

## **CREATING AN INTERIM REDD+ PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENT BY LATE MAY 2010**

***This food for thought paper sketches some ideas of the Government of Norway regarding how an interim REDD+ partnership could be created and agreed by late may 2010.***

*There is ample basis – in relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, in already ongoing REDD+ readiness efforts, in the Copenhagen Accord as well as in pledges made in Copenhagen for both actions and fast action financial support on REDD+ – for the immediate establishment of a broad partnership of likeminded countries on REDD+.*

*The legitimacy of the process will be crucial to succeed in this endeavor. A transparent and inclusive multilateral process, with political level meetings in Paris to Oslo at its core, could grant such legitimacy and lead to the establishment of an Interim REDD+ Partnership Arrangement.*

*The partnership would be about fast start implementation. Negotiations on outstanding issues should be left to the UNFCCC process. When a UNFCCC REDD+ mechanism is set up, it would replace or subsume the interim partnership.*

### ***The Goal: An Interim REDD+ Partnership Arrangement***

- The goal of the process through Paris to Oslo should be to establish an Interim REDD+ Partnership Arrangement that would encompass those countries endorsing a ‘partnership document’. The partnership will be replaced or subsumed by a UNFCCC REDD+ arrangement once that is in place, and its decisions are thus by nature temporary.
- The Interim REDD+ Partnership Arrangement could:
  - Reiterate and build upon agreed elements of relevant COP decisions and work in progress, including the current draft of the LCA text on REDD+.
  - Be designed to help implement what is already broadly agreed on REDD+, while being flexible enough to expand its scope as agreement – expressed most authoritatively through decisions of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – expands.
  - Have as core elements:
    - Fast start funding commitments and REDD+ commitments, as well as a shared recognition that funding and actions will both need to be stepped up over time to reach desired results.
    - Coordination and transparency on – including efforts to establish a voluntary mechanism to ensure transparency regarding and to support coordination of – REDD+ actions, results and funding.
    - An expressed desire to work towards agreed standards to ensure the environmental, social and economic integrity and sustainability of REDD+ results.
  - Include, possibly through changes to existing multilateral initiatives, a coordinating institution that would:
    - Be the global forum for open discussions and sharing of best practices on REDD+ action and support from bilateral and multilateral efforts, including a

- voluntary mechanism to ensure transparency regarding and coordination of actions, results and funding.
- Support coordination of (but not have authority over) REDD+ actions and efforts, including national, bilateral and multilateral initiatives.
  - Contribute to environmental, social, and financial integrity of relevant efforts.
  - Be managed by a governing body made up by equal representation of developed and developing countries and served by a dedicated secretariat.
  - Be able to draw upon relevant multilateral institutions and other capabilities worldwide for technical support to developing forest countries.
- Assist the efforts of developing countries already engaged in the early steps of REDD+ strategy, through :
    - Support for capacity building, in particular on readiness, capability building and robust and effective systems for monitoring, reporting and verifying emission reductions, building as explicitly as possible on (Decision XX/CP.15), and;
    - Support for results based mitigation action for developing countries ready to do so and developed countries ready to support their efforts.
    - Discussion on needs, results, funding gaps, and timeliness related to the provision of finance, and possible solutions to these issues.

### ***The Paris meeting***

According to France, the Paris meeting aims at:

- Strengthening and, where possible, enhancing the announcements of early financing pledges made in Copenhagen and also of national actions on REDD by developing countries.
- Launching the implementation of the fast-start on REDD+ and agree on the need to ensure the effective coordination of early financing actions and funding across the various countries.
- Agreeing to create a light structure (a « secretariat ») and a code of conduct.
- Building on the progress made on REDD+ in the UNFCCC, to exchange on the broad principles, especially on governance, that should guide the long term on REDD+.

### ***Paris to Oslo***

- The groundwork for the partnership should be laid through a process to establish an 'Interim REDD+ Partnership Arrangement' document. This should happen through a process that is:
  - *Country led.* The countries ready to drive the process forward on a day-to-day basis should do so together. These countries should also collectively ensure a transparent and inclusive process. This arrangement should be temporary in nature, supporting the process up to Oslo only.

- *Transparent.* All key information should be publicly available. A formal ‘hearing’ should be held on a complete draft before a final revision.
- *Inclusive.* All countries wishing to work constructively together to establish the partnership should be able to participate in the process. Multilateral initiatives and civil society could be consulted through workshops and requests for input.
- The ‘partnership document’ could be agreed well in advance of the Oslo Climate and Forest Conference, to ensure that countries have sufficient time for internal processes to decide whether or not to be present in Oslo to endorse the partnership.
- Deliberations on modifications to the multilateral institutional architecture of REDD+ could – if deemed useful by the countries – be facilitated by asking a third party that is independent of the relevant institutions to collect information, including countries’ views, and produce a report.

**Step 3: The Oslo Climate and Forest Conference**

- Establish the Interim REDD-plus Partnership Arrangement as described above through the collective endorsement of the ‘partnership document’.
- If deemed appropriate through the working process, countries could also agree to a joint political statement and/or a joint submission to the UNFCCC.

**Step 4: Post-Oslo**

- The coordinating institution could convene the partnership soon after Oslo to initiate efforts on coordinating funding and actions for REDD+ globally.
- Recommended changes to components of the institutional architecture could be formally conveyed to the institutions’ governing bodies.
- The outcome of the Paris-Oslo process should feed into and support future UNFCCC meetings, including the Bonn meeting and the Cancun Conference of the Parties in 2010.