

Draft decision [-/CMP.6]

Land use, land-use change and forestry

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol,

Affirming that the implementation of land use, land-use change and forestry activities included under the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol shall be consistent with the objectives and principles of, and any decisions taken under, the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol,

1. *Affirms* that the principles contained in paragraph 1 of decision 16/CMP.1 continue to govern the treatment of land use, land-use change, and forestry activities;
2. *Agrees* that the definitions of forest, afforestation, reforestation, deforestation, revegetation, forest management, cropland management, and grazing land management shall be the same as in the first commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol;
3. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol to consider, in time for possible inclusion in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, if appropriate, whether a cap should be applied to emissions and removals from forest management and how extraordinary occurrences (so called “force majeure”) whose severity is beyond the control of, and not materially influenced by, a Party, can be addressed;
4. *Requests* each Annex I Party to submit to the secretariat, by 28 February 2011, information on the forest management reference level¹ inscribed in the appendix to annex I to this decision, including any update to replace the value, in accordance with the guidelines outlined in part I of annex II to this decision;
5. *Decides* that each submission referred to in paragraph 4 above shall be subject to a technical assessment by a review team in accordance with the guidelines outlined in part II of annex II to this decision, and that outcomes of the technical assessment will be

¹ The forest management reference levels inscribed in the appendix were set transparently, taking into account:

- (a) Removals or emissions from forest management as shown in greenhouse gas inventories and relevant historical data;
- (b) Age-class structure;
- (c) Forest management activities already undertaken;
- (d) Projected forest management activities under a business as usual scenario;
- (e) Continuity with the treatment of forest management in the first commitment period;
- (f) The need to exclude removals from accounting in accordance with decision 16/CMP.1, paragraph 1.

Points (c), (d) and (e) above were applied where relevant. The forest management reference levels also took into account the need for consistency with the inclusion of carbon pools. Reference levels including and excluding “force majeure” should be provided.

considered by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol at its next session;

6. *Requests* the secretariat, subject to the availability of funds, to organize the technical assessments referred to in paragraph 5 above;

7. *Further requests* the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol to continue its consideration of definitions, modalities, rules and guidelines relating for land use, land use change and forestry activities under the Kyoto Protocol for application in the second commitment period.

Annex I

Reference levels submitted by Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

Reference levels submitted by Annex I Parties to the Kyoto Protocol

<i>Party</i>	<i>Reference level (Mt CO₂eq/yr)</i>
Australia	-9.16
Austria	-2.12
Belarus	-24.93
Belgium	-3.40
Bulgaria	-10.08
Canada	-105.40
Croatia	–
Cyprus ^a	-0.16
Czech Republic	-3.86
Denmark	0.18
Estonia	-1.97
European Union (27)	-283.20 ^a
Finland	-13.70
France	-66.98
Germany	-2.07
Greece	-1.38
Hungary	-0.50
Iceland	–
Ireland	-0.07
Italy	-15.61
Japan	0.00
Latvia	-12.93
Liechtenstein	–
Lithuania	-11.48
Luxembourg	-0.26
Malta ^a	-0.05
Monaco	–

<i>Party</i>	<i>Reference level (Mt CO₂eq/yr)</i>
Netherlands	-1.69
New Zealand	17.05
Norway	-14.20
Poland	-34.67
Portugal	-0.92
Romania	-29.43
Russian Federation	-89.10
Slovakia	-0.51
Slovenia	-2.73
Spain	-41.53
Sweden	-21.84
Switzerland	0.48
Ukraine	–
United Kingdom	-3.44

^a The European Union total includes Cyprus and Malta. Cyprus and Malta are member States of the European Union but are not Parties to the Convention that are also Parties to the Kyoto Protocol with a commitment inscribed in Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol.

NOTE: Parties have made different assumptions in the construction of the reference levels proposed in the appendix above. These assumptions are found in Parties' submissions at <http://unfccc.int/meetings/ad_hoc_working_groups/kp/items/4907.php>.

