

REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE AFFORESTATION AND REFORESTATION WORKING GROUP

UNFCCC Headquarters, Bonn, Germany
19 - 21 March 2007

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. Philip Gwage, opened the meeting and welcomed the new Vice-Chair of the A/R WG Ms. Maria-Jose Sanz Sanchez.
2. The A/R WG expressed its appreciation for the excellent work to the outgoing Vice-Chair of the A/R WG, Mr. Akihiro Kuroki.
3. The agenda was adopted as proposed.

B. Consideration of proposed new methodologies

4. The A/R WG considered the proposed new A/R methodologies for the following cases as well as desk reviews and public inputs received, where applicable.
5. In accordance with the procedures for submission and consideration of a proposed new methodology, project participants may submit, via the DOE, technical clarifications to preliminary recommendations. Preliminary recommendations for which project participants have not provided any clarifications within the four (4) week consultation period shall be considered as final recommendations and will be forwarded to the Executive Board and made available on the UNFCCC CDM website at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/ARpropmeth>>.
6. The A/R WG agreed on the following recommendations:

Cases	A/R WG 13 Recommendation
ARNM0024-rev: "San Nicolás CDM Reforestation Project"	Preliminary recommendation
ARNM0028-rev: "Reforestation on degraded land for sustainable wood production of woodchips in the eastern coast of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar"	Preliminary recommendation
ARNM0031: "The Namwasa Forestation Project"	Preliminary recommendation
ARNM0032: ""San Carlos" Land Restoration Through Silvopastoral Systems"	Preliminary recommendation

7. The A/R WG noted that some of the proposed new A/R CDM methodologies are often comprised to a large extent of components of approved A/R methodologies and that potentially significant time savings could be made by requesting for revision(s). The A/R WG agreed to recommend to the Board to encourage project participants to consider submitting requests for revisions of approved methodologies. This should be done in accordance with the latest procedures for the revision of an approved baseline or monitoring methodology by the Executive Board, which apply mutatis mutandis to A/R methodologies. Requests for revisions to approved A/R methodologies can be submitted via the interface on the UNFCCC CDM website at <<http://cdm.unfccc.int/goto/ARrev>>.

C. Procedures to demonstrate the eligibility of lands for afforestation and reforestation project activities

8. In accordance with the decision by COP/MOP 2 ("Further guidance relating to the clean development mechanism" - paragraph 26) the Executive Board at its twenty-eighth meeting agreed to open a call for public input on new procedures to demonstrate the eligibility of lands for afforestation and reforestation project activities under the clean development mechanism. Seven (7) Parties, eight (8) international/national institutions/NGOs and eight (8) other entities responded to the call.

9. The A/R WG considered the inputs and agreed to recommend the draft procedures to demonstrate the eligibility of lands for afforestation and reforestation project activities under the clean development mechanism, as contained in the annex 1.

D. Guidance on application of the A/R CDM definition of forest in stands with several storeys

10. In response to the request by the Board at its twenty-ninth meeting for guidance on application of the A/R CDM definition of forest in stands with several storeys of trees, the A/R WG agreed to recommend that in such a situation the forest may comprise trees from different storeys that in combination meet both the crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) and height thresholds adopted by the host country.

E. Methodological tool for calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities

11. The A/R WG agreed to recommend to the Board the draft methodological tool for calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities, as contained in the annex 2. The tool facilitates the development of new baseline and monitoring methodologies for A/R CDM project activities by providing two alternative methods by which a minimal number of sample plots can be determined.

F. Tool for testing significance of GHG emissions in A/R CDM project activities

12. The A/R WG agreed to recommend to the Board the draft tool for testing significance of GHG emissions in A/R CDM project activities, as contained in annex 3. The tool facilitates the determination of: (i) which GHG emissions by sources, possible decreases in carbon pools and leakage emissions are insignificant for a particular CDM A/R project activity and therefore can be neglected, and (ii) when required by the applicability conditions of approved methodologies, whether increases in GHG emissions by sources for a particular CDM A/R project activity are significant.

G. Postponed agenda items

13. The A/R WG postponed the following agenda items to the next meeting due to time constraints: (i) proposal for guidelines for treatment of uncertainties in A/R CDM project activities; (ii) proposal for guidelines on QA/QC procedures for plot-based measurements in A/R CDM project activities; (iii) consideration of the approaches to consolidation of approved A/R methodologies; (iv) proposal for guidance on leakage and leakage management areas, and (v) consideration of revision of the AR-AMS0001 methodology.

H. Schedule of meetings

14. The A/R WG agreed to hold its fourteenth meeting from 4 to 6 June 2007.

15. The 29 June 2007 was recommended as the deadline for the fourteenth round of submissions of proposed new methodologies. The A/R WG reminded project proponents that baseline and monitoring methodologies can be submitted at any time. The above deadline reflects the cut-off date for submissions to be considered at the sixteenth meeting of the A/R WG.

I. Roster of experts

16. The A/R WG noted the satisfactory completion of the desk reviews of proposed new methodologies for A/R project activities submitted at round 12.

External annexes to the thirteenth meeting of the A/R WG

- Annex 1: Draft "Procedures to demonstrate the eligibility of lands for afforestation and reforestation project activities" based on inputs by Parties
- Annex 2: Draft methodological tool: "Calculation of the number of sample plots for measurements within A/R CDM project activities"
- Annex 3: Draft "Tool for testing significance of GHG emissions in A/R CDM project activities"