

Submission by Chile to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) on Methodological issues under the Kyoto Protocol Land use, land-use change and forestry under Article 3 and 4, of the Kyoto Protocol and under the clean development mechanism (CDM)

September 2013

Context

1. Chile welcomes the opportunity to provide views in reference to the paragraph 5, FCCC/SBSTA/2013/L.5 on specific alternative approaches to addressing the risk of non-permanence under the CDM, to be included in the consideration of modalities for alternative approaches to addressing the issue relating to modalities and procedures for possible additional LULUCF activities under the CDM, with a view to forwarding draft decisions on this matter to CMP 9.
2. Land sector has major significance to Chile's sustainable development priorities taking into account the country's climatic and geographic diversity, strategic considerations and lines of action proposed in the Chile's National Climate Change Action Plan. As with other developing countries, land use activities offer valuable opportunities for promoting cost effective climate change mitigation actions in Chile. However, afforestation and reforestation activities have been the only eligible LULUCF activities under the CDM during the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, effectively limiting the contribution of land sector to climate change mitigation under the CDM. It is timely for the SBSTA to deliberate on the inclusion of additional LULUCF activities under CDM, and consider the revision of the modalities and procedures of afforestation/reforestation activities under the CDM to include additional land use activities.

Possible additional land use activities under the CDM

3. Considering the importance of the land sector in mitigating climate change in Chile and in most other developing countries, Chile views that inclusion of additional LULUCF activities such as forest management, improved cropping systems, agroforestry systems; silvopastoral systems, re-vegetation activities in degraded lands under the CDM offer opportunities to demonstrate mitigation activities in different land use categories, and to develop implementation capacity suiting to national circumstances.

Forest management: Chile has shown leadership in restoring degraded forests and in establishing forests on non-forest areas. Inclusion of forest management is expected to promote sustainable management of forests over a long-term.

Improved cropping and agroforestry systems: Technologies and practices that improve productivity of cropland and agroforestry systems provide opportunities to enhance resource use efficiency, reduce GHG emissions, sustain productivity, and improve adaptive capacity of cropping and agroforestry systems.

Silvopastoral systems: covering a range of mixed land use in Chile (e.g. espinal areas, Patagonia region) and involve livestock and forest management in lands that are unsuitable for agricultural production. Improving the management of silvopastoral systems is a priority for Chile for ensuring long-term sustainability of these lands.

Revegetation of degraded lands: In addition to being a cost-effective mitigation opportunity, revegetation contributes to restoration of productivity and biodiversity; and adaptation potential of degraded lands, and is a priority under Chile's National Climate Change Action Plan.

Considering that additional land use activities are important to promote multiple objectives of climate change mitigation, and support food security, poverty reduction and sustainable development priorities, inclusion of additional activities under the CDM can incentivize private and public sector to invest in land use mitigation activities and at the same time, contribute to co-benefits associated with soil conservation; water resources management; restoring biodiversity and combating desertification.

4. Chile views that modalities and procedures for implementing mitigation actions in additional land use activities should also include guidance in relation to alternative approaches to the risk of non-permanence in additional land use activities.

Request to the SBSTA 39

Chile requests the SBSTA 39 to deliberate on the inclusion of additional LULUCF activities under the CDM with a view to recommend the revision of modalities and procedures for afforestation/reforestation activities to incorporate the modalities and procedures for implementing additional land use activities under the CDM, for approval of the CMP.9