



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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ROUNDTABLE ON THE INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN
BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE
Montreal, 19-20 March 2007

REPORT OF THE ROUNDTABLE ON THE INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

INTRODUCTION

1. In its decision VIII/30 the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) to present guidance on the further integration of climate change impact and response activities into the programmes of work of the Convention.
2. In paragraph 9 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, through the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, to consider options for enhanced cooperation among the three conventions. The Conference of the Parties also called on the Joint Liaison Group to identify mutually supportive activities to be conducted by the secretariats of the Rio conventions, Parties and relevant organizations.
3. In order to enhance information and build additional knowledge on the interlinkages between biodiversity and climate change and related emerging issues, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity convened a roundtable on the links between the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and climate change.
4. This report will be presented, for information only, to the twelfth meeting of SBSTTA and the meeting of the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions.
5. The cross-cutting issue on climate change and biodiversity formed the thematic framework of the Roundtable.
6. The Roundtable was attended by 33 participants from the SBSTTA Bureau, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and other relevant organizations. A full list of participants is attached as annex II below.
7. The Roundtable was held in English and French.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

8. The meeting was opened by Mr. Ahmed Djoghlafl, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Mr. Djoghlafl recalled the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, the Third and Fourth Assessment Reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change, all of which revealed that human-induced climate change was a real threat and was already affecting the ability of ecosystems to deliver the goods and services on which people and biodiversity relied. For that reason, the international community would

celebrate on 22 May 2007 the International Day for Biological Diversity under the theme “biodiversity and climate change”.

9. Mr. Djoghlafl then welcomed participants to the landmark roundtable meeting between IPCC experts and the SBSTTA Bureau and thanked Mr. Yvo de Boer, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and Mr. Rajendra Pachauri, Chairman of IPCC, for the excellent spirit of cooperation they had shown through their support for the convening of this first-ever meeting between IPCC experts and the SBSTTA Bureau. Mr. Djoghlafl concluded by expressing his appreciation to Government of Canada for their financial support for the roundtable.

10. Mr. Gérald Tremblay, the Mayor of Montreal, welcomed participants to the city of Montreal and wished all participants a productive meeting. Mr. Tremblay noted the importance of engaging local authorities when addressing climate change and biodiversity and identified five conditions for change: leadership, useful tension, moral purpose, knowledge and knowledge transfer, and receptivity. He called on all participants to make a difference and posed the challenge of identifying ways to convince others that climate change and biodiversity are critical issues for the future of humanity.

11. Mr. Christian Prip, Chair of SBSTTA, thanked the Executive Secretary for organizing the meeting and extended his appreciation to Mr. Tremblay for supporting the effort. Mr. Prip also called on the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to expand their collaboration on key issues linking biodiversity and climate change.

12. A video message from Mr. Rajendra Pachauri, Chairman of the IPCC, was presented to participants. In his message, Mr. Pachauri expressed his regret for not being able to attend the meeting but wished participants the best of luck with the proceedings. Mr. Pachauri reminded participants of the release of the Fourth Assessment Report of IPCC Working Group I, which had benefited from enhanced data systems, improved geographic coverage and increased confidence, and highlighted some of the main findings. Mr Pachauri pointed out that observed and projected changes will have impacts on all life on Earth and proposed a joint initiative between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to bring together those two bodies of knowledge and distil relevant information and conclusions.

13. Mr. Bakary Kante, Director of the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), thanked the Executive Secretary for convening the meeting and congratulated Mr. Tremblay on his initiative and leadership. He suggested that participants should consider not only the impacts of climate change on biodiversity (adaptation) but also the role that biodiversity can play in climate-change mitigation.

14. At the opening session of the second day of the meeting, Ms. Jaime Webbe of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity gave a verbal report of the outcomes of the Informal Consultation on Forest Biodiversity and Climate Change held on 17 March 2007 at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome. The main messages from the Informal Consultation are presented in annex III below.

