

# UN-REDD PROGRAMME



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## Final report of the Fifteenth Policy Board Meeting

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UN-REDD PROGRAMME

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9-10 November 2015

San José, Costa Rica

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## Summary of decisions

### Session 1: Opening and approval of Agenda

Decision 1 - The Policy Board members approved the agenda for the Fifteenth Policy Board meeting.

### Session 2: Overview of progress and results since the 14<sup>th</sup> Policy Board

Decision 2 - The Policy Board took note of the update of the Funding Framework of the UN-REDD Programme Fund and the UN-REDD Programme 2015 Semi-Annual Progress Update.

### Session 3: National Programmes

Decision 3 - The Policy Board welcomed the excellent submission and presentation of the REDD+ efforts and funding request by Chile; this process is clearly driven by a strong political will, consultative processes and a determination to achieve results. Given the uncertainty of available resources in the fund to support existing commitments, the funding request for Chile is approved on a provisional basis, pending the confirmation of additional contributions. Once these contributions are received by the Administrative Agent, the funding request approval shall be confirmed by the new governance body of the UN-REDD Programme. Upon approval for the fund allocation request, recommendations from the Policy Board, independent technical reviews and the Secretariat will be incorporated into the National Programme Document prior to signature and fund transfer.

Decision 4 - The Policy Board welcomed the excellent submission and presentation of the REDD+ efforts and funding request by Myanmar; this process is clearly driven by a strong political will, consultative processes and a determination to achieve results. Given the uncertainty of available resources in the fund to support existing commitments, the funding request for Myanmar is approved on a provisional basis, pending the confirmation of additional contributions. Once these contributions are received by the Administrative Agent, the funding request approval shall be confirmed by the new governance body of the UN-REDD Programme. Upon approval for the fund allocation request, recommendations from the Policy Board, independent technical reviews and the Secretariat will be incorporated into the National Programme Document prior to signature and fund transfer.

Decision 5 - The Policy Board welcomed the excellent submission and presentation of the REDD+ efforts and funding request by Peru; this process is clearly driven by a strong political will, consultative processes and a determination to achieve results. Given the uncertainty of available resources in the fund to support existing commitments, the funding request for Peru is approved on a provisional basis, pending the confirmation of additional contributions. Once these contributions are received by the Administrative Agent, the funding request approval shall be confirmed by the new governance body of the UN-REDD Programme. Upon approval for the fund allocation request, recommendations from the Policy Board, independent technical reviews and the Secretariat will be incorporated into the National Programme Document prior to signature and fund transfer.

Decision 6 - The Policy Board congratulated Cambodia for the completion of its National Programme, takes note of the final evaluation and its recommendations, and encouraged the Government of Cambodia to maintain its efforts to further advance on REDD+.

## Introduction

1. The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme) held its Fifteenth Policy Board (PB15) meeting on 9-10 November 2015 in San Jose, Costa Rica, following the Twentieth Participants Committee (PC20) and Eighth Participants Assembly (PA8) of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in the same location.
2. The meeting was co-chaired by Costa Rica represented by Mr Jorge Mario Rodríguez Zúñiga, Executive Director of the National Forest Finance Fund (FONAFIFO); and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) represented by Ms Mette Løyche Wilkie, Director of the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI). The meeting was attended by 75 participants (see Annex I). All documents and presentations are available on the UN-REDD Programme [workspace](#) and [website](#).

## Session 1: Opening and approval of Agenda

3. Welcoming remarks were made by the Secretariat, the Co-chairs and the UN Resident Coordinator of Costa Rica, before a keynote speech was delivered by the Minister of Environment of Costa Rica. The UN-REDD Programme Policy Board (PB) then reviewed and approved the agenda for the PB15 meeting (see *PB15 Decision 1*).

### 1a. Welcome and introduction by Co-chairs

4. Mario Boccucci, Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, welcomed all participants and introduced Mr Jorge Mario Rodríguez Zúñiga and Ms Mette Løyche Wilkie as the PB15 Co-chairs.
5. Mr Jorge Mario Rodríguez Zúñiga reflected on the importance of the REDD+ progress in Costa Rica started in 2008. From the very onset, REDD+ expectations have increased exponentially while it has become increasingly clear that the implementation of REDD+ activities is more complex than expected. Decisions are not only taken strictly in relation to the forest sector, forest ownership, and the inclusion of indigenous communities, but they impact and are affected by decisions in other sectors. The aim must be to further link those efforts with the contributions of the forest sector to realize social, environmental and economic benefits of REDD+. Costa Rica was pleased to see the progress that has been made by the UN-REDD Programme, and praised the Knowledge Exchange day, held in cooperation with the FCPF, which provided a platform for countries to share their experiences and lessons learned to help achieve progress at country level. The exchanges have clearly shown that forest countries have very different requirements and needs in regard to REDD+ readiness both on a small and larger scale. These country specificities should also be kept in mind for the upcoming negotiations at the Global Climate Change Conference (COP21), taking place in December 2015 in Paris. COP21 will be an important step to strengthen the support for the existing REDD+ agreement as part of a global climate agreement, as this will open the door for all stakeholders working towards realizing results-based payments for REDD+.
6. In her welcoming remarks, Ms Mette Løyche Wilkie emphasized the important timing of the meeting, as the Programme initiates its second phase in 2016. She highlighted that partner countries demonstrate increasing understanding of REDD+ and greatly contribute this knowledge to the Programme, as demonstrated during the Knowledge Exchange day. In the next phase, Programme

support will be more directly aligned with the REDD+ requirements of the UNFCCC, so that partner countries will be well positioned to benefit from REDD+ results-based payments. The growing scope and associated impacts of the UN-REDD Programme are supporting countries well on their pathways to realizing REDD+. She thanked donors, whose continued commitment to the Programme has enabled it to grow and serve the evolving REDD+ needs of partner countries. She also invited partner countries and stakeholders to participate in the official REDD+ side event at COP21 in Paris, which will take place on 8 December.

**1b. Welcome remarks by the UN Resident Coordinator in Costa Rica, Mr Carlos Maldonado Castillo**

7. Counting with 64 partner countries, the UN-REDD Programme has made good progress in supporting REDD+ readiness, Mr Castillo noted in his opening remarks, in particular with the expertise provided to developing countries in designing their REDD+ strategies. He then reflected on the progress of REDD+ in Costa Rica, and was thankful for the presence of the UN community in this country, which has provided a unique opportunity to learn from the experiences of other countries and to share expertise with them. It is an opportunity to advance the important but difficult task of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation through innovative approaches to forest conservation, their sustainable management and promotion of forest carbon sequestration, without further harming people living in this environment and benefiting from its resources. For years the United Nations has warned us how changing land use annually eliminates millions of hectares of forests, and in the last 50 years we have lost about half of the original forest cover in the world, adding up to more than 3,000 hectares. The impacts are devastating to life on this planet, the rate of species extinction is 10,000 times higher than the natural rate and the annual growth rate of human population is approximately 7% per year. The rate of carbon accumulation in the atmosphere suggests that we could reach 450 ppm in a couple of decades, a figure that the international scientific community has set as a ceiling to prevent global average temperatures from rising more than 2°C. He stressed that if we lose further regulatory function and other ecosystem services of forests, the negative impact would undoubtedly be much higher. It is the goal of the UN-REDD Programme to strengthen the action to limit climate change, and Costa Rica welcomes those efforts.

8. In the last 30 years, Costa Rica has reversed the rate of deforestation and doubled its plant cover. For decades, the country has had one of the highest levels of deforestation in the world due to felling of trees, changing land use for livestock, agriculture and urbanization. At the beginning of the 1980s, forests covered 26% of the territory. Owing to efforts of civil society, the private sector and the state, and setting in place environmental policies, the country now has 52% forest coverage. All constituencies have worked well together and therefore managed to create a robust system of conservation areas, including payment schemes for environmental services, and the carrying out of actions to benefit communities living near and in the forests in fulfilment of international commitments, in consultation with representatives of CSOs and IPs. He further highlighted that this type of joint action with the participation of all stakeholders is the essence of the UN-REDD Programme. Lastly, he highlighted that recently, Costa Rica has announced a new climate regime towards becoming a carbon neutral economy, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 25% by 2030.

**1c. Keynote speech by Mr Edgar Gutiérrez Espeleta, Minister of Environment**

9. Marking the official opening of the meeting, the Minister of Environment expressed his pride in PB15 taking place in Costa Rica. The Minister expressed his warmest welcome to participants, and

stated that the diversity of countries present, both partner countries and donors, is a sign of the importance of the UN-REDD Programme, its shared interests and scale of efforts required to meet the challenges of climate change. He mentioned the newly adopted framework of the UN General Assembly, the Development Agenda 2030, which, amongst other things, includes the Sustainable Development Goals. These provide an ideal opportunity to promote integrated action across the system in the fight against poverty. Through the efforts of the UN-REDD Programme there is an indisputable opportunity to contribute to countries in addressing the challenges posed by the Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Change together. The new agenda will set the course for global efforts in human development for the coming decades, which requires concerted action both internationally and nationally. The Minister stressed that traditional sectors of policy planning will need to begin to allow for cross-sectoral initiatives, and said that international organizations and programmes must better coordinate their efforts to support countries in an integrated manner.

10. For more than two decades, Costa Rica has been able to gain experience in the implementation of policies and approaches to promote forest conservation, sustainable management and increasing carbon stocks, imbedded in a framework that responds to the need to ensure the protection of critical environmental services to improve their resilience as a basis for efforts to combat poverty. The Minister praised the efforts of the UN-REDD in the country, as it has undoubtedly contributed to strengthening the process of REDD+ and allowed for continuation in building the operational framework that will lead to implementation to reach results-based payments. He highlighted the efforts of the Programme to advance the development of a national Safeguard Information System through Targeted Support.

