



Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Thirty-eighth session

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Agenda item 4

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

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Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

Addendum

Recommendation of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, at its thirty-eighth session, recommended the following draft decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its nineteenth session:

Draft decision -/CP.19

Modalities for national forest monitoring systems

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 2/CP.13, 4/CP.15, 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17 and 12/CP.17,

1. *Affirms* that, consistent with decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71, the activities referred to in this decision are undertaken in the context of the provision of adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support to developing country Parties;

2. *Decides* that the development of Parties' national forest monitoring systems for the monitoring and reporting of the activities,¹ as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure, should take into account the guidance provided in decision 4/CP.15 and be guided by 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 carbon stock and forest-area changes;
3. *Also decides* that robust national forest monitoring systems should provide data and information that are transparent, consistent over time, and are suitable for measuring, reporting and verifying anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest-area changes resulting from the implementation of the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, taking into account paragraph 71(b) and (c) consistent with guidance on measuring, reporting and verifying nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties agreed by the Conference of the Parties, taking into account methodological guidance in accordance with decision 4/CP.15;
4. *Further decides* that national forest monitoring systems, with, if appropriate, subnational monitoring and reporting as an interim measure as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 71 (c), and decision 4/CP.15, paragraph 1(d), should:
 - (a) Build upon existing systems, as appropriate;
 - (b) Enable the assessment of different types of forest in the country, including natural forest, as defined by the Party;
 - (c) Be flexible and allow for improvement;
 - (d) Reflect, as appropriate, the phased-approach as referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 73 and 74;
5. *Acknowledges* that Parties' national forest monitoring systems may provide, as appropriate, relevant information for national systems for the provision of information on how safeguards in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, are addressed and respected.

¹ As per decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, Parties undertake activities as deemed appropriate by each Party with their respective capabilities and national circumstances, noting that significant pools and/or activities should not be excluded.