Annex II

Guidelines for the submission and review of information on forest management reference levels / baselines

1. Each Party included in Annex I shall include in its submission transparent, complete, consistent, comparable and accurate information required under Part I of these guidelines, for the purpose of allowing a technical assessment, as specified in Part II, of the data, methodologies and procedures used in the construction of reference levels as specified in Annex I above to facilitate the consideration on the forest management reference level.

Part I: Guidelines for submissions of information on forest management reference levels

Objectives

2. The objectives of the submission are:

(a) To provide information consistent with the general reporting principles set out by the UNFCCC and elaborated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,² on how the elements contained in footnote 1 in paragraph 4 of this decision were taken into account by Parties in the construction of forest management reference levels, and to provide any additional relevant information;

(b) To document the information that was used by Parties in constructing forest management reference levels in a comprehensive and transparent way;

(c) To provide transparent, complete, consistent, comparable and accurate methodological information used at the time of construction of forest management reference levels.

3. Parties shall provide submissions in accordance with the following guidelines:

General description

4. Provide a general description of the construction of the forest management reference levels consistent with footnote 1 in paragraph 4 of this decision.

5. Provide a description on how each element contained in footnote 1 in paragraph 4 of this decision was taken into account in the construction of the forest management reference level.

Pools and Gases

6. Identify pools and gases which have been included in the reference level and explain the reasons for omitting a pool from the reference level construction.

7. Explain consistency between the pools included in the reference level.

Approaches, methods and models used

8. Provide a description of approaches, methods and models, including assumptions used in the construction of the forest management reference level, referring, where relevant, to the most recently submitted National Inventory Report.

² UNFCCC Annex I Reporting Guidelines, IPCC *Good Practice Guidance for land use, land-use change and forestry*.

Description of construction of reference levels

9. Provide description of how each of the following elements were considered or treated in the construction of the forest management reference level, taking into account the principles in decision 16/CMP.1,

- (a) Area under forest management;
- (b) Emissions and removals from forest management and the relationship between forest management and forest land remaining forest land as shown in GHG inventories and relevant historical data, including information provided under Article 3.3., and, if applicable, Article 3.4 forest management of the Kyoto Protocol and under forest land remaining forest land under the Convention;
- (c) Forest characteristics including age class structure, increments, rotation length, and other relevant information, including information on forest management activities under “business as usual”;
- (d) Historical and assumed harvesting rates;
- (e) Harvested wood products;
- (f) Disturbances in the context of force majeure;
- (g) Factoring out in accordance with paragraph 1(h) (i) and 1(h) (ii) of decision 16/CMP.1.

10. Provide description of any other relevant elements considered or treated in the construction of the forest management reference level, including any additional information related to footnote 1 in paragraph 4 of this decision.

Policies included

11. Provide description of the domestic policies adopted and implemented no later than December 2009 considered in the construction of the forest management reference level and explain how these policies have been considered in the construction of the reference level.

12. Provide confirmation that the construction of the forest management reference level neither includes assumptions about changes to domestic policies adopted and implemented after December 2009, nor includes new domestic policies.

Part II: Guidelines for review of submissions of information on forest management reference levels

Objectives of review

13. The objectives of the review are:

- (a) To assess whether Parties have provided transparent, complete, consistent, comparable and accurate information on how the elements contained in footnote 1 in paragraph 4 of this decision were taken into account in the construction of forest management reference levels;
- (b) To ascertain whether the construction of the forest management reference level is consistent with the information and descriptions used by the Party;
- (c) To provide, as appropriate, to the Annex I Party, technical recommendations
- (d) To provide a technical assessment to support consideration by the CMP at its seventh session of the forest management reference levels to be used during the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol;

(e) To assess whether Parties have provided transparent, complete, consistent, comparable and accurate methodological information to facilitate reviews of methodological consistency.

Scope of the review

14. A technical assessment of the data, methodologies, assumptions and procedures used in the construction of the forest management reference levels of Annex I Parties to determine whether they are consistent with the guidelines in part I of this annex.

