Motions for the 2011 FSC General Assembly

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**MOTION:**
FSC shall develop and adopt a policy enabling national offices to process derogation applications for pesticides (including national level risk assessments) and other matters for which the derogation process applies. While the national offices will process derogation applications, the final decision will rest with the FSC Board of Directors. In situations where there is no national office or where the capacity of the national office is insufficient to uphold rigorous FSC processes (as determined by FSC IC), derogation applications will be processed by the International Center.

**Purpose and/or additional information:**
There are situations where environmental, social, and economic benefits are prevented by FSC FM requirements. In cases where forest managers can demonstrate additional conservation, social, and/or economic benefit from exemption from requirements, temporary exemptions from the forest management standards can best be handled through a chamber-balanced derogation process. Pesticide derogations are examples of this process. Issues relative to the timeliness and understanding of the local issues involved have hampered the process at the International Center. National initiatives that have a demonstrated capacity to uphold FSC processes are better suited to provide experts who understand the local issues. The national initiatives are also better suited to provide a timely response since it is likely they will not be handled nearly as many derogation requests.

**Document(s) to be revised / developed:**

**Timeline:**
December 2011

**Cost to FSC:**