11. Through this process, Costa Rica has displayed a high flexibility to adjust approaches and proposals to dynamic national circumstances where rigid methodological approaches are not always applicable. The Minister recognized the modalities developed with the help of the UN-REDD Programme, and expressed Costa Rica's interest in an active participation in its second phase to further strengthen efforts in the implementation of policies and REDD+ actions. He underlined the importance of forest ecosystems in the country, as they are not only carbon sinks but a source of a wide range of resources and services to ensure livelihoods for the rural and indigenous population living in poverty while being located in areas of great natural wealth in Costa Rica. He further stressed the importance of international support to provide benefits in mitigation of climate change, as current efforts are mostly focusing on adaptation measures. Since 1996, the country had recognized environmental services provided by forests in the national Forest Law, further setting up a funding mechanism through a tax on emissions from fossil fuel use, administered through the National Forestry Financing Fund (FONAFIFO). As a result, Costa Rica has been able to protect about 1 million hectares, investing more than US\$ 400 million.

12. Although Costa Rica has made tremendous efforts to move towards REDD+ implementation, there is still a number of challenges that might jeopardize the potential of the forestry sector to contribute to the global climate action goals, including: (i) the slow path until disbursements can be done, (ii) the need for developing countries to align their institutional capabilities with the methodological rules and processes of involvement of relevant stakeholders, (iii) the need for additional funding to strengthen investment in REDD+ activities, (iv) investments in REDD+ efforts that are deployed to securing land rights and land tenure, (v) further investment in political, social and financial capital, and (vi) the need to align the involvement of all stakeholders and to secure human rights to protect their culture and livelihood.

13. Both the international community and national stakeholders will need to continue their joint efforts towards REDD+ implementation, and donors and implementing developing countries will need to share responsibilities in ensuring that this is possible.

#### **1d. Review and approval of the agenda**

14. Ms Wilkie, as Chair of the session, introduced the one-time observers present, Transparency International and IUCN. Their attendance had been approved in advance of the meeting. The Co-chair then invited all participants to briefly introduce themselves.

15. The agenda was presented for approval by PB members. An intervention by the CSO representative for the Northern Countries was made to request further clarification of the process for existing National Programmes to continue under the new Framework Strategy, i.e. for no-cost extensions. The Co-chair answered that the next steps would be explained in Session 4, focusing on arrangements for the transition phase in 2016.

16. In the context of the review of the agenda, Norway firstly informed the Policy Board that Norway's national ODA budget for 2016, including the budget for Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI), had been subject to significant cuts as a result of the current migration crisis in Europe. Consequently, there is a need to cautiously manage expectations and possible future commitments. Secondly, Norway enquired whether the financial update included in the agenda would provide full information concerning the availability of funds to support existing commitments. They indicated this information would be necessary for the PB to make an informed decision concerning the approval of new financial commitments to be considered under agenda item 3. In order to enable the Programme to deliver its services at the expected quality and performance, Norway flagged the need to elaborate on the Programme's budget, including all future commitments. Ms Wilkie thanked Norway for their intervention, and referred to Session 2 on the agenda, where the issue would be discussed.

17. The agenda was then adopted by the PB with no objections. Finally, Ms Wilkie outlined some logistical aspects of the meeting, and reminded new Policy Board members to sign the Disclosure of Interest form.

## **Session 2: Overview of progress and results since the Fourteenth Policy Board meeting**

18. An update was provided on achievements of the UN-REDD Programme, as well as on the 2015 Semi-Annual Update of the Programme, on progress in the implementation of Policy Board decisions since the last meeting, and on other progress, including the new Programme Strategy and Governance consultations. In addition, the Semi-Annual Update of the Programme was presented to the Board, which took note of the document (see **PB15 Decision 2**). Accounts were furthermore provided of the Twentieth FCPF Participant Committee meeting, and an update was given on the financial status of the UN-REDD Programme Fund.

### **2a. 2015 Semi-annual update of the UN-REDD Programme and discussion**

19. The Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, Mr Mario Boccucci, reported on the progress made since the start of the UN-REDD Programme with specific emphasis on the period from January 2015. The number of partner countries keeps growing, with new requests to join reaching the

Secretariat, and now stands at 64; they have mostly been supported through the different funding and technical-assistance modalities of the Programme, tailored to each country's specific needs. Mr Boccucci summarised the main progress since the Fourteenth Policy Board meeting and the decisions taken at the time, particularly with regards to the design of the new governance arrangements, as well as the support narrative to the 2016-2020 UN-REDD Strategic Framework. Since the Fourteenth Policy Board, the key achievements were (i) the lessons learned stemming from a knowledge exchange workshop, entitled '*Towards the implementation of REDD+*' and that took place in Guadalajara, Mexico, in August 2015, giving a collaborative platform for 15 countries from Latin America and the Caribbean , (ii) the continued requests of Targeted Support from countries to enhance their REDD+ efforts, with nine new requests approved since June, including responses to needs for regional capacity building and South-South Exchange, (iii) the strengthened engagement with Indigenous Peoples and local communities through the initiative for Community-based REDD+ (CBR+), which is already active in all 6 pilot countries and has so far received more than 170 proposals for financial support, and (iv) the development of further knowledge resources, notably on the REDD+ safeguards' country approach and Safeguard Information Systems (SIS). .

20. Mr Boccucci introduced the latest 2015 Semi-Annual Update covering the UN-REDD Programme results and progress in January-June 2015 with details found in the annexes on the Support to National REDD+ Action: Global Programme (SNA) and National Programmes. Further efforts have been made to reduce descriptions by focusing on results. The Update included further alignment of progress against the UNFCCC Warsaw Framework for REDD+, and new features include illustrations of the financial performance of the National Programmes, and an overall snapshot of the SNA progress against targets across the outcomes.

21. The Chair of the session, Mr Rodríguez Zúñiga, recognized the importance of the support that the UN-REDD Programme had provided in Costa Rica, and opened the floor for comments.

### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

22. The participants of the Policy Board expressed their gratitude for the presentation on the progress and the good format of the 2015 Semi-Annual Update now well aligned with the Warsaw Framework, and congratulated the Programme on the advances made in regard to CBR+.

23. In addition, Norway wished to see enhanced country reporting at impact and outcome levels, related to the Results-based Management (RBM) efforts. The Secretariat agreed that it is indeed critical to better capture progress on RBM in the countries, but reminded participants that such reporting is done in the Annual Reports. The 2015 Semi-Annual Update strictly monitors progress made against the annual work plan, and is therefore rather process-oriented. The European Union asked how the progress could be accelerated in regard to Green Economy and related indicators, as well as the engagement with representatives from the private and commodity sector, and furthermore requested information on the Programme's strategy for future cooperation with the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The European Union suggested that, in addition, the Programme might want to include the work of the Global Forest Watch and the World Resource Institute (WRI), and suggested representatives of those entities as potential future observers for the main governance body of the Programme. The Secretariat reported that both UNDP and UNEP are now accredited international organizations to the GCF, and FAO awaiting approval. He noted that, before defining a strategy, the GCF would need to clearly define its operational modalities to deliver the funds. UNEP added that cooperation was being increased with the



private sector, building on the expertise of UNEP in view of Green Economy and the Sustainable Consumption Initiative.

24. The Mexican representative highlighted efforts made through Targeted Support and backstopping activities, underlining the importance and flexibility of well-coordinated technical support and the importance of respecting country ownership. The representative of Madagascar requested clarification in regard to the current cooperation and synergy with the FCPF. Mr Boccucci responded that the coordination between the FCPF and the UN-REDD Programme was of increasing significance at country level. He added that, in line with the comment of Mexico, some countries received support from different international initiatives, and it is important to align the technical and operational support of those in an effective and sustainable way. Argentina proposed that specific indicators in relation to South-South cooperation should be defined to expand the knowledge exchange in different regions, and that reporting on those efforts should be done on the same level as reporting of the progress for National Programmes. The Secretariat agreed that the South-South exchange is an important mechanism for country cooperation and therefore an important pillar of the future strategy of the UN-REDD Programme, also because South-South exchange was led by countries.

25. Representatives from the CSOs and Indigenous Peoples requested clarification on the availability of funds to support an expansion of the CBR+ initiative. In addition, they asked whether any of the last nine approved requests for Targeted Support were jointly developed by the government with CSOs and/or Indigenous Peoples. Clarity was also requested on allocated funds that may not be disbursed, and whether they could be allocated to additional CBR+ projects. The Secretariat answered that none of the latest Targeted Support requests had been submitted as joint proposals, but nevertheless governments keep dialogue with non-governmental actors in their REDD+ activities. Concerning CBR+, the Secretariat reminded participants that the overall budget of US\$ 4 Mio from the UN-REDD Programme had been allocated to the CBR+ initiative in the six agreed pilot countries, and confirmed that as for any other allocation, in case there are savings at financial closure, these would be available for further programming upon decision of the UN-REDD governing body.

## **2b. Update and progress of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility since the Eighteenth Participants Committee meeting**

26. Ms Ellysar Baroudy, Coordinator of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the BioCarbon Fund, updated the Board on the FCPF's Twentieth Participants Committee (PC20) and the Eighth Participants Assembly (PA8) meetings. At PC20, it was decided that future decisions of the Committee could be made virtually, as they are currently only made at the PC meetings. The current Charter and Rules of Procedure allow for such a process, which will relieve pressure from meeting agenda and decrease the time needed for PC meetings.

27. Chile, Mozambique and Nepal presented their Mid-term Reviews for the Readiness Fund, and each has received an approval for an additional budget of US\$ 5 Mio. In addition, Costa Rica presented its readiness package, which was approved at PC20. Ms Baroudy reported that in addition to the 11 countries that had been selected to take part in the Carbon Fund, 7 additional countries have been approved for the pipeline after successful submission of their ER-PIN Early Ideas. Those countries include Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Lao PDR, Madagascar, Mozambique and Nicaragua. An extension of the Carbon Fund has been received with strong support, closing the Fund at the end of 2025, and donors have voiced interest to potentially provide more funds in the future. All information

on the progress of the Carbon Fund, including the ER-PINs from the different countries, is available online.

