site administrator. A representative sample should consider factors mentioned in 2.7.4.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.7.5	DELETED: Surveillance audit change to "Follow-up audit"	Changes in 2.2
2.7.5	MODIFIED: Verification audit sample: the sample of sites to be audited shall be equal to the square root of the total number of sites in the Verification Statement, include the central office. Annual audit sample: the sample of sites to be audited shall be equal to the square root of the total number of sites in the Verification Statement, include the central office but could be done remotely/desktop.	Changes in 2.3
2.7.6	NEW: In regard to sampling of documentation, the CAB auditor shall sample a minimum of the square root of the total population OR a minimum three samples for audit. If the population is below three, the auditor shall verify the full population. If the calculated sample size is a non-integer, the CAB shall round up the sample size to the next integer.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
2.7.7	NEW: Document evaluation shall follow the sampling method stipulated in 2.7.6. In addition, the CAB auditor shall ensure conformance of the PO with the CoC Standard, including but not limited to, inventory data, purchasing, production and sales data as well as mass balance credits data. Auditors shall fully understand the PO's system and reconcile data within the PO's system for each claim category, where the PO uses more than one claim category.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
3.1.2	MODIFIED: The applicant PO shall sign the latest version of the SRP Verification Service Agreement (VSA) with the CAB	Changes in 2.3
3.7.2	MODIFIED: The CAB shall also issue an updated Verification Statement for: a) PO that has undergone additional audits that necessitate changes in the Verification Statement e.g. verification audit scope; b) PO that has changed its legal or commercial name. In such cases the CAB shall notify SRP for reference.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
3.7.3	MODIFIED: Verification Statements are valid for 36 months from date of the verification decision. When a PO undergoes an annual audit after its first verification audit, the verification decision date shall correspond to the decision date for the annual audit. However, the verification	Changes in 2.2

	statement anniversary date shall correspond to the decision date of the (re)verification audit.	
3.7.5 f)	Type of product sold.	Changes in 2.3
Annex 2 1.1.2	MODIFIED: The Participating Operator (PO) shall define the unit of verification, including, in the case of multi-site operators, the number of sites and type(s) of operations covered by the scope of their SRP CoC. When applying the Mass Balance system, a PO shall implement at the level of a single site as per Annex 3. When more than one legal entity operates on a single site, each legal entity shall operate its own mass balance system.	Changes in 2.2
Annex 2 1.1.3	MODIFIED: The PO shall ensure that independent third parties handling SRP products (e.g., outsources, subcontracts, warehouses etc.) shall all comply with the CoC Standard requirements.	Changes in 2.2
Annex 2 1.1.4	MODIFIED: This includes contracted operators e.g. outsources, subcontractors, warehouses.	Changes in 2.2
Annex 2 3.1.2	DELETED: Transaction Certificate (when applicable)	Changes in 2.2
Annex 2 4.1.1	MODIFIED: Invoice and/or supporting documentation of incoming SRP-Verified rice shall be received and entered into the PO's system; and all transactions shall be listed and subsequently reported to the CAB on an annual basis.	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
Annex 2 6.1.1	DELETED: The Participating Operator shall ensure correct claim information is provided on sales invoices and shipping documents, including the following: • Description of the product and the claim category • Quantity of each product per claim category • SRP Verification Code, if applicable.	Changes in 2.2
Annex 2 6.1.2	NEW: The PO shall ensure the claim category as stated in the sales documents reflects the requirements of the CoC system implemented by the PO. The claim category of an SRP-verified product cannot be upgraded – even if the supply chain participants use a higher CoC system. Notes: - SRP rice Input (Seg) – Processing system (Seg), claim as Seg or MB - SRP rice Input (MB) – Processing system (MB), claim as MB - SRP rice Input (Seg) – Processing system (MB), claim as MB - SRP rice Input (MB) – Processing system (Seg), claim as MB	Changes in 2.2
Annex 2 7.1.2	MODIFIED: All claims and references to SRP made by the PO shall conform with the SRP Brand Manual & Claim Guidelines, as applicable.	Changes in 2.3
Annex 2 7.1.3	MODIFIED: The PO shall submit all draft claims and label design to the SRP Secretariat, which shall approve prior to release.	Changes in 2.2
Annex 2 8.1.1 - c)	MODIFIED: New sites shall undergo an internal inspection and notify the CAB by submitting the findings of the internal inspection before being included; and	Changes in 2.2 Changes in 2.3
Annex 4	DELETED: Entire Annex 4 deleted due to ongoing challenges encountered in implementing Transaction Certificate (TC) Request for SRP-verified rice, it has been decided to temporarily suspend the SRP TC request requirement, pending completion of SRP's own data platform where all transactions of SRP-verified rice will be registered and monitored	Changes in 2.2

