

LR11 meeting: conclusions to expedite the preparation of review reports

Bonn, Germany

7 June 2014



11th meeting of the Lead Reviewers (LRs)

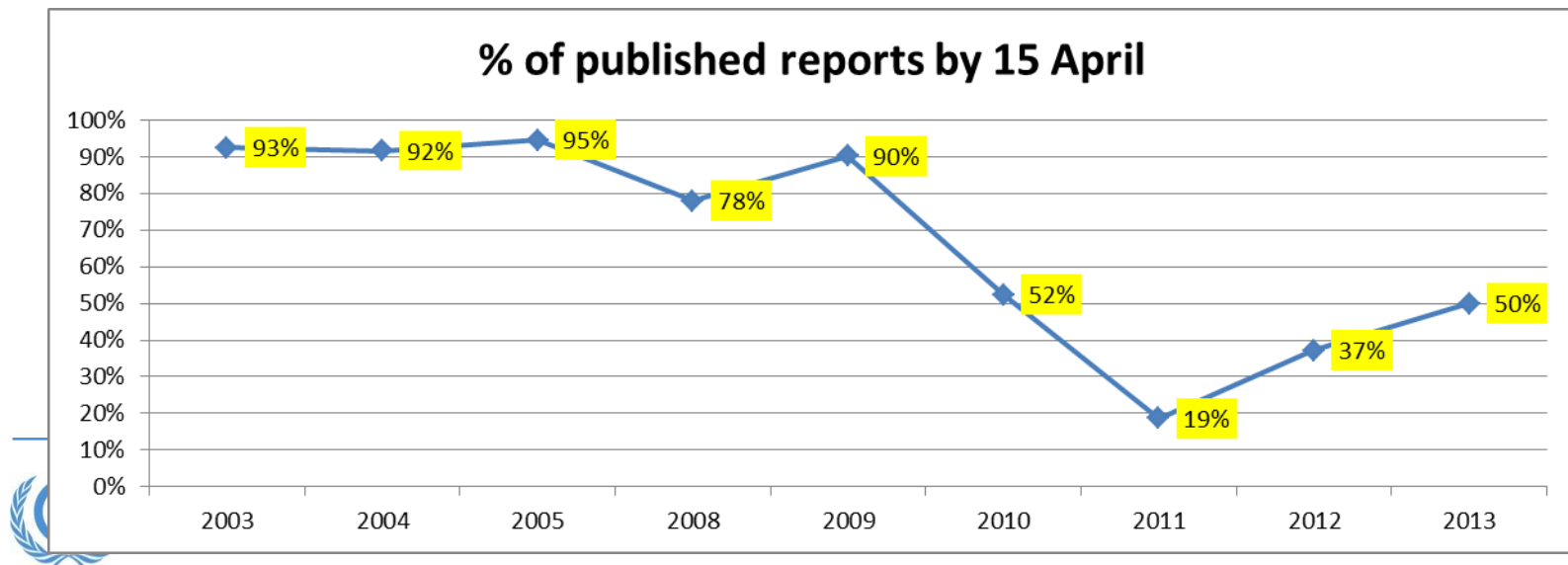
- **LR meetings (mandated by 12/CP.9)**
 - Annual, to consider methodological and procedural issues relating to inventory reviews
- **11th LR meeting:**
 - Dates: 3–5 March 2014
 - Participation: 61 experts (32 from non-Annex I, 29 from Annex I Parties)
- **Conclusions cover :***
 - **Statistics and follow-up to the tenth lead reviewers' meeting** ✓
 - Training and availability of review experts
 - Review tools
 - Virtual team room
 - Development of the new CRF Reporter
 - Consistency of reviews
 - **Planning for the 2014 review cycle** ✓
 - **Recommendations for improvements in the 2014 review cycle** ✓
 - Financial implications



*See <http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/review_process/items/2762.php>

Essential context for review reports (ARRs)

- ARR = report on annual technical reviews of GHG inventories of AI Parties
- Prepared by expert review teams (ERTs) under the guidance of Lead Reviewers (LRs)
- The UNFCCC secretariat assists by coordination and editing/publication
- The ARR is mandated to be published in accordance with a schedule depending on type of review and the existence/severity of issues (the “Saturday paper” in the KP reviews)
- The “ultimate deadline” is within 1 year from submission (by next 15 Apr.)
- The ARRs have been consistently on delay, often significant...
- Timeliness of ARRs has been actively discussed by LR and measures taken