28. Furthermore, Ms Baroudy praised the success of the Knowledge Exchange day, and highlighted the importance of a continued collaboration of FCPF and the UN-REDD Programme at both country and global levels. Looking forward, the second evaluation of the FCPF is currently carried out on both FCPF funds and is planned to be finalized in the first quarter of 2016.

#### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

29. There were no further comments from the Board.

#### **2c. Update on the financial status of the UN-REDD Programme Fund**

30. An update on the financial status of the UN-REDD Programme Fund was provided by Mr Pierre Bardoux-Chesneau, Portfolio Manager at the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF-O), and based on the Programme's Funding Framework document (UN-REDD/PB15/2015/2c). The total deposit to date amounted to US\$ 255 Mio, excluding a pending commitment of the European Union of US\$ 1.3 Mio. Mr Bardoux-Chesneau further noted a balance of US\$ 15.11 Mio available for programming.

#### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

31. Noting that the status and financial figures presented were not sufficient for the Board to make a decision on additional funding allocations, the Government of Norway requested further detailed information on the overall financial status and availability in the Fund, enquiring whether the figures presented included a set-aside to support technical assistance of existing commitments, including already approved National Programmes, Targeted Support and others. In order for the Board to make a decision on fund allocations for the three NPs under consideration at this session, there needs to be sufficient assurance and clarity that existing commitments would receive the necessary support. The Secretariat was therefore requested to provide a budget clarifying: (i) what is necessary to fully service current funding commitments until their closure, (ii) operational costs and (iii) estimates to fund potential gaps, before the end of the year 2015.

32. To allow a way forward, it was proposed that decisions on National Programme fund allocations being considered at the present session would be pending full clarity on the above. Once the information is provided to the satisfaction of the Board, these funding allocations can be confirmed.

33. Norway noted that, for future reference, it would be necessary to provide full clarity on the full costs associated with the different funding mechanisms and the global programme to allow the Board to make sound and diligent decisions.

### **Session 3: National Programmes**

34. Chile, Myanmar and Peru had been invited to present their EOI for a National Programme at PB14 and then submit their formal funding proposal at the current PB15. The Board welcomed the submissions, and agreed on a future inter-sessional approval of the programmes once the board was assured that funds for supporting existing commitments were secured (see **Decisions 3, 4 and 5**).

35. In accordance with the UN-REDD Programme practice, and following the operational closure of its National Programme, Cambodia presented the findings of its independent final evaluation to the

Policy Board. The Board took note of the key findings and recommendations of this evaluation (see **PB15 Decision 6**). In addition, UNDP's Independent Evaluation Office undertook a synthesis and analysis of all final evaluations conducted so far. Together with lessons learned, the synthesis was presented to the Policy Board.

### **3a. Presentation of National Programmes**

36. Representatives from Chile, Myanmar and Peru presented their submission for a National Programme.

#### **UN-REDD National Programme – Chile**

37. Mr Osvaldo Quintanilla, representing Chile, introduced the design of the National Programme to the Board. His presentation focused on the Chilean national context, the National Strategy for Climate Change and Vegetation Resources (ENCCRV), and the design of the future UN-REDD National Programme. He highlighted that forest degradation mainly derives from the poverty context of small and medium land owners, taking place at community level where livelihoods depend on forest resources, forcing them to extract wood unsustainably and to exploit the land for agriculture. In addressing these issues Chile has taken on commitments and obligations under international agreements, and taken important measures such as the creation of a Council for Climate Change and the formulation of a Forest Policy 2015-2035.

38. Mr Quintanilla presented the objectives and scope of the ENCCRV, which aims to support the recovery and protection of native forests. The decision-making bodies associated with the ENCCRV comprise the Climate Change Advisory Board, CONAF's Executive Board, an inter-ministerial Technical Committee on Climate Change, and CONAF's Technical Committee. As for ENCCRV in relation to REDD+-related components, Mr Quintanilla clarified what is expected to be achieved in the near future: phase 1 (2010-2016) focuses on preparation, phase 2 (2016-2019) on implementation, and phase 3 (2018-onwards) has set focus to achieve results-based payments. Mr Quintanilla provided an overview of the anticipated Chile UN-REDD National Programme, including an overall total budget of US\$ 4.0 Mio, aiming to align the ENCCRV with REDD+ in way to support the recovery and protection of native forests and xerophytic formations. In other words, the key results expected are: (i) development of an integrated system of forest monitoring and evaluation, (ii) adjusting the ENCCRV for national implementation, and (iii) strengthened capacity of CONAF and other players to comply with the ENCCRV.

39. Following the presentation by Chile, the Secretariat summarized the quality assurance process, confirming the submission of all required documents, including the signed minutes of the validation meeting. Chile having recently carried out a detailed mid-term review of REDD+ activities for the FCPF, only one independent technical review focused on Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) was commissioned. All Programme criteria were found to have been met, while recommendations were included in the Submission Form. The Secretariat highlighted three innovations to be taken into consideration: (i) in its design the National Programme includes elements of testing and piloting of the priorities identified in the strategy, by way of providing proof of concept and adjusting the National REDD+ strategy as necessary, (ii) Chile has requested support towards qualification for receiving Green Climate Fund support, and (iii) addressing all the recommendations made at PB14, the governance structure has been streamlined to service different initiatives supporting REDD+ readiness in the country, particularly FCPF and UN-REDD.. Lastly, Chile's National Programme marked the first of its kind

where funds would be channeled through the two UN agencies present at country level, UNDP and FAO, but technical support would be received from all three UN agencies. The fund allocation request from Chile was subsequently recommended for approval by the PB, taking into account that the final budget had been slightly increased from US\$ 4.0 Mio to US\$ 4.28 Mio.

### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

40. The members of the Board congratulated Chile for an excellent submission and acknowledged the technical progress. The representatives for CSOs and IPs in the LAC region requested clarification on the range of efforts that had been made to strengthen the capacities of IPs and CSOs in the country. This inquiry was supported by the UNPFII delegate who recommended a stronger inclusion of IPs and the wider community in the overall consultation process for the programme, and support for public consultation of IPs and CSOs to be integrated into the overall programme budget. The representative for Chile updated the Board that US\$ 800,000 had been committed for a public consultation process to ensure participation of all stakeholders. In addition, further resources from the FCPF had been earmarked for the continuation of the public consultation process.

41. The FCPF informed the Board that Chile had received an initial budget of US\$ 3.8 Mio from the Readiness Fund with an additional top-up of US\$ 5.0 Mio approved at PC20. Chile has also submitted a funding request to the Carbon Fund. While cautioning on the need to anticipate potential bottlenecks, the FCPF recognized the progress in Chile and encouraged the UN-REDD Programme to approve the National Programme.

42. Argentina welcomed Chile's innovative proposal to pilot activities which would meet the expectations voiced by the local communities, and inquired if it was possible to adjust existing programmes to include such piloting as well. Norway was pleased to see the level of effort that had been maintained since PB14, and welcomed the proposed governance structure, streamlined, designed to ensure the participation of CSOs and IPs in the country and serving as the governing structure for other initiatives as well.

### **UN-REDD National Programme – Myanmar**

43. Representing Myanmar, Dr Thaug Naing Oo, presented the submission for a National Programme in Myanmar, and provided information on the main drivers of deforestation, policy trends, the institutional set-up and existing capacities at country level, and the areas of support that are proposed to be funded by the UN-REDD Programme.

44. Myanmar's forests today cover about 45% of the total land area, whereas in the 1990s Myanmar had a total forest cover of almost 60%. The main drivers of deforestation in the forestry sector are over-exploitation of the forests due to legal and illegal timber trading, shifting cultivation, over-harvesting of fuel wood and charcoal, over-grazing and destruction by forest fires and storms, with additional stress being put on the forests by the agriculture, mining, urbanization and infrastructure sectors. Dr Oo highlighted on-going policy initiatives and forestry-related policies such as the Environmental Conservation Law, the Environmental Rules, and the national Land Use Policy that will generate a new Land Act and help to address many of the indirect drivers. Myanmar plans for a sustainable development approach that would link political will with awareness-raising and the creation of a National Development Policy. Dr Oo introduced the REDD+ readiness roadmap, which was drafted in August 2013 and was re-evaluated in June 2015, as well as the institutional arrangements planned for the National Programme. The Forest Department in Myanmar currently receives an annual budget of

US\$ 250,000 to support climate change mitigation and REDD+ efforts (of a total of US\$ 24 Mio/year) making it necessary to identify additional funding from international initiatives.

45. UN-REDD Programme support is needed in the following areas: governance, stakeholder engagement, the development of a National REDD+ Strategy, social and environmental safeguards, and the development of a National Forest Monitoring Service and Forest Reference Emission Levels. Dr Oo furthermore highlighted how REDD+ readiness activities would be coordinated and managed in Myanmar, and where UN-REDD expertise is needed to reach the overall goal of implementing REDD+ and *'to contribute to green development by protecting global environmental resources (forest carbon stocks, biodiversity), helping to reverse land degradation, helping to improve the livelihoods of the rural poor and aiding adaptation to climate change'*. In consideration of the circumstances in the country, Myanmar also clarified the role of REDD+ readiness in regard to the post-conflict agenda.

46. Following the presentation by Myanmar, the Secretariat provided an overview of the quality assurance process, also noting that the Programme's engagement with Myanmar had already started with Targeted Support focusing on all areas of readiness. Four independent reviews had been commissioned which found that all Programme criteria were met and provided recommendations included in the Submission Form and the individual reviews. The Secretariat also underlined five items to be taken into account for the approval: (i) while noting the transition to post-conflict reconstruction and development there high pressure from the agricultural sector and other investment sectors should be anticipated and accounted for, making this National Programme very timely, (ii) the government has displayed strong political commitment, is actively tackling corruption in the country, and has worked with the IP and CSO representatives of the Board in consulting and conceptualizing the social participation component of the programme (iii) Myanmar already received Targeted Support with a budget of US\$ 1.4 Mio which is under implementation with uneven progress across components, (iv) the REDD+ readiness roadmap has been developed in 2013, it is therefore anticipated that adjustments will be done and budgets would be reallocated (i.e. costs for setting up a National Forest Monitoring Service would be higher than originally thought), and (v) Myanmar's Expression of Interest included an initial budget of US\$ 3.6 Mio, which has now been increased to US\$ 5.5 Mio in the Submission Form primarily attributed to the recent update of the Roadmap. The Secretariat recommended that the Policy Board approve the fund allocation request made by Myanmar.