ITEM 2. OVERVIEW OF ASSESSMENTS OF THE INTERLINKAGES BETWEEN BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

15. Introducing this item, Mr. Jo Mulongoy of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity provided an overview of the information contained within the report to the twelfth meeting of SBSTTA on proposals for the integration of climate change activities within the programmes of work of the Convention and options for mutually supportive actions addressing climate change within the Rio conventions and the reports of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change established under the Convention (Technical Series No. 10 and No. 25).

16. Mr. Mulongoy also highlighted the ecosystem approach as a nexus that could link the biodiversity-related conventions and conventions addressing climate change.

17. Ms. Habiba Gitay, Independent Consultant on Climate Change Adaptation and Visiting Fellow at Australian National University, provided information on the assessments that have been completed that are of relevance to climate change and biodiversity including:

- CBD Technical Series No. 10 and No. 25,
- IPCC Technical Paper V on biodiversity and climate change,
- Comprehensive Assessment for Water Management in Agriculture,
- International Assessment of Agriculture, Science and Technology,
- Global Environmental Outlook, and
- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

18. Ms. Gitay discussed the important role of assessments but identified the challenge of moving from scientific assessments to action, especially at the national level. Ms Gitay also presented additional issues that could be addressed through national assessments and assessments on specific, well-defined issues, such as the impacts of biofuels on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, emphasizing that there was a need for effective communication and implementation of the existing assessment findings rather than more assessments.

19. Ms. Veerle Vandeweerd, Coordinator of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities (GPA) under the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), informed participants of the main activities of the Global Programme of Action and suggested a number of institutional mechanisms for cooperation and collaboration in order to translate assessments and programmes of work into action and awareness.

20. Mr. Lee Hannah, of Conservation International, made a presentation on adaptation–conservation strategies, monitoring and modelling, including species at risk, and mitigation and biofuels. Mr. Hannah raised a number of questions, including: the role of protected areas in adaptation, the increased importance of connectivity, and the timing of meeting emission reduction targets. In terms of monitoring, Mr. Hannah said that IUCN was currently conducting a sensitive species assessment and highlighted other relevant assessments, including the Tropical Ecology Assessment and Monitoring Network, and the RAINFOR Network.

21. Discussions among participants followed the presentations and are summarized in annex I below.

ITEM 3. OVERVIEW OF BIODIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS IN THE WORK OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (IPCC)

22. Mr. Richard Odingo, IPCC Vice-Chair, presented an overview of the expected impacts of climate change as identified by the Fourth Assessment Report of IPCC Working Group I. Mr. Odingo focused his presentation on the expected impacts of climate change in Africa. He stressed that, according to the findings of the Assessment Report, the evidence of anthropogenic climate change was now unequivocal, and highlighted the specific implications and challenges that developing countries face. He also gave an overview of some of the main projected impacts of climate change, such as changes in temperature and rainfall patterns, and their implications for biodiversity in Africa.

23. Mr. John Stone, Vice-Chair of IPCC Working Group II, provided participants with additional information on the science of climate change as discussed in the Fourth Assessment Report of IPCC Working Group I, including the possibility that warming was speeding up. Mr. Stone also expressed his own assessment that the debate on the science of climate change was now over and that the focus needed to shift to responses to this threat. It was expected that the Fourth Assessment Report of Working Group II would confirm many of the findings of the Third Assessment Report.

24. Mr. Stone highlighted some projected and observed impacts including changing ocean pH levels, which would be likely to have a negative impact on ocean biodiversity. Mr. Stone suggested that climate change would likely have a positive impact on some species but a negative impact on many others and that most ecosystems would be negatively impacted by global mean temperature. He said that impacts from climate change must be considered within the broader framework of other threats and impacts including land-use change. He also highlighted the fact that species and ecosystems appeared to be changing/adapting at differing rates, which might also disrupt species relationships and ecosystem services. In conclusion, Mr. Stone presented possible mitigation actions and their links to biodiversity including: carbon plantations, reducing emissions from deforestation, and liquid biofuel production.

