

## Informal Meeting of Experts on Methodological Issues relating to Reducing Emissions from Forest Degradation in Developing Countries

20 – 21 October 2008

Bonn, Germany

### Agenda

<b>Monday, 20 October, 09.00 – 18.00h</b>	
<b>08.30 – 09.00</b>	<b>Registration of participants</b>
09.00 – 09.15	<b>Welcome and introductory remarks</b> by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), Ms. Helen Plume
09.15 – 10.00	<b>Brief presentations by experts</b> on ongoing work and lessons learned from reducing emissions from forest degradation in developing countries
10.00 – 10.30	<b>Q&amp;A/ Discussions</b>
10.30 - 11.15	<b>General discussion</b> on forest degradation, associated GHG emissions and changes in forest carbon stocks
11.15 – 11.45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.45 – 12.45	<b>Methodological and monitoring approaches</b> for estimating and monitoring emissions from forest degradation – Discussion of the relevant issues
12.45 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.00	<b>Methodological and monitoring approaches</b> (continued)
15.00 – 16.00	Establishing <b>reference emission levels and data needs</b>
16.00 – 16.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16.30 – 18.00	Summarizing key points of discussions for Day 1. Drafting of general guidance for estimating and monitoring emissions from forest degradation
<i>End of Day 1</i>	
<b>Tuesday, 21 October, 09.00 – 13.00h</b>	
09.00 – 10.30	<b>Identification of further technical, methodological and research work</b> needed to estimate and monitor emissions from forest degradation Consideration of the role of the REDD Web Platform in this context of further work and sharing of information
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00 – 12.30	Recommendations by the experts on methodologies and technical requirements for estimating and monitoring emissions from forest degradation and conclusions for the SBSTA
12.30 – 13.00	Concluding remarks by the Chair of the SBSTA
<i>End of Meeting</i>	

## **Work Map: Proposed Areas of Discussions and Expected Output**

### **Day 1: October 20**

- To start off the meeting, there will be **brief presentations followed by discussions** as part of sharing knowledge and experiences on estimating and monitoring emissions from forest degradation in developing countries that could serve as a basis for discussions at this expert meeting. Experts are invited to provide examples of ongoing work on estimating and monitoring emissions from forest degradation and to share experiences and lessons learned from methodological issues, data and methodological gaps that need to be filled and challenges faced in implementation of methodologies and in application of tools.
- This will be followed by a **general discussion on what is “forest degradation.”** Experts to identify elements or characteristics associated with forest degradation and the drivers of forest degradation. Are there regional differences and what are these ? Experts to consider the role of these elements/drivers in estimating GHG emissions from forest degradation and implications for methodological approaches.
- **Methodological and monitoring approaches:** Some proposed areas for discussion include:-
  - Existing methodologies and tools – what is available (e.g. remote sensing and radar technologies, ground-based surveys)? Weaknesses and strengths of each approach for estimating emissions from degradation. Challenges to implementation faced by developing countries. Lessons learned from IPCC guidance and methodologies. Are existing methodological approaches sufficient to address the issue? If no, what else is needed?
  - Data needs and gaps, identify types of data needed to accurately estimate and monitor emissions from forest degradation. Existing data sets/data bases – what is available and their applicability.
  - Means to deal with uncertainties in estimates.
- **Establishing reference emission levels**
  - Proposed approaches.
  - What is needed?
  - What are the difficulties and challenges foreseen?
  - Historical data availability?
- **Expected Output at the end of Day 1:** Experts to produce a summary of the day’s discussions, with support from the secretariat. Based on the key points raised during discussions, the experts are also expected to draft and recommend general technical and methodological guidance for developing countries wanting to estimate and monitor emissions from forest degradation.

## **Day 2: October 21**

- Experts to identify and propose further technical, methodological and research work needed to estimate and monitor emissions from forest degradation. The group could also consider how the UNFCCC REDD Web Platform could play a role in sharing such relevant information and for the experts to identify existing information that could be posted on the Platform.
- To find out more about and to access the REDD Web Platform, please go to the following link:

[http://unfccc.int/methods\\_science/redd/items/4531.php](http://unfccc.int/methods_science/redd/items/4531.php)

**Expected Output for Day 2:** Experts are expected to draft general recommendations and conclusions on methodologies and technical requirements for estimating and monitoring emissions (based on discussions on Day 1 and Day 2). Experts are also expected to propose some areas of further work needed on this issue.

These recommendations and guidance will be forwarded to the SBSTA for its consideration.

### **Relevant documents for this meeting**

As part of measures to conserve resources at the secretariat, experts are strongly encouraged to bring along their own soft/hard copies of the following UNFCCC documents for reference during the discussions.

- Report on the workshop on methodological issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (FCCC/SBSTA/2008/11)
- Report on the second workshop on reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries (FCCC/SBSTA/2007/3)
- Conclusions from SBSTA 28 (FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6; para. 89–96, pages 16–17 and Annex III, pages 30–31)
- Decision 2/CP.13 (FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1, pages 8–11)
- Views on outstanding methodological issues related to policy approaches and positive incentives to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. Submissions from Parties (FCCC/SBSTA/2008/MISC.4, Add.1–3)

The above documents can be easily downloaded from the following link on the UNFCCC website:

[http://unfccc.int/methods\\_and\\_science/lulucf/items/4123.php](http://unfccc.int/methods_and_science/lulucf/items/4123.php)

**No additional copies will be made available at the meeting.**