47. The Secretariat also noted that, during the process of preparation of the National Programme, the Regional IP and CSO representatives from UN-REDD had fielded a mission in August 2015 to support their constituencies in Myanmar in a dialogue with the government focusing on the strengthened role of forest dependent people and ethnic minorities in the REDD+ process. It proved a valuable exercise, combining knowledge sharing with connecting the national and regional IP and CSO constituencies in REDD+ efforts.

#### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

48. The CSO and IP representatives for Asia Pacific, Mr Tek Vannara and Ms Grace Balawag, thanked the government of Myanmar for the privilege to conduct a support mission for the REDD+ National Programme validation process of Myanmar. They stated that this has been a fruitful opportunity that allowed a dialogue with Myanmar's national CSOs and IPs/Ethnic Minority constituencies to learn and share information in a way to strengthen CSOs and IPs participation in the national REDD+ strategy process. In the final remarks, both representatives underlined the openness, willingness and development of trust among the various stakeholders in the national REDD+ process as a crucial factor

for the successful and broad multi-stakeholder engagement and contribution to the REDD+ implementation, which is integral to the sustainable development and poverty alleviation goals of the UN-REDD partner countries.

49. In addition to the comments made for the CSO/IP field mission, the representative for CSOs in the Asia Pacific region thanked the representative for Myanmar for the presentation, and voiced their appreciation of the Myanmar government for the degree of engagement with CSOs and Ethnic Minorities in the country. He recommended a continuation of the approach, notably by: (i) ensuring autonomy and ownership to CSOs and Ethnic Minorities (EM) in the selection of their representatives for the UN-REDD National Programme Executive Board (PEB), (ii) conducting a capacity assessment for further capacity building for CSO and EM stakeholders in REDD+, and (iii) fostering the engagement of CSOs and Ethnic Minorities that sustain rich networks of information and organisations, such as the Myanmar Environmental Rehabilitation Network (MERN) and Promotion of Indigenous and Nature Together (POINT). He furthermore asked for clarification on how the government was planning to integrate corporate social responsibilities as had been mentioned in the PB15 presentation. Dr Oo explained how the current dialogue with local communities and Ethnic Minorities is envisaged, and thanked the UN-REDD Programme for the ongoing support and guidance in that regard. The government currently strives to include all stakeholders equally, ensuring that all interests were being taken into account. In addition, the UN-REDD National Programme in Myanmar was a huge opportunity to attract interest and support from high-level authorities in the country.

50. Norway welcomed the efforts made by Myanmar, especially in regard to its post-conflict transformation and gender equality, and suggested that an analysis be conducted of the investments made in other sectors that affect the drivers of deforestation in the country. Dr Oo answered that the Targeted Support provided by the UN-REDD Programme helped to design an assessment of drivers as well as an analysis of the capacity of the different governing institutions concerned. Myanmar is looking forward to working together with all three UN agencies to design a Safeguard Information System.

51. The representative for CSOs in Africa thanked Myanmar for the comprehensive report, and noted the link between drivers of deforestation and the energy sector. He requested clarification from Myanmar on how relevant such links were for the implementation of REDD+ readiness activities, especially in regard to communities being affected by energy decisions made at higher political level. The representative of Myanmar answered that such concerns had been raised nationally, and opportunities to address them were being discussed in the country.

52. The Chair of this session, Ms Wilkie, thanked Myanmar and the representatives for CSOs and IPs in the region for their tremendous work and collaboration on both national and sub-national level, and highlighted that this process should provide a lessons to be replicated by future programmes.

#### **UN-REDD National Programme – Peru**

53. The representative for Peru, Mr Gustavo Suárez de Freitas, introduced the National Programme, indicating that although Peru has low rates of deforestation and a high level of forest cover, an increasing trend of deforestation had been observed in the recent years. Current national policies include the National Strategy of Forests and Climate Change, the INDCs presented to the UNFCCC, the National Agreement for Legal Timber, and the REDD+ national mechanism. Mr Suárez highlighted that for each of the four pillars of the Warsaw Framework, Peru had been able to secure different funding resources that would ensure proper implementation of the REDD+ readiness activities. He provided an

update on the current status of REDD+ in the country, and identified the gaps that will be covered by the future UN-REDD National Programme. He also highlighted the incorporation and linkage of community-based MRV with the national MRV efforts.

54. Mr Suárez de Freitas presented the timeline of the design process for the Programme, and presented the linkages of the future programme with the R-PP components for the FCPF and the current Targeted Support, highlighting complementarities between both initiatives. He presented the results framework and associated budget allocations for the National Programme, as well as future governance arrangements. Finally, he provided initial responses to some of the comments and recommendations provided by the independent technical reviewers. Following the presentation of Peru, the Secretariat provided a summary of the two independent technical reviews carried out, and confirmed that all necessary documents had been submitted, with due process of quality assurance and national validation conducted. All criteria for a National Programme have been met, and recommendations from the reviews were included in the final Submission Form presented to the Board. The Secretariat also informed participants on the following points: (i) considering that REDD+ readiness approaches in the country are financed by different international initiatives, finding the niche for the UN-REDD Programme had been a great learning experience for future design of National Programmes in other countries, (ii) (ii) the set-up of an MRV system for Indigenous communities (IP-MRV) is a first in the UN-REDD Programme, (iii) (iv) while the National Programme would be coordinated by MINAM, it will be co-implemented by be, a CSO – AIDSEP – and SERFOR – for the MRV component, and (v) the responsibility for implementation also includes an allocation of financial resources and a transfer of funds to these organizations. The Secretariat recommended that the Policy Board approves the fund allocation request made by Peru, noting that the final budget for the National Programme had slightly been increased from US\$ 3.8 Mio to US\$ 4.01 Mio.

#### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

55. The Board congratulated Peru on its presentation, and welcomed the efforts being made with community-based MRV. The representative for UNPFII congratulated Peru on the presentation and the recognition of the IP regulations and laws of consultation, as it would bring important benefits and positive impacts for the communities. He stressed the importance for the National REDD+ Strategy to take into account the empowerment for IPs and local communities in all sectors, and added that the Action Plan should go through a validation process by the traditional authorities in the country as well. It was necessary to establish harmony between the government and socially protected groups, to ensure an ongoing dialogue with the communities and will trigger an appropriate distribution of the different key players in the community. The representative for Peru highlighted the national Forestry Law that includes a paragraph that guarantees access to forest resources at community level and acknowledges their ownership by local communities.

56. The representative of CSOs in the LAC region welcomed the efforts made in regard to community-based MRV as an innovative practice that should be used as a good example for programmes to follow. He also requested clarification regarding the establishment of a platform to ensure coordination between the different initiatives, which would need to involve all stakeholders to achieve REDD+ implementation. Peru informed the Board that the costs for such a platform were not included in the budget for the programme, but would be funded with resources that were already available. Mexico requested clarification regarding the management of the different financing mechanisms for different activities to ensure that there would not be an overlap. They also sought

clarification about what was envisioned with the results framework, and how it would link with the different expected contributions of the UN-REDD Programme. The representative of Peru responded that it was currently planned to develop one single results framework that would include all support provided by different international and national initiatives.

57. Norway thanked Peru for the presentation, and welcomed the plan to create a single governance structure for REDD+, as well as the efforts being made to include recommendations that had been mentioned at PB14. Norway requested more information on the following items: (i) how is community-based MRV being integrated into the wider national MRV system, and (ii) in view of the drivers of deforestation in the country, how was the involvement of the energy, transport and mining sector envisioned in the overall implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy. On community-based MRV and the wider MRV system at national level, Peru clarified that several ministries were involved in that process, and there was a digital platform called Geobosque that allows for all information to be freely available online. It was envisaged to have one major data source and map to which IPs and CSOs would have the opportunity to contribute. The involvement of sectors that directly contribute to deforestation in the country such as the mining or energy sector was only of secondary importance, as deforestation and forest degradation were not generated by large mining and energy companies, but rather by the expansion of transport infrastructure at regional and local level without compliance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements.

58. The FCPF highlighted the important developments in the country at both political and institutional level, and mentioned that additional funding from the FIP (approximately US\$ 3.8 Mio) had been received by the country. The FCPF therefore encouraged financial support from the UN-REDD Programme to Peru to enable a continuation of the readiness process.

### **Final remarks**

59. Speaking on behalf of all three participating UN organizations, UNEP thanked Chile, Myanmar and Peru for the excellent presentations of their National Programmes. If financed, these programmes would help address key gaps in their national efforts, and would enable the three countries to contribute to the objectives of the UNFCCC and move towards becoming fully ready for REDD+. Attention was drawn to the fact that Chile was an example of the new and more efficient administrative arrangements of the UN-REDD Programme. The UN organizations furthermore assured the Board that they would continue to work with the donor community to help mobilize the required financing for implementation of these important programmes.

### **3b. Final evaluation of National Programmes**

60. Presentations were provided by the Cambodian UN-REDD focal point Mr Saret Khorn, and Mr Alan Fox, Evaluation Advisor at the UNDP Evaluation Office.

#### **Final evaluation for the National Programme in Cambodia**

61. Mr Saret Khorn presented the final evaluation of the Cambodian National Programme, giving a short overview of the National Programme timeline, and further defined activities implemented in regard to REDD+ readiness and the main outcomes against the Warsaw Framework. He then summarized the key findings, lessons learned and recommendations of the final evaluation, and presented the next steps for REDD+ implementation in the country.