25. Mr. Stewart J. Cohen, of Environment Canada, a co-author of the Fourth Assessment Report of IPCC Working Group II, made a presentation that highlighted considerations of sustainable development in the work of the IPCC and its relevance to biodiversity. He emphasized the links between the biophysical and social implications of climate change, including the links between climate change, biodiversity and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Mr. Cohen highlighted the fact that biodiversity and climate change considerations fall under MDG 7 (Ensure Environmental Sustainability), but are also of relevance to the other MDGs. Finally Mr. Cohen emphasized the urgency to make adaptation more explicit, as exemplified by the case of the Mountain Pine Beetle in British Columbia, and the need to integrate research and policy.

26. Discussions among participants followed the presentations and are summarized in annex I below.

ITEM 4. THE SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND VULNERABILITY, AND CRITERIA FOR VULNERABLE REGIONS, SUBREGIONS AND ECOSYSTEM TYPES

27. Mr. Luc Vescovi of the Ouranos Consortium on Regional Climatology and Adaptation to Climate Change presented background information on Ouranos highlighting its mission to provide up to date information on the evolution of climate in North America, increase knowledge of the impacts of climate change on different socio-economic sectors, and to develop strategies to reduce the impacts of climate change. Mr. Vescovi also discussed the potential benefits of using a regional climate model to address future regional climate change impacts on biodiversity.

28. Ms. Katrin Vohland of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research gave a presentation on the vulnerability of protected areas to climate change especially within Europe. She also reviewed the expected impacts of climate change on species, habitats and ecosystems, stating that: (i) it was impossible to protect all species at a specific location; (ii) migration pathways had an important role to play in climate change adaptation; and (iii) habitat-type definitions might become less based on plant communities and more on natural conditions as climatic conditions changed rapidly.

29. The discussions following the presentations are summarized in annex I below.

ITEM 5. COST-EFFECTIVE TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES FOR USING BIODIVERSITY COMPONENTS IN CLIMATE-CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION MEASURES

30. Mr. Don MacIver of Environment Canada presented an overview of the climate-change mitigation and adaptation options for biodiversity, followed by cost-effective measures and tools, and stressed the need to ensure that climate-change adaptation actions should have no negative impacts on biodiversity. Mr. MacIver also proposed components of a cost-effective programme for mitigation and adaptation including:

- (a) Monitoring/modelling the synergies between climate, climate variability and climate change;
- (b) Providing sound scientific expert advice;
- (c) Developing standardized protocols and training;

- (d) Fostering community-based partnerships;
- (e) Engaging in education and outreach; and
- (f) Investing in science and partnerships.

31. Mr. MacIver concluded with a presentation on the Canadian partnership with the Smithsonian Institution (Dr. Francisco Dallmeier) on climate change and global biodiversity monitoring using standardized protocols and community-based approaches.

32. Mr. Doug Taylor of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-STAP) presented background information on the integration of climate change within the framework of GEF-4 through the mitigation and adaptation missions. Mr. Taylor also outlined relevant STAP advice on biodiversity and climate change including: safeguards for biofuel/biomass projects to avoid negative impacts on biodiversity, and the integration of biodiversity indicators within biomass projects.

33. Cost-effective tools suggested by Mr. Taylor include investments in:

- (a) The development of national synergies;
- (b) Better valuation of ecosystem services;
- (c) Indigenous knowledge; and
- (d) Markets for biodiversity stewardship.

34. Ms. Myrle Traverse of the Canadian Indigenous Biodiversity Network presented on the impacts of climate change on aboriginal communities in Canada including: traditional knowledge, the human face of climate change, tools and best practices and adaptation. In her discussion on cost-effective tools to engage aboriginal people, Ms. Traverse mentioned:

- (a) Community-driven research;
- (b) Knowledge transfer combining traditional knowledge with scientific knowledge;
- (c) Capacity-building for modelling and management;
- (d) Community education and public awareness; and
- (e) Empowerment.

35. The discussions following the presentations are summarized in annex I below.

ITEM 6. BRAINSTORMING ON EMERGING ISSUES

36. Mr. Claudio Forner, from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), presented information on the consideration of reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries (RED-DC) under the UNFCCC. Mr. Forner pointed out that the RED-DC had emerged in response to a request by the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to consider issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries.

