

Submission of Views

by

Bangladesh, Belize, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Gabon, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Uganda

on

Framework for Various Approaches

30 August 2013

1. Following the closure of the Ad hoc Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) in Doha at the eighteenth Conference of the Parties (COP 18) to the UNFCCC a number of items were referred for further work to the various subsidiary bodies (SBs). In anticipation, the AWG-LCA at its fifteenth session invited Parties to submit, by 25 March 2013, their views on the following three work programmes that emerged from element 1bV of the Bali Action Plan:
 - a framework for various approaches, including opportunities for using markets (FVA)¹;
 - new market-based mechanism (NMM)²;
 - non-market-based approaches (NMA)³.

2. In accordance with decision 1/CP.18, paragraphs 41 – 46, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) at its thirty eighth session:
 - initiated the work programme to elaborate a framework for various approaches;
 - agreed to continue its consideration of this matter at SBSTA 39 (November 2013), with a view to fulfilling its mandate as set out in decision 1/CP.18, paragraphs 44–46;
 - invited Parties and admitted observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 2 September 2013, their views on the set of questions identified in paragraph 4(a) of the draft conclusions proposed by the Chair on the framework for various approaches.⁴

¹ FCCC/CP/2012/L.14/Rev.1, paragraph 48.

² FCCC/CP/2012/L.14/Rev.1, paragraph 52.

³ FCCC/CP/2012/L.14/Rev.1, paragraph 48.

⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2013/L.6, paragraph 4(a):

(i) On the role of the FVA:

a. What is the purpose and scope of the FVA, including its role in ensuring environmental integrity?

3. For this purpose the Coalition for Rainforest Nations (CfRN or Coalition) considered issues related to the NMM and prepared this submission of views. We therefore reiterate our call for a clear decision to be adopted by COP19 on the design and infrastructure of the FVA and the NMM, while continuing the discussion around NMA as of next year
4. The submission of views made on 25 March 2013 by the Coalition on the framework for various approaches should be recalled and considered jointly with this one.

Role of the FVA

5. All various approaches (VA) developed, recognized and implemented by the Parties under the Convention to promote mitigation actions should be integrated in the FVA with the view to foster environmental integrity, bearing in mind different capacities and capabilities of developed and developing countries.
6. The FVA should cover all mitigation approaches, market and non-market based, developed, recognized and implemented under the Convention, domestic and/or international, including sectoral mechanisms, that:
 - result in net reductions and/or avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks;
 - are eligible to assist Parties to achieve compliance with UNFCCC mitigation obligations or commitments, both voluntary or legally binding.
7. Subject to national measuring, reporting and verification (MRV) and monitoring systems, units created through national mitigation initiatives can be transferred and used for UNFCCC compliance, provided that VA comply with common standards that ensure environmental integrity, promote sustainable

b. What are the possible links between the FVA and other relevant matters under the Convention and its instruments?

c. Should the elements of the FVA operate under the principles, provisions and commitments of the Convention, and if so how?

(ii) On the technical design of the FVA:

a. How may the elements listed in decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 46, be elaborated given the options for the purpose and scope of the FVA expressed by Parties?

b. Which experiences from the Kyoto Protocol flexible mechanisms, domestic and regional schemes, existing institutional arrangements and infrastructure are relevant to the elaboration of the FVA and how can they be applied to the FVA?

c. Should the FVA assess the institutional arrangements of various approaches, and if so, how?

d. What could be the role of a share of proceeds for the approaches under the FVA?

e. What common accounting rules, standards, criteria and/or procedures, if any, could be established under the Convention, taking into account internationally agreed common accounting rules, to ensure the environmental integrity of the approaches under the FVA, and avoiding all types of double counting, including mitigation outcomes and support?

development as defined by participating countries, and deliver real, permanent, additional and verified mitigation outcomes; double counting of any type shall be avoided and transparently reflected into a globally agreed registry.

8. National circumstances and different capacities and capabilities of developed and developing countries should be taken into account when designing the rules of the FVA.
9. Adequate and long-term predictable financial resources for the implementation of the mitigation actions in developing country Parties should be provided by developed country Parties through a broad range of financial streams.

Technical design

10. The FVA will function under the authority and guidance of the COP and include units produced by developed and developing country Parties through crediting, trading or a mechanism of a mixture thereof, and transparently reflected in the agreed registry mechanism.
11. Common procedures, rules and standards should be harmonized based on COP guidance, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities
12. Requirements for the accurate measurement, reporting and verification at the national level of emission reductions, emission removals and/or avoided emissions should be introduced. The Kyoto Protocol accounting infrastructure may be considered as a model to be followed.
13. National Registries (NRs) should be established to ensure the accurate accounting of the issuance, holding, transfer and acquisition of units and subject to national monitoring, measurement, reporting, verification and accounting systems. These systems will feed the global registry in such a way to ensure transparency and to ensure environmental integrity.
14. Common standards (CSs) should be identified by the COP, taking into account rules already agreed for mitigation efforts to be covered by the FVA (e.g. REDD+). CSs should be applied to all various approaches and should ensure environmental integrity and full fungibility of units ('a ton is a ton'). CSs will be used in 'evaluating' a mitigation action and should address issues such as additionality, full national accounting and monitoring systems, double counting, independent verification, leakage, reference levels and equivalent factors.
15. The FVA should primarily review various approaches promoting mitigation actions and implement Common Standards with the view to ensure that net reductions and/or avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions by all sources and all removals by sinks are achieved and result in additional mitigation efforts by developed country Parties.