62. The National Programme in Cambodia was originally implemented from May 2011 until June 2014, but had received two 6-month no-cost extensions until closure of the programme in June 2015. One key highlight of the programme had been the development of the National REDD+ Strategy, currently open for final consultation and feedback at both national and sub-national levels. Main strategic objectives of the strategy were the following: (i) improve the effectiveness of forest resource management, (ii) promote sustainable forest harvesting, (iii) strengthen capacities to monitor forest resources, and (iv) enhance capacities, knowledge and awareness, and promote stakeholder participation and benefits. In addition, Cambodia had developed initial drafts for both a National Forest Monitoring System and the Forest Reference Emission Level (to be submitted to UNFCCC by December 2015), and has designed a structure for its Safeguard Information System.

63. Mr Khorn furthermore presented lessons learned, recommendations and future challenges to the Policy Board, highlighting that the main area for improvement related to the different hierarchies involved in decision-making which resulted in slow implementation. Mr Khorn concluded that the National Programme in Cambodia had been necessary and was relevant for progress in the country. The implementation of the programme has enabled greater inter-ministerial collaboration and an institutional set-up was now in place for the implementation of REDD+ activities. Although the UN-REDD National Programme has been operationally closed, Cambodia continues to support from the FCPF to further its REDD+ readiness at country level. In addition, Cambodia would continue its support to finalize all four pillars of the Warsaw Framework, and collaborate with other stakeholders to develop a National Protected Areas Strategy Management Plan, deemed one of the key strategic priorities for REDD.

#### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

64. Norway noted that the National Programme in Cambodia had focused on deliverables and outputs versus outcomes, a process that had been perceived as a burden, and highlighted the following issues: (i) the strengthened coordination between the different ministries and also the different sectors involved, (ii) the involvement of drivers behind deforestation in Cambodia, and (iii) gender activities that were identified after the design of the National Programme yet still not implemented. Norway noted that the overall evaluation, including the implementation of recommendations provided by the Programme, had been positively received by the Board. The UN-REDD representative for Cambodia said that the Cambodian REDD+ Task Force, which is composed of representatives from the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Land Management, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and the Ministry for Internal Affairs, providing a platform for all involved to discuss issues, including drivers, on a regular basis. Stakeholders from other sectors were involved in the Consultation Group of the National Programme, equally presenting common ground to discuss and provide necessary input from the different sectors. Cambodia had requested two 6-month no-cost extensions of the programme and could not implement some identified actions in the Programme Document, mainly because of a narrow implementation timeframe (i.e. problems due to rainy season) and a slow high-level decision-making process.

65. The CSO representative for Asia Pacific noted that although the UN-REDD National Programme had been completed in Cambodia, REDD+ readiness activities were still being implemented by the FCPF and, therefore, the recommendations from the final evaluation for the National Programme should be taken into account in the ongoing REDD+ readiness. Further recommendations from the regional CSOs representative at the PB included: (i) the current set of institutional arrangements should be supported

and strengthened as needed, rather than creating additional new arrangements that would confuse stakeholders, (ii) a capacity needs assessments should be done among stakeholders, i.e. the Task Force, Consultation Group, Gender Group and the Technical Team, to guide REDD+ readiness work ahead; (iii) more ownership should be given to CSOs for the coordination of the Consultation Group, and adequate funding support should be provided, (iv) there was a need to provide a clear definition of forests, and (v) land use planning should be strengthened to avoid putting additional stress on the natural forests in Cambodia. Mr Khorn agreed that the recommendations would be taken into account when implementing the FCPF, as some readiness activities had not been implemented yet. Cambodia acknowledged the active participation of the CSOs and IPs in designing the National Programme, and would continue to incorporate recommendations voiced by the different constituencies.

### **Evaluation overview – synthesis of all National Programme evaluations**

66. Mr Alan Fox from the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office presented a synthesis of the final evaluations for five of the National Programmes that had already been closed, including Cambodia, Ecuador, Indonesia, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

67. Mr Fox presented findings and conclusions against relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the National Programmes. Each evaluation was credible and satisfactory but although all evaluations had provided clear information on how relevant the National Programmes are at country level, they struggled to assess the overall effectiveness of the programmes, i.e. impacts at national and community level, and more information is needed on the effectiveness of adaptive management. He compared the value of mid-term reviews versus final evaluations in particular in enabling a mid-term stock take, adaptive management and adjustment of National Programmes. For final evaluations he recommended that these should be systematically undertaken directly after operational closure of the National Programme to enable full capture of key lessons and perspectives. He noted that the findings, recommendations and lessons learned gathered through final evaluations had already been incorporated in the design of the new National Programmes. A more detailed synthesis note, including all findings and recommendations for future programmes, is currently being prepared by the Evaluation Management Group and the Secretariat.

### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

68. Norway thanked the presenter, and looks forward to receiving the information document that would further provide information and key recommendations from the existing final evaluations. They further requested clarification on how those evaluations are currently being used, and whether a final evaluation is needed for every individual National Programme. In addition, Fiji asked what had been the main reasons for slow implementation, and what should be recommended in that regard. Mr Fox answered that inter-related issues were the most common causes of slow implementation, as the links between the government and associated ministries, the UN agencies and other stakeholders were challenging to coordinate. Both complex technical and scientific aspects of the National Programme design cause further delays on decisions and the implementation of actions. The formulation of these final evaluations was very useful when designing new National Programmes, as well as transitioning towards the second phase of the UN-REDD Programme.

## **Session 4: Transition to 2016 – Arrangements for the Executive Board, Assembly and other consultation processes**

69. Session 4 was an information session to take stock of the status of the new governance arrangements for the UN-REDD Programme from January 2016, to present the next steps for the new phase of the UN-REDD Programme, including the transition arrangements, and to explain the process for nomination of the interim members of the new Executive Board from each UN-REDD constituency.

70. The Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat presented the draft governance arrangements of the UN-REDD Programme, including the Assembly, the Executive Board, and the National Steering Committees, while summarizing the technical and consultative process for developing this governance structure over the previous year. An Information Note on the governance arrangements for the next UN-REDD Programme phase 2016-2020, providing information on the different entities, was made available to the PB members (see PB15 document UNREDD/PB15/4/INF). Mr Boccucci also informed PB15 participants on the different steps undertaken to develop the 2016-2020 UN-REDD Programme Framework Strategy. This had been a comprehensive and inclusive process over one year, involving all UN-REDD Programme constituencies. Extensive feedback on previous drafts had been shared at PB13 (November 2014), inter-sessionally in February 2015, and during sessions at PB14 (May 2015), when the strategic framework for 2016-20 was endorsed by the Board. On that basis, a draft results framework had been accordingly designed. Mr Boccucci then presented the key features, composition and functions of each of the future UN-REDD Programme governance bodies.

71. Mr Boccucci introduced the next steps, including the finalization of the governance arrangements based on the latest feedback from the Board, and noted that the deadline for the nomination of members for the interim Executive Board would be 18 December 2015. The first meeting of the Executive Board is expected to take place in March/April 2016 to consider the result and reporting framework, the criteria for country selection and its rules of procedures. It is also expected that the first meeting of the Programme Assembly will take place in June 2016 back-to-back with the REDD+ Exchange meeting in Oslo, Norway.

### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

72. The Board congratulated the Programme on the efforts made over the past year, and was pleased to see that comments and suggestions from partner countries, donors and representatives of IPs/CSOs had been taken into account. To clarify the role of the National Steering Committees, Mexico suggested that it should be mentioned in the Information Note that a National Steering Committee would only be set up for countries having a National Programme, as this is currently not explicitly said. The representative of Malaysia seconded this comment, as there might not be a need for the set-up of a National Steering Committee in countries that receive support through Targeted Support. In addition, most countries have already identified their own national processes and structures, which should be adopted by the Programme as, and when applicable. Furthermore, Mexico voiced appreciation for the inclusion of existing platforms and committees in addition to the three main bodies executing the implementation of the Programme. Spain supported the need to clarify the role of the National Steering Committee at country level, and requested a clearer definition of the role of the Secretariat in the new arrangements. Peru inquired why representatives of the private sector are included in the Programme Assembly, but not as observers of the Executive Board, as this is an important constituency of the Programme.

73. The Secretariat confirmed that National Steering Committees would be set up only in countries receiving National Programmes, and were not required for countries receiving Targeted Support. Moreover, the composition of each Steering Committee has been kept general in the Information Note, as every country has specific needs and hence different institutional arrangements will be necessary in different countries. The UN-REDD Programme needs to be able to make arrangements on a case-by-case basis to ensure that needs of each country could be individually addressed. The set-up of the new governance arrangements for the UN-REDD Programme follows the guidelines of the UN Development Group (UNDG), which ensures the inclusion of all stakeholder interests. On extending private sector representation in the governance of the next Programme phase, Mr Boccucci noted that this is of stronger importance at the global (Assembly) and national level (NSCs), but was not a requisite for the roles of the EB. While the EB can invite representatives of the private sector when specific input is needed, participation of this sector should rather focus on the Programme Assembly as well as on the national implementation process. Mr Boccucci also clarified that the paragraph included in the Information Note in regard to the future role of the Secretariat follows standard practice formulation for all secretariats for multi-partner trust funds.

74. Colombia requested clarification regarding the nomination of interim members for the interim Executive Board, as well as beyond 2016, and whether the Rules of Procedure are to stay the same. Argentina added that there currently is existing confusion amongst the partner countries on the nomination of constituency representatives, as the Secretariat had mentioned future representatives to be nominated by the main Programme body, which is currently still the Policy Board. Mr Boccucci clarified that the nomination process for the representatives for the different regions would remain with the constituencies, and no decisions would be done by the current PB or the future EB. Each constituency would select its own representatives, and the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat would provide support if needed.

