

Informal Summary of the in-session workshop on "Coordination of support for the implementation of activities in relation to mitigation actions in the forest sector by developing countries, including institutional arrangements"

**Friday, 7 June 2013, 15:00 – 18:00
Maritim Hotel, Bonn, Germany**

Summary by the co-chairs of the workshop on issues raised by participants

Session I: Presentations by Parties

Four Parties made presentations: Papua New Guinea on behalf of the Coalition for Rainforest Nations, United States, Brazil, and Philippines on behalf of ten member countries of the Southeast Asian region. The presentations are available on the workshop page at the UNFCCC website¹. Submissions by Parties with views on the topics of this workshop are available in a miscellaneous document (FCCC/SB/2013/MISC.3 and Add.1).

Session II: Plenary Discussions

There was broad agreement that the existing financing avenues for REDD-plus activities need to improve coordination at all levels (donors, national, organizational) to ensure the effectiveness and best possible use of available resources. Some Parties suggested that a centralized structure – that would facilitate the flow of funds to developing country Parties and centralize application procedures– would be the best way forward. Other Parties expressed the view that it is preferable to have a choice of multiple channels of financing, including donor countries, financial institutions, international initiatives, bilateral and multi-lateral institutions.

The following four options for coordination were identified:

1. Using existing systems and enhance the coordination using the REDD-plus Partnership;
2. Making use of the UNFCCC/SB process ;
3. Establish a new body or committee under the guidance of the COP;
4. Make progress toward coordination of REDD-plus financing under the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

¹ <http://unfccc.int/7672>

Some Parties cautioned that, from experience with the creation of other institutional arrangements, setting up the modalities for a new REDD-plus institution under the UNFCCC would likely be a long process. There was general agreement that coordination would benefit from: the development of simplified procedures and processes; clear objectives and goals; comprehensive technical guidance on financing options and procedures; and sharing and disseminating information to all Parties.

Several countries emphasized the need to streamline the existing support and simplify the procedures of obtaining finance while ensuring their equitable distribution, also taking into account geographical distribution. Some Parties expressed a particular concern about the loss of credibility of REDD-plus because of the low price of carbon credits in international markets and the lack of assurance for sources of financing for results-based REDD-plus actions. It was important to many Parties to create positive incentives for the implementation of REDD-plus activities.

In relation to the GCF, several Parties expressed the view that the GCF could be used as a catalyst to mobilize a variety of financial sources, such as private finance and investment funds, bonds and other mechanisms.

Some Parties supported the view that while a formal coordination process is being developed the UNFCCC secretariat could serve as an interim vehicle for improving coordination.