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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

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Bonn, 4–13 June 2003

Agenda item 4 (e)

METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDANCE AND OTHER INFORMATION ON LAND USE, LAND-USE CHANGE AND FORESTRY

Implications of harvested wood products accounting

Submissions from Parties

Addendum

1. In addition to the 11 submissions included in documents FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.1 and Add.1, one further submission has been received.
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, this submission is attached and reproduced* in the language in which it was received and without formal editing.

* This submission has been electronically imported in order to make it available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the text as submitted.

SUBMISSION FROM CANADA

ADDENDUM: Implications of harvested wood products accounting

11 June 2003

1. Introduction

Canada welcomes the invitation from the Chair of SBSTA during the SBSTA 18 consideration of the agenda item *Methodological Issues 4(a) Good Practice Guidance and Other Information on Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry* to provide additional views on harvested wood products (HWP) in the form of a written submission. This addendum to document FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.1 contains Canada's views on the inclusion of HWP within the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry Good Practice Guidance (LULUCF GPG) currently under development by the IPCC. Guidance is also provided to the Secretariat on the content of the technical paper it is preparing on harvested wood products accounting for consideration at SBSTA 19¹. Lastly, Canada has used this forum to present its revised proposal for a HWP workshop, originally proposed in its 15 January 2003 submission (FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.1).

2. Inclusion of HWP in LULUCF GPG

With regards to the LULUCF GPG report, Canada supports the inclusion of HWP as an appendix to Chapter 3 of this document. Canada would like to commend the authors on their efforts, and considers this work to be an important step forward. The information contained in the appendix will be useful as a basis for future methodological development.

Canada recognizes that there is a need to further develop the methodologies for each HWP approach, such that they can be included in the next revision of the IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories to ensure comparable and transparent reporting and consistency with respect to both time and the other chapters of the inventory. The work plan to produce this next revision of the Guidelines has recently been initiated by the IPCC, at the request of SBSTA at its seventeenth session (FCCC/SBSTA/2002/13 para. 14(f)), and the revised Guidelines are expected to be completed in 2006.

3. Technical Paper Guidance

In Canada's view, the content of the proposed technical paper in preparation by the Secretariat should be policy neutral and:

1. Promote a better understanding of the technical issues, particularly related to objectives of HWP accounting² (i.e. what exactly the accounting of HWP should be accounting for). Towards this end, the technical paper should draw upon the 2001 and 2003 country submissions (documents FCCC/SBSTA/2001/MISC.1 and FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.1, respectively), information from previous workshops and additional information provided by the Parties to identify the main views on the accounting objectives and the accounting scope and principles that have been articulated for the accounting of harvested wood products.

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2001/8, para. 29 (k) and (l).

² The draft LULUCF GPG states "*The terms estimation, reporting and accounting have distinct meanings. Estimation is the process of calculating emissions, and reporting the process of providing the estimates to the UNFCCC. Accounting refers to the rules for comparing emissions and removals reported with commitments outlined in the Marrakech Accords.*"

2. Explore the related policy and socio-economic issues. As such, the technical paper should include policy and socio-economic assessments of the various approaches to harvested wood products. The technical paper should propose policy questions that Parties may need to consider in order to reach agreement on the approach that will best suit the purpose of the UN FCCC and future Kyoto Protocol commitment period reporting.
3. Evaluate the harvested wood products estimation methods for the approaches contained in the second order (or next) draft of the IPCC GPG against the accounting objectives, accounting scope and principles identified in Parties submissions (documents FCCC/SBSTA/2001/MISC.1 and FCCC/SBSTA/2003/MISC.1).

In addition to these initial views, Canada may take the opportunity to provide the Secretariat with additional input to its technical paper.

4. Workshop

In terms of the process forward, Canada proposes that Parties should agree at SBSTA 19 that the Secretariat's technical paper should be the basis for a workshop to be held after SBSTA 19 in early 2004. The objectives of the workshop would be to further elaborate and clarify accounting objectives, boundaries, principles, accounting options and their implications. The workshop would also be a forum for a substantive discussion of the points of disagreement among Parties, and to explore possible solutions to resolve them. A report of the workshop would be submitted to SBSTA 20 in order to guide deliberations at SBSTA 20 and 21.

At SBSTA 19, Parties would have the opportunity to provide further guidance on the terms of reference for the workshop, consistent with the work plan for the harvested wood products issue agreed at SBSTA 15.

If Parties agree to this proposal for a workshop at SBSTA 19, Canada will be pleased to volunteer to participate in workshop planning and to contribute a portion of the necessary funds towards the financing of the workshop.