37. Mr. Forner also identified a number of scientific issues currently being considered, including the role of tropical forests in the global carbon cycle, deforestation rates and trends, data availability and quality, drivers of deforestation, and the effectiveness of existing policies and incentives. Mr. Forner noted that proposals for RED-DC can be grouped into: (i) market options (for example, emissions trading and payment for environmental services); and (ii) financial options (for example, official development assistance (ODA), voluntary contributions and levies). He also drew attention to a number of methodological issues including: definitions, estimation of emission reductions, the establishment of baselines, accounting and monitoring and verification.

38. Mr. Robert Höft of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity noted that the SBSTTA Bureau had decided to include into the agenda of the twelfth meeting of SBSTTA (Paris, 2-7 July 2007) the issue of "biodiversity and liquid biofuel production". Under this item, SBSTTA would be invited to consider options for promoting biofuel production, processing and use in a way that is compatible with the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

39. In preparation for this discussion and to seek views from a wide range of stakeholders, the Executive Secretary had established an electronic discussion forum, which generated considerable interest and highlighted both opportunities and risks associated with biofuels.

40. Discussions among participants followed the presentations and are summarized in annex I below.

ITEM 7. OVERVIEW OF THE MEETING

41. Mr. Christian Prip distributed a draft report of the Roundtable and drew the attention of participants to its annex I, on main messages. He explained that the report would present the range of views and opinions expressed but emphasized that, since the Roundtable was an informal discussion, no consensus-based report would be issued.

ITEM 8. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

42. Mr. Keith Christie, Director General of the Environment Division of the Canadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs reminded participants that biodiversity and climate change were linked not just through international processes but also, and more importantly, on the ground. He emphasized that Canada was a strong supporter of synergies between biodiversity and climate change and, as such, was pleased to be able to offer financial support for the Roundtable. He announced that Canada had offered to host another international workshop focused on the science of climate change and the impacts on biodiversity, with emphasis on adaptation options and the impacts of climate change on efforts to achieve the 2010 biodiversity target.

43. Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity closed the meeting by thanking all participants and congratulating them on the successful convening of the first ever meeting between the SBSTTA bureau and representatives of the IPCC. Mr. Djoghlaif echoed the view of many participants that the Roundtable was a successful first step in continued closer collaboration between SBSTTA and the IPCC and expressed his hope that it would be the beginning of a tradition between the two bodies. Mr. Djoghlaif concluded the meeting by once again thanking the Government of Canada for its support stating that without such support the Roundtable would not have been possible.

Annex I

MESSAGE OF THE ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY

Climate change is real and its impacts are already being felt (temperature increases, sea level rise, extreme weather events, etc.).

There are a number of assessments which have already examined the links between biodiversity and climate change including CBD Technical Series No. 10 and No. 25, and the reports of Working Group II of the IPCC. A fruitful collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the IPCC led to IPCC Technical Paper V dealing with biodiversity and climate change.

There is an implementation deficit concerning activities which link biodiversity and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Possible areas for further action

- Greater communication / public awareness of the results and implications of existing assessments
- Additional focus on assessments which address very specific issues or geographic areas
- Enhanced application of the ecosystem approach, including training
- Implementation of the relevant decisions and activities that have already been adopted
- Enhanced cooperation and collaboration between related processes and policies at all levels
- Improved monitoring, reporting and evaluation

Specific considerations for possible areas for further action

Communication / public awareness

- Public awareness is easier when impacts are visible
- We should not have to wait for climate change impacts and biodiversity loss to be manifested in a dramatic way (e.g. disaster) before increasing awareness of threats and vulnerabilities
- The concept of biodiversity is complex and not very effective for public awareness raising
- The rush to start new assessments is distracting from the effective communication of the findings of completed assessments
- National and local level assessments can contribute to effective awareness raising
- Dialogue with the IPCC and other partners (e.g. STAP) on this topic should be encouraged