75. The representatives from CSOs and IPs believed that, within the new set-up of the Executive Board, the status of Indigenous Peoples and Civil Society Organizations seemed to be downgraded, from “members” to “permanent observers”, while donors and partner countries would become the main constituencies to take decisions. Although the role of the IP and CSO constituencies is now being strengthened at country level, with their inclusion as members of National Steering Committees, they also wished to be appropriately presented in the EB. The IP and CSO representatives also indicated that the UN-REDD Programme is one of the most democratic programmes within the UN and they wanted to preserve this feature in the new arrangements. They emphasized that the UN-REDD Programme is providing a great number of benefits for CSOs and IPs, allowing for all constituencies to inform the processes and decisions. After a number of exchanges, the IP and CSO representatives indicated they would be ready to accept the new governance arrangements as proposed provided full and effective participation is preserved, since they seem to create the necessary confidence among all the parties. The CSO and IP representatives also reminded PB members of the need of support to their constituencies to organise for, and inform the EB work adequately, ensuring the different regional perspectives are considered, and expected UN-REDD remains committed to support them in such organisational needs.

76. Norway welcomed the efforts made by the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, acknowledging that all comments had been taken into account and thanked PB members for their active involvement in the overall process of designing the governance arrangements for the next phase. Internal discussions

and the independent evaluation of NICFI in 2014 had resulted in the recommendation for a multi-partner programme Executive Board that would be smaller and leaner, in line with the guidelines provided by the MPTF and the UN Development Group. It was in no way the intention of the new structures to undermine or diminish the value of inclusiveness for CSOs and IPs. On the contrary, the ongoing involvement of the CSOs and IPs in the governance of the global partnership amongst the UN-REDD Programme was welcomed. Norway underlined that the future inclusion of those constituencies would be maintained. Furthermore, strategic issues would continuously be discussed with the broader audience, including the Programme Assembly, which would provide further opportunities for CSOs and IPs to be involved in the decision-making process for strategic operations. The European Union seconded the comments made by Norway, and stressed the utility of further involvement of representatives of the private sector in the implementation of the next Programme phase, especially in regard to the different drivers of deforestation.

77. UNDP provided a joint statement on behalf of all three UN agencies, highlighting their commitment to participatory governance and multi-stakeholder involvement in UN-REDD, notably in view of the complexity of REDD+ processes. The UN agencies recognized the valuable contributions of the IP and CSO representatives in the UN-REDD Programme over the years, including at the present meeting, which demonstrates the added value of inclusive governance of global programmes and partnerships. UNDP indicated that, as the UN-REDD Programme enters into a new phase that required consolidation, its governance structure needed to be adjusted and refined, in particular reflecting usual UN practice, in which governments and inter-governmental bodies are members, while other stakeholders are included as permanent observers. The UN agencies stressed that the essentials of participatory governance in the UN-REDD Programme would remain. In this sense, UNDP mentioned that the Information Note on the new UN-REDD governance arrangements, which has been provided to the Board, included the following statement: *'All representatives of the Executive Board have the right to participate fully in the deliberations. Decisions are taken by the members by consensus with due consideration of the recommendations of the permanent observers.'* UNDP concluded that the new governance maintains the spirit of participatory governance and the UN agencies would continue to safeguard and implement the principles of inclusive and transparent governance in the UN-REDD Programme, taking into account the views of Indigenous Peoples and Civil Society Organisations.

78. The Secretariat was requested to update the note on governance to reflect the recommendations and suggestions made during the PB15 meeting. The note is available [here](#).

## **Session 5: Sharing lessons learned and experiences**

79. Session 5 focused on providing a platform for all stakeholders to share experiences and lessons learned in regard to (i) designing results based management and reporting systems, and (ii) the process for selection and criteria for country selection and the conduct of country needs assessments. This was an information session, and therefore no decisions were made by the Policy Board.

### **5a. Lessons learned from designing results-based management and reporting systems**

80. Determining the extent of progress towards the agreed objectives and results of the UN-REDD Programme in the next phase was an essential part of the transformational change in REDD+, in natural resources management and in the development processes in general. In designing the UN-REDD Programme 2016-2020 Strategy, a considerable effort had been made to develop a results framework

with agreed indicators to measure progress. UN agencies, governments and non-governmental organizations have developed different tools and approaches to monitor, track and report on REDD+ results. The session was developed to provide an opportunity for different stakeholders to exchange experiences, lessons learned and ideas on these results-based management systems.

81. First, Mr Mike Speirs, Senior Advisor at the Secretariat, presented the process of developing the results-based management and reporting system for the next phase of the UN-REDD Programme, including a summary overview of the main features of the results framework, which is in line with both the guidelines from the UNDG and the MPTF. In addition, the Secretariat is currently preparing a monitoring and evaluation guide that will enable the UN agencies and REDD+ focal points in the country to better track and report on the progress of the Programme over the coming five years. Of special interest were the critical issues that arose during the development of the framework, as the overall aim was to use it and associated tracking tools to develop a sound and comprehensive results-based management system for the future Programme. This entailed consistent tracking and reporting indicators, including means of verification and risk assessments, which do not only focus on the forest sector directly but also incorporate cross-cutting themes at the outcome level. Indicators of the results framework were identified for the overall development goal (*'Reduce forest emissions and enhance carbon stocks in forests while advancing national sustainable development'*), the impact of the Programme, as well as for all three outcomes. The identification of indicators for outcome 3, supporting the introduction of REDD+ policies and measures (PAMs), had been a particularly difficult process. The draft results framework had been provided to the Board as PB15 information document UNREDD/PB15/2015/5a/INF.1. The Secretariat then presented the next steps, including final approval of the results framework by the Executive Board in early 2016, the definition of baselines and targets according to the proposed scope and country selection criteria of the Programme, and the development of a monitoring and evaluation guideline for data collection and reporting.

82. The second part of the session included a panel discussion on experiences and best practices with results-based monitoring and reporting systems from different perspectives: (i) from an evaluator's perspective – Mr Alan Fox, UNDP Evaluation Office, (ii) from the perspective of a UN-REDD partner country – Mr Anura Sathurusinghe, Conservator General of Forests and National Programme Director for Sri Lanka, (iii) from the perspective of CSOs/IPs – Ms Grace Balawag, IP observer for Asia-Pacific, and (iv) from a donor's perspective – Mr Michael Bucki, representative of the European Union.

83. Mr Michael Bucki said that all REDD+ related initiatives should initiate or expedite a process of streamlining and simplification of reporting requirements, which sometimes burden REDD+ countries with an increasing number of largely overlapping standards and templates. Such a process should first and foremost be inspired by the Warsaw Framework, and then be guided by the emerging practice of the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The challenge of REDD+ would be to mobilize and use scarce public climate finance and to further catalyse deep and lasting changes in investment practices of the private sector. The monitoring and evaluation framework for both readiness and results-based payments should therefore reflect the logic of carbon transactions between, for example, EU tax payers and relevant stakeholders in the REDD+ countries, and inform the most relevant transactions between producers, traders, and retailers of forest-sensitive commodities. The criteria and indicators for such a framework would therefore need to be prioritized and designed in a way that they can be summarized into one single qualitative rating of forest risks, encompassing migration results, and social, environmental and economic risks that are associated with production in forest landscapes. Mr Bucki mentioned the FCPF buffer guidelines as a good example, as for REDD+ emission reductions to be

equivalent to any other emission reductions, 'permanence insurance' should be added, i.e. setting aside a risk-based proportion of emission reductions. This risk assessment simplifies all qualitative and programmatic aspects to four fundamental questions: Is REDD+ implementation deemed legitimate by affected stakeholders? Are REDD+ institutions adequate and stable? Is the REDD+ strategy consistent with current drivers, and responsive to new ones? Are underlying ecosystems resilient in the face of climate change? Each category is then attributed to a risk level, and their sum represents the combined risk profile of the FCPF Emission Reductions programme. Mr Bucki added that a good monitoring and results framework would act as a measure of extent to which UN-REDD, FCPF and other agencies have improved the forest risk rating in the jurisdictions they work in. The UN-REDD Programme has an important role in reducing such risks related to the forest sector, also in order to stronger facilitate private investments in the future.

84. Ms Grace Balawag focused her intervention on community-based monitoring and information systems (CBMIS), and how they link and contribute to the UN-REDD Programme results-based framework, information management, and monitoring and reporting at both national and global level. She stressed that CBMIS should be recognized as crucial and integral part of the results framework, as it is an efficient and sustainable tool to contribute to results-based information management, monitoring and reporting processes. Furthermore, it is necessary to agree on the results framework based on established baseline information and agreed goals, performance and outcome indicators at all levels, including communities, sub-national, national and global. CBMIS is a process where IPs and communities have agreed to generate baseline information for data analysis, planning and monitoring for community development, from which the UN-REDD Programme can benefit. It is part of a Participatory Action Research that is geared towards strengthening communities, and hence contributing to community empowerment and the realization of IP's sustainable and self-determined development. In CBMIS, communities take the lead, starting with baseline generation for data analysis and management, and therefore the community has the sole ownership of the process and achieved results, and can decide on what can be contributed to the national or global processes. She furthermore presented strategies on how CBMIS can contribute to results-based management and reporting systems at sub-national, national and global monitoring processes, including through international agreements (i.e. monitoring the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, ILO 169, or the Convention on Biological Diversity), and will help to identify indicators that are relevant to the rights of IPs and CSOs as they are generated through community-based monitoring processes.

85. Mr Anura Sathurusinghe explained how results-based management was structured in Sri Lanka. He laid out the monitoring and reporting process at country level, including lessons learned and the identification of corrective actions. With support from the UN-REDD Programme through the National Programme funding modality, Sri Lanka has developed an indicative results framework, including financial and work targets. The planning and reporting processes for Sri Lanka are sophisticated for both external and internal monitoring, and includes the following stakeholders: (i) government: Ministry of Environment (monthly progress reporting and quarterly meetings), the Department of National Planning and the Department of External Resources (monthly reporting), (ii) UN agencies (monthly monitoring meetings), reporting to UN-REDD Secretariat (semi-annually and annually), and (iii) National Programme governance: PMU (quarterly work plan updates, monthly meetings), REDD+ Task Force (meetings regularly with high-level expertise), and Programme Executive Board (PEB) (meetings every 3 months).

