

CDM-ARWG39

Meeting report

Afforestation and Reforestation Working Group thirty-ninth meeting

Version 01.0

Date of meeting: 11 August 2014

Place of meeting: Bonn, Germany (virtual venue)



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Agenda item 1. Agenda and meeting organization

Agenda item 1.1. Opening

1. The meeting was held electronically. The format was that of web-based audio conferencing.
2. The secretariat welcomed and introduced the new Chair of the Afforestation and Reforestation Working Group (hereinafter referred to as the A/R WG), Ms. Diana Harutyunyan. Unfortunately, due to technical problems the Vice-Chair, Mr. Amjad Abdulla, could not participate in the meeting.
3. The Chair of the A/R WG, Ms. Diana Harutyunyan, opened the meeting.
4. The Chair welcomed all the A/R WG members. On behalf of the A/R WG, the Chair expressed deep appreciation to the previous Chair, Mr. Amjad Abdulla.

Table 1. Attendance list

Chair/Vice-Chair	Members
Ms. Diana Harutyunyan (Chair)	Mr. Ederson Augusto Zanetti
	Mr. Neil Bird
	Mr. Sabin Guendehou
	Ms. Sarah Walker
	Mr. Xiaoquan Zhang

Agenda item 1.2. Adoption of the agenda

5. The agenda was adopted as proposed.

Agenda item 2. Governance and management matters

Agenda item 2.1. Membership issues

6. All the A/R WG members declared that they had no conflict of interest with respect to the agenda items being considered.

Agenda item 3. Regulatory matters

Agenda item 3.1. Standards/tools

Agenda item 3.1.1. Submission of requests for clarification

7. The A/R WG considered submissions of requests for clarifications to approved afforestation/reforestation (A/R) methodologies. The requests submitted and the responses provided by the A/R WG are made publicly available on the UNFCCC clean development mechanism (CDM) website at:
<<https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/SSCAR/clarifications/pending>> and
<<https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/SSCAR/clarifications>>.

8. The A/R WG recommended that the CDM Executive Board (the Board) approve the response to the request for clarification as agreed by the A/R WG and available on the UNFCCC CDM website for the case specified as “clarified” in table 1 below.

Table 1. Requests for clarification

Submission no.	AMS	Title of the request	Status	Paragraph(s)
SSC_AR_010	AR-AMS0007	Clarification on the guidance to be used to prove ‘Barriers due to prevailing practice’ as allowed for in Methodology AR-AMS0007 (version 3.0)	Clarified	9–11

9. In response to the submission “SSC_AR_010: Clarification on the guidance to be used to prove ‘Barriers due to prevailing practice’ as allowed for in Methodology AR-AMS0007 (version 3.0)”, the A/R WG agreed to clarify that the “Guidelines on additionality of first-of-its-kind project activities”, EB 69, annex 7, version 02.0 do not apply in the case of A/R CDM project activities. As mentioned in footnote 1 of those guidelines, the measures identified in paragraph 2 of the guidelines do not cover A/R activities. Further, the operational paragraph of the guidelines, namely, paragraph 5, does not have meaningful interpretation in the case of A/R activities.
10. The A/R WG agreed that project participants may use any approach, general or specific, to demonstrate the existence of a barrier, including the barrier of “first of its kind”. As stated in paragraph 1(e) of appendix 1 to methodology AR-AMS0007, the project participants are only required to demonstrate that “no project activity of this type is currently operational in the host country or region” as evidence of existence of the barrier of “first of its kind”.
11. The A/R WG also agreed that for more general approaches to the demonstration of existence of barriers, project participants may draw upon the “Guidelines for objective demonstration and assessment of barriers” (EB 50, annex 13), although application of these guidelines is not mandatory.

Agenda item 3.2. Other matters

12. The A/R WG recommended that the Board take note of the inputs related to the rationale that would justify the continuation of exceptions allowed for afforestation and reforestation (A/R) project activities and A/R programmes of activities (PoAs) as indicated in paragraph 128(c) and footnote 18 of the “Clean development mechanism project standard” version 04.0. The A/R WG agreed to provide inputs in response to the request from the Board (EB 75 report, paragraph 43), as contained in annex 1 to this report.
13. The A/R WG recommended that the Board take note that the A/R WG welcomed the initiative by the Board to identify areas of future strategic methodological developments

and to make best use of the methodology-related panels and working groups within the context of the potential new role of the CDM in monitoring, reporting and verification under results-based financing. The members of the AR/WG expressed their interest in contributing to the process.

14. The members also acknowledged the usefulness of electronic meetings in conducting the business of the panels and working groups, while noting that the A/R WG is the first of the panels and working groups of the Board to have conducted a meeting through electronic means.

Agenda item 4. Conclusion of the meeting

Agenda item 4.1. Closure of the meeting

15. The Chair of the A/R WG closed the meeting.

Agenda item 4.2. Adoption of the report

16. The A/R WG concluded its 39th meeting on 11 August 2014 and adopted the report via electronic means on 15 August 2014. The report and the annex will be made available on the UNFCCC website.

Annexes to the report

Annexes to the external report of the 39th meeting of the Afforestation and Reforestation Working Group

Annex 1 - Information note: Rationale for the continuation of exceptions related to A/R project activities and A/R programme of activities

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