



Convention on Biological Diversity

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GLOBAL EXPERT WORKSHOP ON BIODIVERSITY BENEFITS OF REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (REDD-PLUS)

Nairobi, 20-23 September 2010

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Annotations to the provisional agenda

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The global expert workshop on biodiversity benefits of REDD-plus,¹ to be held in Nairobi from 20 to 23 September 2010, is being organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) with the generous financial support from the Government of Germany in its capacity as current Presidency of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and in collaboration with the United Nations REDD programme.² The organizers gratefully acknowledge that several of the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) will contribute to the workshop by providing information about their work on REDD-plus (see annex II below).

2. The overall objective of the workshop is to “support Parties efforts to address reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries in the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change” in a way that contributes to the implementation of the CBD programme of work on forest biodiversity (decision IX/5). In order to achieve this objective, the workshop will address potential risks associated with REDD-plus that could result in activities that run counter to the objectives of the programme of work, and develop recommendations how these risks could be addressed. The workshop will also focus on opportunities in the context of REDD-plus, and develop recommendations how benefits for biodiversity and indigenous and local communities could be optimized.

3. Specifically, the workshop will outline risks and opportunities related to REDD-plus in the context of the three main elements of the programme of work and relevant goals under each element, and develop recommendations for the avoidance of risks, and for the achievement of biodiversity benefits. In this context, the main elements and relevant goals of the programme of work are:

¹ With reference to decision 5/CP.15 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), REDD-plus refers to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries. The acronyms REDD and REDD-plus are used for convenience only, without any attempt to pre-empt ongoing or future negotiations under the UNFCCC.

² United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries

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(a) **Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity:** Goal 2 (Reduce threats and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biological diversity); Goal 3 (Protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity); and Goal 4 (Promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity);

(b) **Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment:** Goal 1 (Enhance the institutional enabling environment); Goal 2 (Address socio-economic failures and distortions that result in loss of forest biological diversity); and Goal 3 (Increase public education, participation and awareness);

(c) **Knowledge, assessment and monitoring of forest biodiversity:** Goal 2 (Improve knowledge on and methods for the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity); Goal 3 (Improve the understanding of the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning); and Goal 4 (Improve the infrastructure for data and information management for accurate assessment and monitoring of global forest biodiversity).

4. Acknowledging that socio-economic, ecological and other conditions vary amongst the countries and regions that are involved in, or in the process of engaging in, REDD pilot and demonstration activities, the workshop will make provisions for three working groups.

5. Results of the workshop will be brought to the attention of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as to the relevant bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

6. Registration of participants will commence at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, 20 September 2010, at the premises of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON). The meeting will be held in the Conference Room 9 at the same location.

7. The workshop will be held in English.

II. BACKGROUND

8. At its ninth meeting, held in Bonn in May 2008, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) welcomed the consideration of the issue of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (decision IX/16).

9. At the same meeting, in decision IX/5, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, other Governments, and relevant international and other organizations to “ensure that possible actions for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation do not run counter to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity; but support the implementation of the programme of work, and provide benefits for forest biodiversity, and, where possible, to indigenous and local communities, and involve biodiversity experts including holders of traditional forest-related knowledge, and respect the rights of indigenous and local communities in accordance with national laws and applicable international obligations”.

10. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to support Parties’ efforts to address reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, in collaboration with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), in particular with the World Bank and the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Conference of the Parties further requested the Executive Secretary to carry out thematic and/or regional workshops to support Parties’ efforts in implementing the programme of work on forest biodiversity, based on the findings of the in-depth review of the programme of work (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/13/3) in close collaboration with CPF members.

11. In decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting, in 2002, adopted the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. The programme of work contains three elements, 12 goals, and 130 activities, covering a broad range of actions to achieve the three objectives of the Convention in relation to forest biodiversity. The programme of work was scheduled for in-depth review at the night meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2008, and based on document

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/13/3 and on the report of the thirteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3), the Conference of the Parties identified the following major human-induced threats to forest biodiversity: unregulated and unsustainable use of forest products and resources (including unsustainable hunting and trade of bushmeat, and their impacts on non-target species), climate change, desertification and desert creep, illegal land conversion, habitat fragmentation, environmental degradation, forest fires, and invasive alien species, and urged Parties to address these threats through implementation of the programme of work;

12. The Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, at its fifteenth meeting, adopted decision 4/CP.15 on the 'Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries', in which it recognized the '*importance of promoting sustainable management of forests and co-benefits, including biodiversity, that may complement the aims and objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements*'.

