

# REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION WORKING GROUP

UNFCCC Headquarters, Bonn, Germany

18 - 20 June 2008

## RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE A/R WORKING GROUP TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

### A. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

1. The Chair of the Afforestation and Reforestation Working Group (A/R WG), Mr. José Domingos Miguez, opened the meeting.
2. On behalf of the A/R WG, the Chair welcomed Mr. Walter Oyhantcabal as a new member of the A/R WG and expressed his deep appreciations to the outgoing members, Mr. Iginio Emmer and Mr. Raul Ponce-Hernandez, for their excellent service to the A/R WG.
3. The agenda was adopted as proposed.

### B. Clarifications and requests for revisions of approved methodologies

4. The A/R WG considered the following requests for clarifications related to the application of approved baseline and monitoring methodologies. The requests submitted and the recommendations provided by the A/R WG are made publicly available on the UNFCCC CDM website at <http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/Arclar>.

Clarification number	Approved Methodology	Title of the request for clarification	A/R WG recommendation
AR_AM_CLA_004	AR-AM0001 ver. 2	Reporting project boundary and plot geometrics	Clarified (see paragraph 5)

5. The A/R WG considered the request for clarification AR\_AM\_CLA\_004, which noted that:
  - (i) Several A/R CDM methodologies (including AR-AM0001 ver. 2) indicate that coordinates of all corners of the project boundary shall be included in the PDD (as an Annex) in order to allow for verification of the boundary;
  - (ii) A/R CDM project activity may include a large number of discrete parcels of lands (polygons), and each of these polygons may be defined by a large number of corners (especially if taken continuously with GPS), which will result in a very large number of individual coordinates.
6. The request for clarification AR\_AM\_CLA\_004 further sought to confirm if on an operational level, large amounts of numerical data on geographic coordinates of the project boundary may be included in the PDD in the form of digital information, e.g. a shape file (.shp as used in ArcGIS by ESRI).
7. The A/R WG agreed that reporting coordinates of all corners of the project boundary may lead to creation of large files. The group was of the opinion that project boundary may be reported in the PDD in the form of digital information provided in a universally accessible format and recommended to the Board to adopt this option based on its feasibility. Further the A/R WG requested the secretariat to assess the feasibility of such reporting option for consideration by the Board.

**C. Draft “Guidance on application of the definition of the project boundary to A/R project activities”**

8. The A/R WG agreed to recommend a draft “Guidance on the application of the definition of project boundary to A/R project activities”, as contained in annex 1. The draft guidance allows for more flexibility in application of the definition of project boundary, for those projects, which are not intended to be submitted as a Programme of Activities (PoA).

**D. Draft tool "Estimation of Carbon Stocks, Removals and Emissions for the Dead Organic Matter Pools due to Implementation of a CDM A/R Project Activity"**

9. The A/R WG agreed to recommend a draft methodological tool: "Estimation of Carbon Stocks, Removals and Emissions for the Dead Organic Matter Pools due to Implementation of a CDM A/R Project Activity", as contained in annex 2. The tool provides methodological procedures to estimate the changes in carbon stocks in the dead organic matter (DOM), pools—that is, the dead-wood and litter pools—due to implementation of a CDM A/R project activity. The tool identifies the circumstances of a project activity under which emissions and removals by the existing DOM pools need not be accounted and provides guidance for their estimation when project participants want to claim credits for enhancing DOM pools due to project activity.

**E. Draft "Tool for the identification of degraded or degrading lands for consideration in implementing CDM A/R project activities"**

10. The A/R WG agreed to recommend a draft "Tool for the identification of degraded or degrading lands for consideration in implementing CDM A/R project activities", as contained in annex 3. The tool provides procedure for the identification of degraded, and/or degrading lands, for the purpose of application of these terms in the context of A/R CDM project activities.

**F. Schedule of meetings**

11. The A/R WG agreed to hold its twenty-first meeting from 1-3 September 2008.

12. The A/R WG also reminded the project participants that the deadline for the nineteenth round of submissions of proposed new methodologies is 4 August 2008.

**External annexes to the twentieth meeting of the A/R WG**

Annex 1: Draft “Guidance on application of the definition of the project boundary to A/R project activities”

Annex 2: Draft tool "Estimation of Carbon Stocks, Removals and Emissions for the Dead Organic Matter Pools due to Implementation of a CDM A/R Project Activity"

Annex 3: Draft "Tool for the identification of degraded or degrading lands for consideration in implementing CDM A/R project activities”