



## **SUBMISSION BY INDONESIA**

### **Views of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia on Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries**

1. Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice in its thirty-fifth session invited Parties and accredited observers to submit to the Secretariat their views by 28 February 2012 on issues identified in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 72 and appendix II, in particular on how to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and on robust and transparent national forest monitoring systems as referred to in its paragraph 71(c). The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to compile the submissions from Parties into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-sixth session.
2. The Government of the Republic of Indonesia herewith submit its views as follows:

#### **A. Issues to be addressed in developing and implementing national strategy or action plan:**

##### **I. Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation**

3. Indonesia refers to the Decision 4/CP.15, paragraph 1, which requested developing countries undertaking REDD+ activities to identify: (a) drivers of deforestation and forest degradation resulting in emissions and also the means to address the drivers; (b) activities within the country that result in reduced emissions, increased removals, and stabilized forest carbon stocks; and to the Decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 72, which requested developing country Parties to address, inter alia, drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plans, as the basis for the submission.
4. Indonesia is of the view that there are several aspects that correspond to efforts in addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, among others are:
  - (i) Effectiveness of efforts to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation is dependent on reliability of information relating to the drivers and on the understanding on relevant issues;

- (ii) While confronting with the task to deal with development challenges faced by many countries all over the world such as poverty eradication, economic development and governance issues, developing nations have their respective domestic unique challenges. Therefore, efforts to addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation have to take into account national circumstances and capabilities of developing countries;
- (iii) There is a critical issue on how information relating to developing countries' efforts in addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation should be provided and what channels to be used for providing information. As the success in addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation will determine the success of REDD+ implementation, Indonesia is of the view that information on how drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are addressed will be embedded in the report of the REDD+ actions result in the form of reduced emissions, stabilized forest carbon stocks, and enhanced forest carbon stocks.

5. Key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation within the boundaries of the country were identified during the study undertaken by the Indonesia Forest Climate Alliance (IFCA) in 2007 as well as during the process of developing National REDD+ Strategy in 2010-2011. Further stakeholder processes to identify drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and ways to address these drivers are underway. At the same time, activities which resulted in reduced emissions and increased removals/sequestrations and stabilization of forest carbon stocks are also carried out.

6. Since early 2000s, a number of policy interventions have been introduced, including the enforcement of regulations such as combating illegal logging and its associated trade, combating corruption, forest fire prevention as well as implementation of mandatory and voluntary instruments of sustainable forest management and verification of timber legality. These policy interventions have brought about significant reduction in forest cover loss from 3.51 million hectare per year (1996-2000) to 0.83 million hectare per year (2006-2009).

## **II. Forest governance issues, land tenure, gender considerations and safeguards, full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders including indigenous peoples and local communities**

7. Governance issues and engagement of relevant stakeholders including local communities as well as gender mainstreaming are already part of the safeguards tenet under decision 1/CP.16, Annex 1. Forest countries usually have policy and other instruments that are relevant to REDD+ safeguards. Indonesia, in this case, has a number of policies and other instruments relating to sustainable forest management including stakeholders participation and gender mainstreaming into development planning. These instruments can be the embryo for the development of a system for information provision on how safeguards, as referred to in Annex 1 of Decision 1/CP.16, are addressed and respected.

8. Land tenure is one of the difficult, multifaceted issues in Indonesia. The Government is now reviewing existing relevant national legislation, in which stakeholder consultation is

of paramount importance in this process. Both national and forestry sector spatial planning are already in place and are reviewed every five years. Remote-sensing data, combined with ground check, enables review process; thus spatial planning and its associated decisions would be based on reliable information. Moreover, as review process of spatial planning is a multi-stakeholder process, it can be a kind of avenue to resolve land conflict and other land tenure issues.

## **B. Development of a robust and transparent national forest monitoring systems**

9. Indonesia refers to :

(a) The Decision 4/CP. 15 paragraph 1 (c) which requested parties to use the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidance and guidelines, as adopted or encouraged by the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate, as a basis for estimating anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks and forest area changes. Furthermore, based on Decision 4/CP. 15 paragraph 1 (d) and decision 1/CP.17 paragraph 71 (c), Parties are requested to establish a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system and, if appropriate, sub-national systems as part of national monitoring systems, that:

- i Use a combination of remote sensing and ground-based forest carbon inventory approaches for estimating, as appropriate, anthropogenic forest-related greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks and forest area changes;
- ii Provide estimates that are transparent, consistent, as far as possible accurate, and that reduce uncertainties, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities;
- iii Are transparent and their results are available and suitable for review as agreed by the Conference of the Parties;

(b) Further provision on the development of a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for monitoring and reporting of REDD+ activities under decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 71 (c), includes sub-national monitoring and reporting as an interim measure, monitoring and reporting of emissions displacement at the national level, if appropriate, reporting on how displacement of emissions is being addressed, and on the means to integrate sub-national monitoring systems into a national monitoring system.

10. Responding to the aforementioned subjects, Indonesia considers that:

(i) A robust and transparent national forest monitoring system should be built upon existing system(s); it should be flexible and allows improvement over time according to national circumstances, capabilities and support received. This is based on the fact that forest countries generally already have national forest monitoring system in place although the systems may not readily accommodate “carbon component”. As for Indonesia, it has “Forest Resource Information

System (FRIS)" introduced since 2007 (further enhancement of Forest Resource Inventory System, since early 1980s). For the purpose of monitoring and reporting REDD+ activities and overall mitigation actions in forestry, the system has been interfaced with National Carbon Accounting System (INCAS) and, in the future, with National Green house Gas Inventory System.

- (ii) Similar to the development of national forest reference emission level and/or forest reference level as referred to in COP 17 decision, a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system could be developed with stepwise approach, enabling parties to improve the system by incorporating better data and improved methodologies, taking into account new knowledges, trends and any modification of scope and methodologies. Thus, parties should be allowed to translate the guidance under decision 4/CP.15 paragraph 1 (d) in accordance with national circumstances, capabilities and support received.
- (iii) It is important to establish national standard as a basis to address national/sub-national approaches of REDD+ activities, and to provide estimates that are transparent, consistent, accurate and comparable across the country. In this case, Indonesia has developed National Standard on Land Cover Classification (SNI 7645: 2010) as the basis for monitoring forest cover changes and National Standards on Ground-Based Forest Carbon Accounting (SNI 7724: 2011 and SNI 7725: 2011) as the basis to determine local specific emission factor/removals factors/carbon stocks<sup>1</sup>.
- (iv) The forest monitoring system should contain, as appropriate, a description of data sets including pools and gases as well as scope of REDD+ activities, approaches, methods, models and assumptions used, if applicable. Likewise, it should also includes description of relevant policies and plans, and of changes from previously submitted information, including information on GHGs emissions and removals and forest carbon stocks, calculated against forest emissions level or reference level. Furthermore, the system should also include description of process for reporting.

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<sup>1</sup> The English version of SNI 7724 : 2011 and SNI 7725 : 2011 can be downloaded from the Indonesian Ministry of Forestry's website: [www.dephut.go.id/index.php?q=id/node/8287](http://www.dephut.go.id/index.php?q=id/node/8287)