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Statement - Responsible forestry in long-term collaboration with reindeer husbandry

SCA actively contributes to preserving and creating conditions for traditional Sami reindeer husbandry. The collaboration is conducted in an open and respectful manner based on the principles of FPIC (Free, Prior, and Informed Consent).
Through a long-term strategy centered on the needs and conditions of reindeer husbandry, SCA strives to promote and develop solutions to improve conditions for reindeer herding. The work is based on FPIC principles, and dialogue with representatives of reindeer husbandry has identified five strategic areas.

Collaboration and dialogue
Dialogue and collaboration are fundamental prerequisites for creating long-term solutions. SCA actively works to maintain open and transparent dialogue with Reindeer herding communities (RHC), aiming to understand the needs and challenges facing reindeer husbandry. By engaging RHC early in the planning process and employing methods based on FPIC principles, we ensure that our forestry planning considers both cultural values and the practical conditions of reindeer husbandry.

Creation and preservation
Through proactive efforts, SCA works to create and develop areas that improve reindeer grazing conditions, thereby supporting traditional reindeer herding. We combine modern technology with traditional forestry measures to achieve the highest efficiency in our initiatives. Everything is done in dialogue with the relevant RHC to ensure their knowledge and experience guide the efforts to areas where measures have the greatest impact.

General consideration for reindeer husbandry in activities
SCA is committed to conducting sustainable, diverse, and responsible forestry practices that include considerations for reindeer husbandry as an integral component. Forestry measures are executed with respect to the needs of reindeer herding, supported by specific instructions and routines addressing ground and hanging lichens.

Competence
A fundamental prerequisite for successful collaboration is understanding the connection between forestry and reindeer husbandry to make well-informed, balanced decisions. SCA strives to have in-depth knowledge of reindeer herding practices and how forestry measures impact its conditions. Resources are allocated for continuous staff training and for developing and sharing knowledge in collaboration with other stakeholders.

Research and development
Through collaboration with the Swedish Sami Association (SSR), RHC, relevant authorities, and research institutes, SCA develops new methods and practices for forestry. In-house experiments, follow-ups, and experiences form the basis for continuously implementing improvements in operations and to better address future challenges, such as those posed by climate change.