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

UNFCCC Headquarters, Bonn, Germany

4 - 8 July 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 Mr. Evgeny Sokolov as the new Vice-Chair of the A/R WG.

2. The agenda was adopted as proposed.

B. Consideration of proposed new methodologies

3. 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.

4. 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>.

5. The A/R WG agreed on the following recommendations:

Cases	A/R WG 15 Recommendation[1]
ARNM0024-rev: "San Nicolás CDM Reforestation Project"	**WIP[2]**
ARNM0028-rev: "Reforestation on degraded land for sustainable wood production of woodchips in the eastern coast of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar", as contained in annex 1.	**A**

C. Small scale A/R methodology for conversion of "settlements" to forested land

6. As requested by the Board (paragraph 46 of the report of the twenty-ninth meeting of the Board), the A/R WG developed the draft SSC A/R methodology for CDM project activities that convert settlements into forested land, and agreed to recommend it to the Board for possible recommendation to CMP (in accordance with Appendix B of decision 6/CMP.1), as contained in annex 2. The methodology is applicable to lands classified as "settlements" in the IPCC good practice guidance for LULUCF, which include human settlements and infrastructure. The methodology provides guidance for the estimation of actual net GHG removals by sinks, emissions and leakages from sources relevant to small scale A/R CDM project activities on settlements.

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[1] Recommendations to the proposed new methodologies from the fourteenth meeting of the A/R WG, where: A (recommended for approval), B (recommended for revision) and C (recommended for non-approval), are final recommendations to the Board.

[2] Work in progress implies that the deliberations on these methodologies could not be concluded at the fifteenth meeting of the A/R WG. These cases will be further considered before providing a recommendation to the Board.

D. Revision of the AR-AMS0001 methodology

7. The A/R WG agreed to recommend to the Board the revision to the approved small-scale A/R methodology AR-AMS0001, as contained in the annex 3. The revised version contains simplified procedures for the estimation of (i) biomass stocks in the baseline; (ii) leakage of GHG emissions related to the displacement of animals; and (iii) GHG emissions resulting from the use of fertilizer as a result of the implementation of the A/R activity.

E. Methodological tool for estimation of GHG emissions related to fossil fuel combustion in A/R CDM project activities

8. The A/R WG agreed to recommend the draft methodological tool for estimation of GHG emissions related to fossil fuel combustion in A/R CDM project activities, as contained in annex 4. The tool facilitates the development and revision of baseline and monitoring methodologies for A/R CDM project activities by providing two alternative methods by which project and leakage GHG emission from combustion of fossil fuel may be estimated and accounted for.

F. Methodological tool for changes in soil organic carbon pool

9. The A/R WG agreed to recommend to the Board the draft methodological tool for determining when changes in the soil organic carbon pool may be conservatively neglected in development and revision of baseline and monitoring A/R CDM methodologies, as contained in annex 5. The tool provides a simple method to determine if there is a requirement to include changes in soil organic carbon pool in baseline and monitoring methodology.

G. Methodological tool for estimation of direct nitrous oxide emission from nitrogen fertilization

10. The A/R WG agreed to recommend to the Board the draft methodological tool for estimation of direct nitrous oxide emission from nitrogen fertilization, as contained in annex 6. The tool facilitates the development and revision of baseline and monitoring methodologies for A/R CDM project activities by providing a straightforward approach for estimation of direct nitrous oxide emission from nitrogen fertilizers applied in A/R activities.

H. Schedule of meetings

11. The A/R WG agreed to hold its sixteenth meeting from 19 - 21 September 2007.

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

Annex 1: Draft reformatted baseline and monitoring methodology "Afforestation or reforestation on degraded land for sustainable wood production", based on ARNM0028-rev: "Reforestation on degraded land for sustainable wood production of woodchips in the eastern coast of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar".

Annex 2: Draft simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies for small-scale afforestation and reforestation project activities implemented on settlements.

Annex 3: Draft revised simplified baseline and monitoring methodologies for small-scale afforestation and reforestation project activities under the clean development mechanism implemented on grasslands or croplands AR-AMS0001 (Version 04)

Annex 4: Draft methodological tool: "Estimation of GHG emissions related to fossil fuel combustion in A/R CDM project activities"

Annex 5: Draft methodological tool: "Procedure to determine when accounting of the soil organic carbon pool may be conservatively neglected in CDM A/R project activities"

Annex 6: Draft methodological tool: "Estimation of direct nitrous oxide emission from nitrogen fertilization"