Essential context - cont'd

	2013	2012	2011	2010
Number of reports =	44	43	43	42
Number of "Saturday papers" =	24	26	28	35
ARRs published by 15 April =	22	16	8	22
% by 15 April =	50%	37%	19%	52%
Average report drafting time ("ERT time"), weeks =	tbd	26.1 ± 7.2	28.5 ± 10.5	21.6 ± 8.5
Average Party commenting time ("Party time"), weeks =	tbd	3.9 ± 1.2	5.2 ± 8.0	4.0 ± 1.4
Average publication time ("finalization time"), weeks =	tbd	5.9 ± 4.2	4.2 ± 9.9	4.9 ± 3.1
Average report preparation time, weeks =	tbd	35.9 ± 9.1 Min = 17.4 Max = 50.9	37.9 ± 11.3 Min = 12.9 Max = 58.7	30.5 ± 10.3 Min = 7.3 Max = 53.9
Last report published =	tbd	30-Aug	18-Oct	7-Oct



Recommendations with impact on timing

- **Statistics and follow-up to the tenth LRs' meeting**
 - Para 3: The LRs noted improvements in the timeliness of the publication of the review reports in the 2013 cycle compared to the 2012 cycle, but reconfirmed the need to further improve the efficiency and timeliness of the review process and achieve the 100 per cent completion rate of the reports by 14 April of the following year...
 - Para 4: Noting that recent review cycles did not meet the mandated deadlines in decision 22/CMP.1, the LRs discussed the sustainability of the current review framework. The LRs reiterated the conclusions of the tenth LRs' meeting on options for improving the cost-effectiveness, efficiency and practicality of the review process.



Recommendations with impact on timing

- **Planning for the 2014 review cycle**

Recommendation	Impact on timeliness	Status
22. ... to consider conducting more than two centralized reviews during the same week...	Unclear	Possible only for 3/10 reviews
... to consider starting the review weeks not later than the last week of August...	Unclear	Was not possible (paras 22 above, 23)
23. ... to consult with Parties with a view to agreeing to the review dates by end of April 2014	No	Done by early Apr.
24. ... to ensure that LULUCF experts do not act as LR, and at least one LR does not have sectoral responsibilities.	Positive	Done for 7 of 10 ERTs; add. help for 3/10
... to strive to ensure that each LULUCF expert has no more than two Parties to review...	Positive	Done (3 LULUCF experts per team)
... to compile teams to ensure a sufficient number of experienced experts, particularly for energy and LULUCF	Positive	Done (3 for LULUCF and 3 for energy)



Recommendations to expedite the reports

- Recommendations for improvements / ARR template**

Recommendation	Impact on timeliness	Status
27. ... to refine the ARR template as necessary based on the experience of the 2013 review cycle, but not make major changes to the structure of the template... to reconvene the small group of LRs to consider terminology and guidance in the ARR template tables...	Positive but limited (no major changes)	Being completed
28. ... to complete the factual information in the ARR for review by the ERTs (e.g. data in tables 1 and 2 and the compilation and accounting tables, information on the tiers used for the key categories and uncertainty analyses, information regarding the difference between the reference approach and the sectoral approach, and information in the sectoral overview regarding emissions and removals).	Positive	In planning



Recommendations with impact on timing

- Recommendations for improvements / the review process

Recommendation	Impact on timeliness	Status
31. ... reviews to be initiated as early as possible. ... to conclude the preparation of the ERT as early as possible, preferably by the end of May.	Positive	Done (by 16 May)
... to start the review process, including the consideration of materials, the discussion of issues within the ERT ... and communication of questions and answers with Parties as early as possible.	Positive	LR action in progress
... to inform Parties in advance of the review week of when to expect communications from the ERT.	Unclear	In progress
32. ... to deliver to ERTs the ARR template and schedule by end June, review tools by end July..	Positive but limited	In progress
34. ... to enhance communication within the ERT during the review week. ... ERTs to prepare a list of key issues before the review week and a complete zero order draft by the end of the review week	Positive (but challenging...)	LR/ERT action, tbd in Sep.-Oct.