86. Mr Sathurusinghe highlighted that regular staff meetings, in addition to the regular meetings of all involved stakeholders, had built a solid platform to discuss any experiences, lessons learned or issues arising, that could be quickly acted upon. Providing information on the different National Programme activities in real time enabled tracking those, and was an effective tool to avoid risks and problems arising. In addition, the CSO convening committee takes place every second month, where issues of interest for civil society are being discussed and further explained if necessary. Additional support for knowledge management and capacity building is provided by different teams, also to assist the eight community-based REDD+ project grantees in the country. Mr Sathurusinghe introduced the lessons learned, including the following: the programme had no clear cut physical targets; the master workplan was developed three years ago and since then has gone through various revision processes; there was no clear strategic communication plan at the inception of the National Programme. Corrective actions that have been taken therefore included an internal mid-term review to analyse the different reasons for delay, intensive stock-taking throughout the readiness process, and the identification of PAM prioritization steps. For design of future National Programmes, he underlined the importance of agreeing on clear goals and sound communication between all stakeholders, and highlighted that the results framework should not be too rigid, leaving room to accommodate sudden changes, i.e. of a political or technical nature.

87. Mr Alan Fox presented two main aspects in regard to results-based management and reporting systems, including the evaluation process from the perspective of a UN agency (UNDP), and issues and lessons learned for results-based management in the UN-REDD Programme. Results-based management at UNDP was of increasing importance, and particular attention was paid to the development of the UNDP Handbook for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation for Development Results (2009) and the Strategic Plan 2014-2017, which set in motion the development of an integrated results and resources framework with seven outcomes and 39 outputs. In addition, UNDP had established a social and environmental safeguards screening process for programmes and projects exceeding a budget of US\$ 500,000. Programme development changes were set in place, requiring a Theory of Change to be developed for new programming at both global and country levels. In moving forward, Mr Fox stressed the UN-REDD Programme should take into account the following key issues with respect to its results-based management strengthening effort: (i) results-based management has both learning and accountability dimensions that should be considered in the future as donors, UN agencies and other stakeholders are particularly interested in the quality of results, (ii) overriding priorities to implement actions under the UNFCCC are both important to be taken into account for the Theory of Change for the UN-REDD Programme as well as guidance for the overall monitoring system, (iii) monitoring programmes should take into account the rapid enhancement of data systems that allow for precise geographic consideration of forestry loss, (iv) enable to streamline user interfaces that will be practical for all stakeholders to use, and (v) it is necessary to find opportunities to utilize the indicators that can derive an understanding of risks and losses while minimizing costs and effort burden.

### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

88. The representative of IPs in Africa commented that a capacity building strategy to reinforce capabilities is an important tool for consolidation of stakeholders and to achieve the expected results. Further links should be strengthened to address the different objectives for the countries. The REDD+ Academy had provided a great platform to build such capacities. UNEP added they have done a follow-up with each REDD+ Academy participant after one year, elaborating on impacts and lessons learned. The knowledge of the past years had been summarized, and UNEP would launch a full package for the



REDD+ Academy online, enabling communities to do such training on their own. The IP representative for the LAC region added that it would be important to define how already established monitoring systems would be evaluated, also to further develop a decentralized monitoring system. Ensuring social inclusion is a critical aspect of such a results framework, and should be an integral part for all outcomes. The Secretariat stressed that it was important to clearly define what is meant when talking about building capacities and capabilities. A key message of a coherent monitoring system is to fully capture what happens in the forests and at community and local level. Mr Fox said it might be useful to take into account efforts of national governments to develop evaluation mechanisms, which would provide an additional source for capacity building assistance for the UN-REDD Programme. UNDP has a global programme building on national evaluation capacity support, and the World Bank, through its CLEAR programme, had been an important actor in this area as well.

89. Mexico mentioned that, in parallel with the UN-REDD development of a new results framework, the FIP had been going through the same process, identifying similar indicators. Lessons learned from the FIP process should be taken into account when finalizing the framework for the next phase of the Programme. The Secretariat agreed that it was necessary to define how best to aggregate contributions of the different key players to emissions reduction, especially in regard to the FCPF and UNFCCC, and underlined that the results framework should be kept flexible to allow for adaptive management. Mr Fox added that although a results framework should display a level of flexibility, indicators should be kept fixed and not continuously reviewed and adjusted. The GEF Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) was illustrative of such a process. The FCPF then answered to the comments made by the European Union, and mentioned that there has been some confusion about how to best measure emission reductions, which had caused different impacts on costs and timelines.

90. The Co-chair of the session, Ms Mette Wilkie, thanked all participants for their very good presentations on how to best engage with different international, national and local stakeholders and underlined that the input would help to further identify necessary indicators that should be used in the future UN-REDD results-based monitoring system. In addition, the discussion had clearly shown the necessity for a system that is rather flexible, and therefore easily adjustable to the different countries' needs.

#### **5b. Prioritization, criteria and needs assessment – A summary of experiences**

91. The definition and selection of criteria and the resulting pipeline of countries for the next phase of the UN-REDD Programme will need to be established from January 2016. To further align with a more transparent and inclusive consultation process, this session took stock of lessons learned during previous pipelining processes, identified potential considerations in defining criteria, and reflected on how such exercises can be best designed to contribute to the achievement of the new UN-REDD Programme results framework and its associated targets.

92. The information session comprised two parts. The Secretariat started with a presentation on portfolio-wide considerations, different criteria and approaches applied by the UN-REDD Programme to build the project pipelines and the potential contribution of needs assessments to this process in the future. The identification of a set of criteria for country selection intends to serve the results framework and maximize the impact of the Programme, it also instils more transparency in allocating the limited funds, and it accelerates pipeline development and helps identify new leading proposals and opportunities. Current pipeline processes focus on the following criteria: regional balance, relevance, engagement, potential benefits, UN-REDD niche, and needs and absorptive capacity. Additional

considerations for the new Programme phase would need to take account of wider criteria such as the readiness funding limitations, possible extension of support beyond readiness to implementation of PAMs, diverse progress towards readiness, and the specificity of different needs for different countries. The UN-REDD Programme has an increasing number of partner countries, most of which are also involved in other international initiatives such as the FCPF and the FIP. A growing number of partner countries will result in a growing number of countries that will need support through different funding modalities. In the next phase of UN-REDD, the Programme will therefore focus more strongly on providing support for the implementation of PAMs to achieve results-based payments in the future, additionally taking into account the following criteria: contribution to FIP objectives, mainstreaming potential, preparedness, and learning potential. The Secretariat stressed that the development of a pipeline for the next phase of the Programme would need to be significantly front-loaded to prevent long programmes extending beyond the new cycle, ending in 2020.

93. The second part of the session consisted of a panel discussion drawing on perspectives gathered through different country experiences in terms of connecting REDD+ to national priorities, progress against the Warsaw Framework, and considerations when determining and prioritizing Policies, Actions and Measures (PAMs) that address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation or barriers to enhancement and conservation. As the UN-REDD Programme will continue to support readiness in countries that need such assistance, the session also explored how progress towards implementation can benefit a larger number of countries in the future. The panel session was moderated by Ms Elizabeth Philip, representative of Malaysia, and country representatives from Costa Rica (Ms Naty Arce), Ecuador (Ms Carolina Rosero) and Kenya (Mr Alfred Gichu) shared their experiences and lessons learned with the Board.

94. Ms Philip welcomed all participants of the panel, and gave a brief introduction to the session discussion, outlining the structure and the expected results, further stressing that it was an opportunity to take stock of experiences and reflect on its implications for the next phase of the Programme. She addressed questions to the three panel participants that focused on different key areas relating to their country experiences. She asked Ms Rosero to provide an overview of Ecuador's efforts on REDD+ readiness and the transition to implementation, and what for them defined a status of REDD+ readiness. Ms Rosero answered that Ecuador has made great efforts to achieve REDD+ readiness in the past few years. Forest Emission Reference Levels have been submitted to UNFCCC in December 2014, and were reviewed in October 2015. The National REDD+ Strategy has been formulated, and verified through a multi-stakeholder consultation process. In addition, a National Forest Monitoring Service has been established and institutionalized, and a Safeguard Information System is currently being developed. One of the biggest achievements of the Ministry of Environment was the fact that Ecuador had achieved a reduction of its greenhouse gas emissions (with financial support of approximately US\$ 53 Mio from the national government), and would provide more detailed information on such progress in the next Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC. Ecuador is currently finalizing all four requirements of the Warsaw Framework, and therefore ready to start implementation of the REDD+ Action Plan. Ms Philip furthermore asked Ms Rosero to provide information on how the country did prioritize its PAMs, to which she updated the Board that five main measures had been identified and prioritized, including the enabling of policies, to increase value of forests, to closely monitor safeguards and to provide necessary knowledge management, which allow for maximizing of multiple benefits. The REDD+ Action Plan is embedded in the wider framework, and has enabled PAMs to be formulated under one national context that involves different actors and has been established in cooperation with the ministries of

environment, agriculture and others. The Government of Ecuador had developed a financial plan for the mitigation to climate change in the country, with a total budget of US\$ 347 Mio until 2040. In that regard, additional national and international funding will need to be identified. The country is currently facing an internal financial crisis due to the drop in global oil prizes, further pressuring the Ministry of Environment to identify additional funding resources to implement these PAMs.

95. Ms Philip asked the representative of Kenya, Mr Alfred Gichu: (i) how Kenya had balanced the trade-offs between the participation of broader stakeholders and other national actions to maximize the mitigation potential, and (ii) what made REDD+ relevant in a country like Kenya that had a rather low mitigation potential, particularly given the demands on rigorous monitoring for carbon and other REDD+ requirements. Mr Gichu answered that Kenya has set several strategies in place such as the Low Carbon Development Strategy, in which the forest sector plays an active role both for climate change adaptation and mitigation, which will provide a great opportunity for REDD+ in the country as it can be aligned with other nationally driven efforts. Kenya will need to be able to accommodate all competing interests, including the different claimers of forest resources. Mr Gichu added, that REDD+ had become a great process in support of the different communities in Kenya, and therefore the interest went beyond emission reductions and carbon. In regard to the relevance of REDD+ in the country, Mr Gichu mentioned that investing in REDD+ was a long-term effort that would maximize benefits in other sectors. In addition, Kenya would like to report on national efforts in regard to setting up the four pillars of the Warsaw Framework, but stressed that this is a very complex process. Focused funding resources would need to be identified, as current investments did not focus only on the identification of REDD+ readiness actions but rather meet other climate change requirements beyond the Warsaw Framework. Kenya had identified three main REDD+ goals, including the constitutional obligation to increase forest cover, the need to protect existing forest resources, and to support national climate change adaptation and mitigation goals.