13. Further, in decision 1/CP.15, the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC requested the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action under the Convention to continue its work drawing on its report to the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth session' (FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/17, annex I.). In document FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/17, annex I, the Ad Hoc Working Group had set out a number of draft safeguards, including:

(a) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

(b) Full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, including in particular indigenous peoples and local communities;

(c) Actions that are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that REDD-plus actions are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits.

14. The Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change will be invited to provide an update on the status of negotiations to workshop participants.

15. Pursuant to CBD decision IX/5, paragraphs 3 (a) and (b), and with the view to facilitate the workshop discussions, the Secretariat has prepared a technical paper which outlines opportunities and risks related to REDD-plus in the context of the CBD programme of work on forest biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/WS-REDD/1/2). The paper also addresses options for the delivery of relevant safeguards, and lists the potential contributions that the implementation of specific goals and activities under the programme of work could make to the implementation of REDD-plus, including in relation to the monitoring of forest biodiversity.

16. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties further requested the Executive Secretary to collect, compile and disseminate information on the relation between forest ecosystem resistance and resilience, forest biodiversity, and climate change. Pursuant to this request, the Secretariat has published a synthesis of available scientific information, which strongly supports the conclusion that the resilience of forests depends on biodiversity, at multiple scales. The Secretariat will make the synthesis document available to meeting participants as a background document.

17. In decision IX/16, the Conference of the Parties established an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG), including representatives of indigenous and local communities, on the linkages between forest biodiversity and climate change. The Group had the mandate to provide biodiversity-related information to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including scientific and technical advice on biodiversity, in so far as it relates to climate change and decision 1/CP.13 of the Conference of

the Parties to the UNFCCC as well as its Nairobi work programme. Specifically, the terms of reference of the AHTEG include:

(a) Identifying opportunities to deliver multiple benefits for carbon sequestration, and biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in a range of ecosystems including peatlands;

(b) Identifying opportunities for, and possible negative impacts on, biodiversity and its conservation and sustainable use, as well as livelihoods of indigenous and local communities, that may arise from reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation;

(c) Identifying options to ensure that possible actions for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation do not run counter to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity but rather support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

18. The AHTEG has held two meetings: one on biodiversity and climate change mitigation (London, 18-22 November 2008), and one on biodiversity and adaptation to climate change (Helsinki, 18-22 April 2009). A meeting to review and consolidate the findings of both meetings was held from 20 to 24 July in Cape Town, South Africa. The draft report of the AHTEG is available on the CBD website, and will be made available to meeting participants as a background document.

Selection of workshop participants

19. In CBD notification 2010-128, issued on 29 June 2010, the Executive Secretary invited Parties and relevant organizations to nominate experts for the workshop. National focal points were encouraged to submit two nominations per country, if these experts were representing government responsibility for climate-change issues (in the context of UNFCCC) and biodiversity issues (in the context of the CBD). The Executive Secretary further invited donor countries; the Coalition of Rainforest Nations; and non-governmental organizations with which the Convention Secretariat had a memorandum of understanding at the date of notification, to participate in the workshop. Due to limited funding, the Secretariat was not in a position to fund the participation of all nominated experts from developing countries. Selection of developing country participants was made on basis of geographic and gender balance, relevant expertise, and language skills. Additional participants from developing countries were sponsored by the United Nations REDD programme.

20. In addition, indigenous organizations were invited, through a self-selection process, to nominate representatives.

21. All CPF members have been invited, including the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the United Nations Forum on Forests.

