

3 May 2012

English only

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Thirty-sixth session

Bonn, 14–25 May 2012

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

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

Views on issues identified in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 72 and appendix II

Submissions from Parties

Addendum

1. In addition to the 15 submissions by 13 Parties contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.1, two further submissions have been received.¹
2. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, these submissions are attached and reproduced* in the language in which they were received and without formal editing.

¹ Also available at <<http://unfccc.int/5901.php>>.

* These submissions have been electronically imported in order to make them available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the texts as submitted.

FCCC/SBSTA/2012/MISC.1/Add.1

GE.12-60850

Please recycle 

Contents

| | <i>Page</i> |
|--|-------------|
| Bangladesh, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Suriname and Uganda | |
| A. Views on robust and transparent national forest monitoring systems as referred to in paragraph 71c of decision 1/CP.16 as requested by the SBSTA at its thirty-fifth session | 3 |
| B. Views on how to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation as referred to in paragraph 71c of decision 1/CP.16 as requested by the SBSTA at its thirty-fifth session | 6 |
| (Submissions received 10 April 2012) | |

Paper A: Bangladesh, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Suriname and Uganda

Views on robust and transparent national forest monitoring systems as referred to in paragraph 71c of decision 1/CP.16 as requested by the SBSTA at its thirty-fifth session*

29 February 2012

1. The SBSTA at its 35th session invited Parties to submit their views 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 71c¹.
2. For this purpose the Coalition for Rainforest Nations and a number of like-minded developing countries met in London to consider issues related to paragraph 1 above. This submission has been prepared to reflect those discussions and expresses input from many other developing country Parties on the same issues.
3. The submission of views to SBSTA35 made on 19 September 2011 by *Belize, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Congo, Solomon Islands, Togo and Uganda* on modalities 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 paragraph 70 of decision 1/CP.16 included in document FCCC/SBSTA/2011/MISC.7 should be recalled.
4. Activities identified in paragraph 70 to decision 1/CP.16 (REDD+ activities) and nationally appropriate mitigation actions identified in paragraphs 48 and 49 to decision 1/CP.16 are two fundamental elements for developing country Parties mitigation actions. Diverse mitigation actions may be undertaken by developing country Parties as communicated by them in accordance with paragraph 49 of decision 1/CP.16.
5. **Consistency between the MRV of REDD+ and NAMAs:** Modalities 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 paragraph 70 of decision 1/CP.16, should be consistent with any guidance on measuring, reporting and verifying (MRV) nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) by developing country Parties as agreed by COP16, in accordance with paragraph 60 and Appendix II of decision 1/CP.16 and with the guidelines contained in Annex III to decision 2/CP.17 Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention, and taking into account methodological guidance developed by the SBSTA in accordance with decision 4/CP.15.
6. **MRV Cannot be more burdensome for REDD+:** The consistency between the MRV of nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) by developing country Parties and the MRV of REDD+ activities

* French and Spanish versions of the submission have also been submitted and are available at <http://unfccc.int/5901.php>.

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2011/L.25, paragraph 5.

recognized by Appendix II of decision 1/CP.16 shall be observed and Parties shall not permit the introduction of more burdensome requirements for the MRV of REDD+ activities.

7. **National Forest Monitoring Systems:** In accordance with Decision 4/CP.15 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 the national forest monitoring systems should:

- a. Be consistent with any guidance on measuring, reporting and verifying nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties taking into account methodological guidance developed by SBSTA in accordance with decision 4/CP.15;
- b. Be based on a combination of remote sensing and ground-based forest carbon inventory approaches;
- c. Include all national forest areas, and may integrate subnational forest monitoring systems based on national circumstances.
- d. Maximize the frequency of forest monitoring and assessment subject to available funding provided and national capacities.
- e. Permit the use of a “tiered approach” in setting up the national forest monitoring system, including carbon stocks, based upon national circumstances, capacity and capabilities, in accordance with the IPCC Guidelines and Guidance as agreed by the Parties.
- f. Be developed through a step-wise approach that reflects the phased approach for REDD+ decided in paragraph 73 Decision of 1/CP.16. In particular, the National Forest Monitoring System for REDD+ Phase II should be used to demonstrate that the REDD+ demonstration activities are results based but should also be assessed through simplified parameters and criteria.

8. **Measuring:** Measurements should be consistent with data requirements for estimating emissions and removals based on IPCC guidance and guidelines within Decision 4/CP.15. Therefore, collected data should be representative of the full variability for forest types present in the country, their carbon stocks and related dynamics, be free of bias as far as can be judged and ensure spatial and temporal consistency of compiled databases.