Assessments on specific issues or areas

- Traditional and local knowledge needs to be considered and capacity built to facilitate the development and implementation of research agendas driven by indigenous and local communities
- Thematic areas for assessment may include: the role of protected areas in climate change mitigation and adaptation, the effectiveness of corridors, and the economic costs and benefits of different adaptation options

Application of the ecosystem approach

- The ecosystem approach is an important nexus for the implementation of synergies between biodiversity and climate change

- The ecosystem approach is a very complex methodology which is difficult to communicate effectively to a broader audience and apply effectively at the ground level. Education and training opportunities need to be explored
- Cross-disciplinary assessments could contribute to the scaled-up application of the ecosystem approach

Implementation of existing decisions

- Assessments should be closely linked to action in order to facilitate implementation

Cooperation and collaboration

- Collaboration should be enhanced at the local level and among focal points for different multilateral environmental agreements
- There are a number of existing international processes which could be expanded to include biodiversity and climate change (effectiveness and resource-effectiveness) however collaboration should focus on value added
- Biodiversity and healthy ecosystems provide important ecosystem services for disaster risk reduction and management and their synergies with the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and interrelated Millennium Development Goals need to be recognized and valued.

Monitoring and evaluation

- There is a need for clear indicators, scenarios, and models
- There is also a need for clear baselines from which to measure implementation
- Local monitoring may have a real role to play in future efforts to link biodiversity and climate change however, such monitoring processes must be linked by a common protocol, mandate and methodology

General views on emerging issues

Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries

- The issue of reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries is being addressed within the framework of the UNFCCC
- There is a strong potential for positive synergies from reducing deforestation for both climate change and biodiversity – this synergy should start at the national level.
- The FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2010 will include the development of a framework for monitoring past and future trends in the rate of deforestation as well as capacity building for national monitoring systems in developing countries
- It is important to highlight the multiple benefits of reducing emissions from deforestation
- When reducing emissions from deforestation there are benefits from considering the preservation of “quality” in addition to “quantity”

Biofuels

- Biofuels have the potential to benefit biodiversity through mitigation
- Potential negative impacts include both habitat loss and greenhouse gas emissions resulting from land conversion to biofuel plantations
- There is a need for additional research to inform a wider policy debate of the role of liquid biofuels and opportunities for technology transfer

- The biofuels debate would benefit from holistic discussions including climate change, biodiversity, food security and livelihoods
- National level guidance on the risks associated with biofuels, making use of tools such as environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments, would be useful
- The International Bioenergy Platform and the Global Bioenergy Partnership hosted at FAO are useful forums for discussion of biofuel issues.

Annex II

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Annex III

INFORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE LINKS BETWEEN THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF FOREST BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE INCLUDING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION - OVERVIEW OF MAIN FINDINGS

This overview presents a summary of views expressed by participants during the informal consultation. It does not necessarily reflect consensus on the topics addressed.

1. Climate change will dramatically impact upon biodiversity in all its forms and the SBSTTA has a mandate to provide guidance on how to integrate climate change issues into the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
2. There are very useful developments related to the Forest Resources Assessment 2010, especially with regards to the establishment, by FAO, of what could evolve into a global ecosystem monitoring system to give consistent information over space and time.
3. Monitoring systems that include carbon are going to be increasingly important and, as such, there is a need for capacity building for national monitoring systems.
4. The relationship between regional/global assessment and national level processes merits attention and strengthening.
5. Indicators of key processes are being considered and developed and strong links with the 2010 biodiversity target, global objectives on forests and MDG processes are needed.
6. Translating status data into meaningful trend data is proving a challenge in many cases.
7. Climate change is the result of “a massive market failure” according to the Stern Report on the Economics of Climate Change. As such, any mechanisms to reduce emissions from deforestation (RED) in developing countries should take into account the opportunity costs of other land uses.
8. There may be a market for a ‘biodiversity premium’ on RED solutions with biodiversity linkages.
9. The links between diversity and resilience (and therefore adaptation capacity) are quantitatively uncertain, but there is “high confidence” that the relationship is qualitatively positive. For this and other reasons, plantation forest is often considered less valuable as a mitigation measure. The diversity/resilience nexus may prove to be the touchstone which may allow the international community to reconcile issues related to forest production, climate change and biodiversity which are currently sometimes in tension.
10. There are gaps in knowledge and a new research agenda is rapidly emerging.
11. There is a need for governments through various international processes to clearly express information needs to be addressed by the scientific community.
12. It is important to identify what is the least amount of information that we need to inform policy in order to answer the questions: can policy and action wait for complete knowledge and what is the role of adaptive management?
13. It is expected that RED in developing countries would, in principle, have positive co-benefits for biodiversity. However, the rapid evolution of the RED agenda and associated processes will not