15. The review team will assess the following issues:

(a) Whether the Party has identified pools and gases included in the forest management reference level and explained the reasons for omitting a pool or a gas from the forest management reference level and whether the coverage of pools in the forest management reference level is consistent;

(b) The description of approaches, methods and models used in the construction of reference levels;

(c) How each element in paragraphs 9 and 10 of Part I is considered, including justification for why any particular element was not considered;

(d) Whether the forest management reference level value is consistent with the information and descriptions provided by the Party;

(e) Whether the information was provided by the Party in a transparent manner;

(f) Whether a description is provided of domestic policies included in accordance with the provisions contained in paragraph 11 above that were used in the construction of the reference level and how these policies were used in the construction of the reference level;

(g) Whether confirmation has been provided that the construction of the forest management reference level does not include assumptions about changes to domestic policies according to paragraph 12 above.

16. As part of the technical assessment, the review process may provide technical recommendations to the Annex I Party on the construction of its forest management reference level. This may include the recommendation to make a technical revision to elements used in its construction.

17. Review teams shall refrain from making any judgment on domestic policies taken into account in the construction of the reference level.

Review procedures

General procedures

18. Review teams will meet in a single location to perform a centralized review of all forest management reference level submissions.

19. Each submission will be assigned to a review team responsible for performing the technical assessment in accordance with procedures and timeframes established in these guidelines.

20. Each review team will provide a thorough and comprehensive assessment of the forest management reference level submission and will under its collective responsibility prepare a report.

21. The review process will be coordinated by the secretariat. Review teams will be composed of LULUCF review experts selected from the roster of experts. Participating

experts will serve in their personal capacity and will be neither nationals of the Party under review, nor funded by that Party.

22. Review teams will work under the same rules as those set out in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the annex to decision 22/CMP.1.

Composition of the review teams

23. Review teams should be made up of at least three LULUCF experts. The secretariat shall ensure that in any review team one co-lead reviewer shall be from an Annex I Party and one co-lead reviewer shall be from a non-Annex I Party. The Secretariat will select the members of the review team with a view to achieving balance between experts from Annex I Parties and non-Annex I Parties.

Timing

24. In order to facilitate the secretariat's work, each Party should confirm to the secretariat by the end of February 2011, their active experts on the LULUCF roster of experts who will be able to participate in the review of forest management reference levels in 2011.

25. The Secretariat should forward all relevant information to the review teams in good time before the start of the review.

26. Prior to the review, the review teams should identify any preliminary questions requiring clarifications from the Party, as appropriate.

27. The review should take place no later than by the end of May 2011 and be conducted according to the indicative timings set out in paragraphs 28 to 32 below. The Party being reviewed may interact with the review team during the review of their submission to respond to questions and provide additional information as requested by the review teams.

28. The review teams may seek any additional clarification from the Party no later than one week following the review. This may include technical recommendations to the Party on the construction of its reference level. The Party is to provide any required clarifications to the review team no later than five weeks following the request and may also submit a revised reference level in response to the technical recommendations of the review team.

29. The review team will prepare a draft report and make it available to the Party no later than eight weeks following the review. The report should include a short summary.

30. The Party will have three weeks to respond to the draft report of the review team.

31. If the Party does not agree with the findings in the draft report, in responding to the

32. Party's comments, the review team will seek advice from a small group of experienced reviewers to be convened by the secretariat, which will consider comparability across Parties.

33. The review team will prepare a final report within three weeks following the Party's response and the report will be sent to the secretariat for publication on the UNFCCC website. The final report contains the technical assessment, technical recommendations, if appropriate, and the responses by the Parties and where provided, the advice of the small group of experienced reviewers convened by the Secretariat.

34. The secretariat will prepare a synthesis report of key conclusions of the forest management reference level review process, including comments by Parties for consideration at CMP.7. The synthesis report will be made publicly available and be published on the UNFCCC website.