22. Given the limited amount of funding available for the support of participants from developing countries, workshop participants were selected based on their relevant experience; regional balance; and gender balance. Self-funded participants were encouraged to participate. The United Nations REDD programme selected additional experts for sponsorship, on the basis of nominations received by the Convention Secretariat. Additional sponsorship provided by the United Nations REDD programme considered the overall regional balance of sponsored participants, and aimed to further enhance the participation of experts from indigenous and local communities.

23. The outcome of the workshop will be made available through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, and as an information document for the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010.

24. The workshop results will also be made available to the relevant UNFCCC processes, including through the Joint Liaison Group (JLG) and the UNFCCC REDD Web Platform,³ and through submissions and statements of the CBD Executive Secretary to the relevant statutory meetings of the UNFCCC.

25. With financial support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), eligible countries will conduct a revision of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) in the course of 2010 and 2011. Workshop results will be made available to CBD national focal points and relevant organizations *inter alia* in order to inform the revision of NBSAPs and their harmonization with respective plans and programmes under the UNFCCC.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

26. The workshop will be opened at 9 a.m. on Monday, 20 September 2010. Welcoming remarks will be made by a representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention and a representative of the United Nations REDD programme.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of officers

27. After a self-introduction of participants, the Group will be invited to elect two Co-Chairs based on proposals from the floor.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda

28. The provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary will be before the Group for consideration and adoption.

2.3. Organization of work

29. Under this item, the Group will consider the proposed organization of work for the meeting as contained in annex II below. The language of the meeting will be English.

ITEM 3. REDD-PLUS UPDATE

30. Under this item, the Secretariat will introduce the workshop documents, and provide an overview of activities pursuant to decisions IX/5 and other decisions related to REDD (IX/6, IX/16 and IX/18). The UNFCCC Secretariat will be invited to provide an update on relevant negotiations under the UNFCCC, and relevant activities of the UNFCCC Secretariat. The UN REDD Programme and other international organizations and initiatives working on REDD-plus pilot and demonstration activities will be invited to provide an update on their activities with regard to biodiversity benefits of REDD-plus. The Global Environment Facility will be invited to provide information about financing options in the fifth replenishment period.

31. Participants will be invited to present an overview of national experience and views on opportunities and challenges (including risks) of REDD-plus for biodiversity and indigenous and local communities. Relevant organizations. This is limited to one presentation per country.

32. Indigenous and local community representatives, and relevant organizations, will be invited to present experience on opportunities and challenges (including risks) of REDD-plus for biodiversity and indigenous and local communities.

33. In all presentations, presenters are encouraged to reflect also on future research needs and policy development needs for REDD and biodiversity and ILC benefits.

³ http://unfccc.int/methods_science/redd/items/4531.php.

ITEM 4. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF REDD-PLUS IN THE CONTEXT OF CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY

34. Under this item, the workshop participants would be organized in working groups to ensure that the workshop objectives can be achieved. It is proposed that the Workshop deliberations should be conducted in plenary on the first and last day of the workshop, and in three Working Groups on the second and third day. The objective of dividing participants into three Working Groups is to maximize the opportunity for experts to bring their expertise to bear, by discussing workshop topics in small groups. The three working groups should consist of a similar number of experts, taking into account regional balance, gender balance, and representation of civil society organizations, and representatives of indigenous and local communities.

35. Each working group will address two main issues: (i) identifying main risks associated with REDD-plus; and (ii) identifying main opportunities for synergies between the implementation of REDD-plus and the CBD programme of work on forest biodiversity. Under both tasks, the working groups will furthermore be expected to provide detailed recommendations with regard to the specific goals under the programme of work (see above).

36. It is suggested that the working groups would be facilitated by experts from CBD partner organizations (see proposed organization of work in annex II below), and that their outcomes be documented by a rapporteur chosen from the participants of each group.

37. Working groups will report back on their findings to plenary on the end of the second and third workshop days, and the Secretariat will compile results into a workshop report that would be presented to plenary for adoption on the final workshop day.

38. A list of suggested key questions as a basis for country presentations and the discussions of the working groups will be provided.

ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS

39. Under this item, participants may wish to raise other matters related to the subject-matter of the meeting, and to agree on any follow-up actions.