automatically result in biodiversity benefits since climate, biodiversity, and other values are not always well correlated and forest management practices that increase carbon sequestration.

14. There is an urgent need to reduce emissions from deforestation in developing countries. Agreeing upon a mechanism to address this will be difficult enough without the inclusion of myriad other agendas. Could a minimum position be that to guard against the agreement of a system that creates perverse incentives that work contrary to societal values (such as biodiversity or livelihoods) other than the mitigation of greenhouse gases?
15. The Fourth Assessment Report of IPCC Working Group II concludes that “Protected areas can serve as adaptive measures to help protect ecosystems in the face of climate change.” On the other hand, on the mitigation side, both private investment and CDM encourages plantation forest. Would it be possible to design incentives through RED-DC that balance this?
16. A range of financial mechanisms is now being proposed and considered as positive incentives for RED-DC. We cannot predict the outcome at this stage. The drivers of change are complex and solutions will likely include a strong focus on local processes. Linking global policy with local activity is always a challenge.
17. There are potential risks from RED-DC: slow progress may create perverse incentives and uncertain impacts on emerging voluntary markets. For example, emerging carbon markets under the RED-DC could have impact on the value of carbon in the present carbon markets. Many of the important issues, such as leakage and permanence, are being dealt with in the current discussions, and it will be important for any final agreement to draw these together in a coherent way.
18. Mechanisms that look like subsidies within the carbon market are likely to raise the spectre of trade negotiations. Linkages with timber trade may create complications. More thought needs to be given to these issues and some scenario building may help.
19. With the introduction of new concepts, and the new focus on RED in developing countries, definitions are increasingly important as is the ongoing process of harmonization. For example, the issue of forest areas ‘temporarily un-stocked’ has particular significance in the context of RED-DC.
20. Existing institutions are ‘regrouping’ to address the emerging forest/greenhouse gas agenda and new initiatives are starting all the time. There are overlapping mandates and interests and there is a need to create positive synergies and cooperation. For example, how might the CBD and UNFF programmes of work on forests relate to one another? The Collaborative Partnership on Forests is already a key mechanism.
21. There are opportunities for co-financing, shared monitoring and reporting and coordinated inputs into integrated land use planning. Perhaps there is value in bringing those with different interests together to identify priority areas together?
22. Collaboration between national focal points is essential as is capacity building/technology transfer.
23. A review of technical tools/guidelines and capacity strengthening is important.
24. Mitigation measures in developing countries under the Kyoto Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) encourage afforestation and reforestation. Adaptation is handled in a different way in developing countries (e.g., the NAPA) and there is potential to focus more on the forest sector in

these processes. The adaptation agenda has recently resulted in the adoption of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

25. CDM mechanisms have helped local communities and new mechanisms for RED-DC might learn from these to replicate such benefits.
26. “Conservation practices are generally ill-prepared for climate change”. What will future conservation priority and practices involve – will endangered species be moved around? What does ‘alien invasive species’ mean in a world of rapid climate change?
27. Biofuels have appeared as an important emerging issue. The biofuel agenda could end up in severe tension with the RED-DC agenda, food security, the forest sector, and biodiversity and community interests alike.
28. There is a need for increased public outreach and participation concerning forest biodiversity and climate change.