9. **Reporting:** The consistency referred to in paragraph 5 above, subject to Decisions 1/CP.16 and 2/CP.17, should be maintained, including:

- a. Additional flexibility given to least developed country Parties and small island developing states when considering enhanced reporting in national communications, including inventories from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention.
- b. National communications submitted every four years including biennial update reports subject to Decision 2/CP.17, Annex III, Section III, that include updates of:
 - i. National greenhouse gas inventories, including a national forest inventory report.

- ii. Information on national mitigation actions, needs assessment and support received.
- iii. Tables included in Annex 3A.2 to the Good Practice Guidance for Land Use Change and Forestry and Sectoral Report Tables annexed to Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.
- iv. Consistent time series back to reported years in previous national communications.
- v. Additional or supporting information, including sector specific information such as for REDD+, which may be supplied through a technical annex.

10. **Verification:** The consistency referred to in paragraph 5 above should be maintained. Therefore, subject to paragraph 63 of decision 1/CP.16 and Annex IV to decision 2/CP.17, Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention, Parties have agreed to conduct international consultations and analysis of the biennial reports under the SBI, in a manner that is non-intrusive, non-punitive, and respectful of national sovereignty and legislation, with the aim to improve transparency of mitigation actions and their effects. This process may be undertaken through two step process of analysis by technical experts and sharing of views in consultation with the Party concerned:

- a. In consultation with the Party a technical analysis of the biennial update reports submitted by Parties, by a team of technical experts from the roster of experts organized by the UNFCCC Secretariat that will result in a Summary Report. The information considered will include, inter-alia, a National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report.
- b. A facilitative sharing of views, which will serve as input on the biennial update reports and summary report identified above.

11. **Capacity Building:** The Parties to the Convention should establish and support, technologically, technically and financially, programs for specific capacity development in developing country Parties implementing REDD+ activities with the aim to:

- a. develop robust and transparent forest monitoring systems;
- b. fulfill the required forest sector reporting requirements within National Communications and Biennial Update Reports;
- c. support the process of international consultation and analysis of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports.

In addition, the Parties should establish a free access resource for the most accurate existing and future satellite imaging data available globally, given that the accuracy of the national forest monitoring systems may improve depending on the financial and technical support received in order to build the required national capacity to access and process available satellite information and data.

12. **MRV of support:** Measurement, reporting and verification of the support provided by Annex I Parties to Parties not included in Annex I for activities referred to in this submission of views should be carried out by an expert review team equitably balanced between members of developed and developing countries selected from the roster of experts of the Convention and supported by the secretariat in consultation with relevant national authorities in accordance with countries national circumstances, capacity and capabilities.

Paper B: Bangladesh, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Suriname and Uganda

Views on how to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation as referred to in paragraph 71c of decision 1/CP.16 as requested by the SBSTA at its thirty-fifth session*

29 February 2012

1. The SBSTA at its 35th session invited Parties to submit their views 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 paragraph 71(c) of that decision¹.
2. For this purpose the Coalition for Rainforest Nations and a number of like-minded developing countries met in London, UK to consider issues related to paragraph 1 above. This submission has been prepared to reflect those discussions and views from many other developing country Parties on the same issues.
3. The submission of views to SBSTA35 made on 19 September 2011 by *Belize, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Congo, Solomon Islands, Togo and Uganda* on modalities 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 paragraph 70 of decision 1/CP.16 included in document FCCC/SBSTA/2011/MISC.7 should be recalled.
4. **Addressing the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the context of sustainable development:** In accordance with Article 3, paragraph 4 of the Convention, Parties have a right to, and should, promote sustainable development. The Parties have requested developing country Parties to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, in accordance with national circumstances and capabilities, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plans/programs². Within this context, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation should be approached by developing country Parties at the national level.
5. **National REDD+ Plans/Programs:** Subject to the provision of adequate financial support, developing country Parties are encouraged to develop national plans/programs covering all relevant sectors of the economy. Domestically and internationally, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation should be identified within the national REDD+ plans/programs. Developing country Parties should also identify the impacts of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation on forested lands, while considering the contribution to national incomes and social and economic development, and develop policies, incentives and funding needed to address each of them.

* French and Spanish versions of the submission have also been submitted and are available at <http://unfccc.int/5901.php>.

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2011/L.25, paragraph 5.

² Decisions 4/CP.15 and 1/CP.16.

6. **Paper on the International Drivers:** The SBSTA may request the UNFCCC Secretariat to develop a technical paper identifying the key international drivers impacting land use change, including, inter-alia, agriculture, logging, water resource, mining, construction, transportation, energy, etc., and further estimating the scale of their respective impacts on forested lands and their contribution to sustainable social and economic development in developing country Parties.

7. **International Forums:** The Parties should identify existing forums outside the UNFCCC, such as industry forums, and advocate new industry forums where none exist, to exchange views with the relevant stakeholders associated with each international driver of deforestation and forest degradation with the view to identifying policies to reduce the associated deforestation and forest degradation.