ITEM 6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

40. The Co-Chairs will provide an overview of their conclusions, and their observations whether meeting objective has been achieved.

41. Participants will be encouraged to provide feedback and evaluate the meeting.

42. Participants will be invited to consider and adopt the report of the meeting, on the basis of the draft report of the meeting to be prepared and presented by the Co-Chairs.

43. The meeting is expected to be closed in the afternoon of Thursday, 23 September 2010 at 5 p.m.

Annex I

PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/WS-REDD/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/WS-REDD/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/ WS-REDD/1/2	Technical paper - Implementation of CBD Programme of Work on Forest Biodiversity: Synergies with REDD-plus
CBD Technical Series No 41	Findings of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change, 2009
UNEP/CBD/COP/10/3	Report of SBSTTA on the work of its fourteenth meeting
UNEP/CBD/COP/10/4	Report of WGRI on the work of its third meeting
Background documents	CBD programme of work on forest biodiversity (annex to decision VI/22)
	The Future of REDD-Plus: Pathways of Convergence for the UNFCCC Negotiations and the Partnership (by Antonio G.M. La Viña)
	Reports from Freiburg Workshop, 14-16 April 2010
	Reports from UN REDD Cambridge Workshop, 27-29 April, 2010
CBD Technical Series No 43	Forest Resilience, Biodiversity, and Climate Change, 2009
	“REDD Benefits: Biodiversity and Livelihoods” GTZ/CBD Brochure on REDD and Biodiversity, 2009
	Promoting Biodiversity Co-Benefits in REDD (OECD Environment Working Paper No. 11, 2009)

Annex II

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Monday, 20 September 2010	
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-10:00	Welcome remarks by the Government of Kenya Opening of the meeting by a representative of the Executive Secretary of the CBD Opening remarks by a representative of UNEP on behalf of UN REDD Programme
10:00-10:30	Self-introduction of participants: Affiliation, Expertise, Expectations
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-11:15	Organization of Work: Facilitator (to be identified) and CBD Secretariat
REDD-plus Update	
11:15-12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of CBD Secretariat activities in relation to decisions IX/5, IX/6, IX/16 and IX/18, and of workshop documents (CBD Secretariat) • Current Status of UNFCCC Negotiations (UNFCCC Secretariat) • Sustainable Forest Management, biodiversity, and REDD-plus (UNFF Secretariat)
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-14:30	Update on biodiversity and indigenous and local community benefits in REDD-plus pilot and demonstration activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UN REDD Programme • Forest Carbon Partnership Facility / World Bank • ITTO REDD-ES Programme • Global Environment Facility (GEF)
14:30-18:00 With coffee break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations by country representatives (10 min each, one joint presentation per country): National experience in REDD Pilot Actions - Biodiversity and Indigenous and Local Community Benefits
18:30	Reception (tbc)
Tuesday, 21 September 2010	
9:00 - 11:30 With coffee break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations by country representatives (continued) • Presentation by representatives of indigenous and local communities • Presentations by relevant organizations (including presentation on research needs related to REDD and multiple benefits)

RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF REDD-PLUS IN THE CONTEXT OF CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY	
11:30 - 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the three working groups by Secretariat and working group facilitators
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch
13:00 - 16:30 With coffee break	Working Groups – Session 1 Risks and opportunities of REDD-plus in the context of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity • Institutional and Socio-Economic Enabling Environment, including impacts on indigenous and local communities • Knowledge, Assessment and Monitoring of Forest Biodiversity
16:30 - 17:30	Report back to Plenary
Wednesday, 22 September 2010	
9:00-9:15	Introduction to organization of work
9:15-13:00 With coffee break	Working Groups – Session 2 Continued
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:30 With coffee break	Working Groups – Session 3 Continued
16:30-18:00	Report back to plenary
Thursday, 23 September 2010	
9:00-9:15	Introduction to organization of work
9:15-13:00 With coffee break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of draft workshop report by Chair and Co-chair • Presentation of Chair’s summary for CBD COP 10 and UNFCCC COP 16
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-17:00 With coffee break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the workshop report • Workshop evaluation and closing of the meeting