96. Ms Arce was then asked to present its lessons learned in regard to the alignment of international coordination in the country, and how the support for national priorities has been aligned with that. In addition, the session moderator asked how Costa Rica did undertake its selection of PAMs and how implementation is planned while addressing other national priorities. Ms Arce answered that they had put in place a forestry programme that was being implemented since 1997. Building on this, they could develop the National REDD+ Strategy, in line with other national priorities. Ms Arce added that international financial support is not always as flexible as needed to meet the country needs, but support provided by the UN-REDD Programme has demonstrated such needed flexibility, e.g. when adjusting activities to what can realistically be implemented in the country. Many different donors are present in Costa Rica, and strong coordination is needed to ensure that there is no overlap in funding of different activities. Costa Rica was therefore thankful for the support and guidance from FONAFIFO as the single government entity that is empowered to channel funding resources to where it is needed most. Similar to Ecuador, Ms Arce mentioned it is increasingly difficult to attract international support and receive additional national support, but is hopeful that existing resources will allow for best practices. Furthermore, Ms Arce reported that the government would develop a social component to the overall framework, and currently focuses on four basic priorities in regard to PAMs, including setting up MRV and Safeguard Information Systems. In addition, Costa Rica is planning to increase its national capacities in regard to sustainable forest management, awareness raising and knowledge management, reforestation, and the analysis of drivers of deforestation, all embedded in national goals and objectives to ensure long-term sustainability of REDD+ actions.

97. Ms Philip asked all three participants about the engagement of different ministries in the REDD+ implementation process in the country. Ecuador listed the ministries of environment, finance, national planning, internal revenue, agriculture, and foreign commerce as well as local governance as the key government players involved in the process. Ms Arce reported that Costa Rica currently involves the ministries of environment, finance, national planning and energy in addition to key authorities such as the National Office on Climate Change and the national meteorological organization. Costa Rica is trying to further involve actions to the communities, and has an active involvement of CSOs and IPs in the country. Mr Gichu stated that there are opportunities to involve multiple ministries in the country, currently focusing on the involvement of the ministries of environment and agriculture. Future collaboration is planned with the ministries of energy, finance and planning have been involved to strengthen decentralization of REDD+ efforts. In addition, the national forest authority and CSOs and IPs are involved in the development of the process to achieve REDD+ readiness.

### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

98. The Board thanked members for the fruitful discussion, and the Co-chair of the session, Mr Zuñiga, stressed that the discussion had shown that all partner countries involved in the UN-REDD Programme displayed different needs, and therefore could not be assessed against the same requirements. The Programme will need to have a vision that allowed for the different programmes at country level to be innovative and flexible, and should also address issues that might go beyond the forest sector, including land use planning, and the consideration of needs for small and medium-sized producers and farmers when developing the national strategies. Governments of the involved countries have raised high expectations for the UN-REDD Programme, and it would be difficult to satisfy such their needs.

99. Malaysia added that it was a complex process to fit the REDD+ agenda into the overall national agenda, and would therefore have to be handled cautiously. Expertise and guidance is therefore needed to ensure implementation at the national level.

100. UNDP congratulated all three countries on their achievements, particularly Ecuador. The challenge will be to maintain progress in the future, and how to best use the information collected. In addition, UNDP suggested that the session had established that the work on REDD+ could not be discussed in parallel to the current discussion on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but had to be somehow linked. One country would not be able to deal with all identified actions under the SDGs, but might need to identify those actions that are of special interest and use to further progress in the country, and go beyond the needs for the forest sector. Ms Rosero noted that the current national framework takes those development goals into account, and emphasized that all necessary components are in line with the post-2015 agenda in the country. The REDD+ Action Plan was therefore structured in such a way that it would strengthen already existing policies, and was fully integrated in the framework. To maintain progress, Costa Rica indicated that future support might be requested from the UN-REDD Programme in addition to the already ongoing work with the Programme to stronger monitor pineapple production, which is one of the main drivers of deforestation in the country.

### **Session 6: Closure of Meeting**

101. Draft decisions from Sessions 1 to 3 were presented by the Co-chairs and confirmed by the Policy Board, with no objections.

### **Feedback from the Policy Board**

102. In response to draft decisions 3-5, the representative of CSOs in Northern Countries requested clarification on the next steps in regard to a final financial approval of the National Programmes for Chile, Myanmar and Peru. The Secretariat confirmed that such approval would be done inter-sessionally, depending on the availability of future funds. Before the end of 2015, the Policy Board would decide inter-sessionally. From January 2016, such decision will fall under the responsibility of the newly established Executive Board.

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**Annex I: List of Participants**

		First Name	Last Name/Surname	
1	Mr.	Leandro	Fernandez	Argentina
2	Ms.	Mercedes	Esperon	Argentina
3	Mr.	Saret	Khorn	Cambodia
4	Mr.	Osvaldo	Quintanilla	Chile
5	Ms.	Brenda Del Pilar	Román Abarca	Chile
6	Mr.	Liborio	Barria	Chile
7	Ms.	Diana Marcela	Vargas Galvis	Colombia
8	Mr.	Jorge Mario	Rodriguez Zúñiga	Costa Rica
9	Ms.	Alexandra	Saenz	Costa Rica
10	Ms.	Naty	Arce	Costa Rica
11	Mr.	Ricardo Manuel	Ulate Chacon	Costa Rica
12	Mr.	Miguel	Cifuentes	Costa Rica
13	Ms.	Carolina	Rosero	Ecuador
14	Mrs.	Patricia	Serrano	Ecuador
15	Mr.	Eliki	Siga	Fiji
16	Mr.	Carlos	Bonilla	Guatemala
17	Mr.	Brahim	Diop	Jamaica
18	Mr.	Alfred	Gichu	Kenya
19	Mr.	Andriamanjato	Mamitiana	Madagascar
20	Ms.	Elizabeth	Philip	Malaysia
21	Ms.	Ana Karla	Perea Blazquez	Mexico
22	Mr.	Thaung	Naing Oo	Myanmar
23	Mr.	Narendra Bahadur	Chand	Nepal
24	Mr.	Pedro Pablo	Vivar Mulas	Panama
25	Mr.	Gustavo	Suarez De Freitas	Peru
26	Mr.	Anura	Sathurusinghe	Sri Lanka
27	Mr.	Xavier	Mugumya	Uganda
28	Mr.	Valence	Buherere Arineitwe	Uganda
29	Mr.	Robert	Chimambo	CSO - Africa
30	Mr.	Tek	Vannara	CSO - Asia Pacific
31	Mrs.	Gustavo	Sánchez Valle	CSO - LAC
32	Mr.	Chris	Meyer	CSO - Northern countries
33	Ms.	Juliana	de Lima Splendore	CSO - Northern countries
34	Mr.	Alvaro	Pop	UNFP II
35	Mr.	Joseph	Itongwa Mukumo	IP - Africa
36	Ms.	Grace	Balawag	IP - Asia Pacific
37	Mrs.	Dolores De Jesus	Cabnal Coc	IP - LAC
38	Mr.	Michael	Bucki	European Union
39	Ms.	Tale	Kvalvaag	Norway
40	Mr.	Tore	Langhelle	Norway
41	Mr.	Jesús	Molina	AECID, Spain

		First Name	Last Name/Surname	
42	Mr.	Carlos	Diez	AECID, Spain
43	Mr.	Carles	Puigmarti	AECID, Spain
44	Ms.	Ellysar	Baroudy	FCPF - FMT
45	Mr.	Leonel	Iglesias	FCPF - FMT
46	Ms.	Stephanie	Tam	FCPF - FMT
47	Mr.	Pierre	Bardoux-Chesneau	MPTF Office
48	Mr.	Patrick	Wylie	IUCN
49	Ms.	Claire	Martin	Transparency International
50	Ms.	Magali	Avila Huanca	Transparency International, Lima
51	Ms.	Malgorzata	Buszko-Briggs	FAO
52	Ms.	Serena	Fortuna	FAO
53	Ms.	Tiina Marjatta	Vahanen	FAO
54	Ms.	Maria Jose	Sanz Sanchez	FAO
55	Mr.	Lucio	Santos	FAO Panama
56	Mr.	Angel Maria	Parra Aguiar	FAO Paraguay
57	Mr.	Timothy	Clairs	UNDP
58	Mr.	Josep	Garí	UNDP
59	Mr.	Nik	Sekhran	UNDP
60	Mr.	Pierre-Yves	Guedez	UNDP Panama
61	Mr.	Kifah	Sasa	UNDP Costa Rica
62	Mr.	Alan	Fox	UNDP
63	Mr.	Tim	Christophersen	UNEP
64	Mr.	Juan	Ferrando	UNEP LAC
65	Mr.	Gabriel	Labbate	UNEP LAC
66	Ms.	Mette	Wilkie	UNEP
67	Mr.	Edoardo	Zandri	UNEP
68	Mrs.	Mirey	Atallah	UN-REDD Secretariat
69	Mr.	Jonathan	Barzdo	UN-REDD Secretariat
70	Mr.	Mario	Boccucci	UN-REDD Secretariat
71	Mrs.	Jennifer	Ferguson-Mitchell	UN-REDD Secretariat
72	Mr.	José-Carlos	Fernández Ugalde	UN-REDD Secretariat
73	Ms.	Jessica	Holterhof	UN-REDD Secretariat
74	Mr.	Mike	Spiers	UN-REDD Secretariat
75	Ms.	Frances	Lim	UN-REDD Secretariat

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