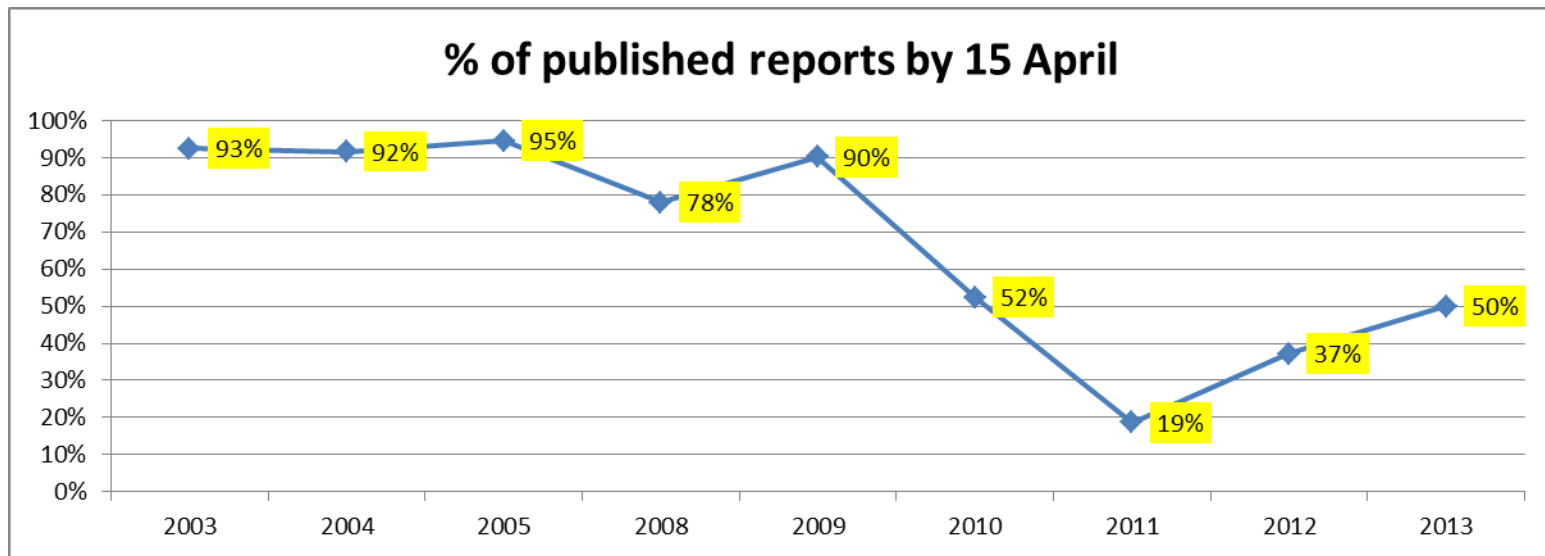
Recommendations with impact on timing

- **Recommendations for improvements / the review process**

Recommendation	Impact on timeliness	Status
... to ensure that QC actions are done at the end of the review week or immediately thereafter	Positive	In planning
35. ... to prepare and use a common introductory email to all ERTs; also to assist the LRs in the preparation of their introductory email to the ERTs	Positive but limited	Done (3 e-mail templates in use)
36. ... LRs to focus on the coordination of ERTs and the planning of their work, monitoring the progress of the review, communication with the Party and ensuring consistency	Positive	LR/ERT action, tbd in Sep.-Oct.
38. ... to inform the national focal points on the progress of the review frequently.	Unclear	In implementation



Conclusion – with a “but”...



- **Sizable improvements were achieved in 2012-2013**
- **Further improvements were identified and are being implemented**

- **The improvements achieved so far did not allow to move close to 100%**
- **The improvements achieved may have been “low hanging fruits”...**
- **Adjustments&QoI = “time killers...”**
- **The review for 2014 will have additional, considerable complexities:**
 - **last year of CP1; ERTs to be particularly attentive**
 - **KP LULUCF with CP accounting (30 Parties!)**

