

**UN-REDD**  
PROGRAMME



# Report of the Twelfth Policy Board Meeting

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UN-REDD PROGRAMME

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8-9 July 2014

Lima, Peru

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## Summary of Decisions – UN-REDD Programme 12<sup>th</sup> Policy Board Meeting

### Session 1: Opening and Approval of Agenda

1. The Policy Board members approved the agenda for the 12th Policy Board Meeting.

### Session 2: Overview of Progress and Results since the 11th Policy Board meeting

2. The Policy Board took note of the update of the Funding Framework of the UN-REDD Programme Fund and approved the 2013 Annual Report of the UN-REDD Programme Fund.

### Session 4: Update on National Programmes

3. The Policy Board took note of the estimated budget needs for Honduras and Uganda and of their progress on the preparation of R-PPs and encourages them to formally submit their National Programmes by the Thirteenth Policy Board meeting, taking into consideration recommendations made by the Policy Board.
4. The Policy Board approved the proposed approach for establishing the National Programme pipeline through a request for expressions of interest as indicated in the session background document ([UNREDD/PB12/2014/4a/pipeline](#)). Furthermore, the Policy Board reactivated the Policy Board Working Group with a mandate to review Expressions of Interest and to select new countries to receive support for National Programmes. Policy Board members were requested to volunteer to participate in the Working Group to be established within two weeks after the 12th Policy Board meeting.

### Session 6: Funding Allocation Requests

#### *6a. SNA Workplan and Budget 2015*

5. The Policy Board approved the revised Work Plan and Budget for Year 4 (2015) of the 'Support to National REDD+ Action: Global Programme Framework 2011-2015' (SNA) and allocation of US\$ 24,432,943 as per the submission form.

#### *6b. Presentation of National Programmes*

6. The Policy Board approved **Argentina's** funding request of US\$ 3,842,370 for its National Programme and associated budget allocation, as per the submission form, taking into account the recommendations from the Policy Board, independent technical reviews, and the Secretariat. These recommendations should be included in the R-PP and National Programme document prior to the finalization.
7. The Policy Board approved **Cote D'Ivoire's** funding request of US\$ 3,210,000 for its National Programme, and associated budget allocation, as per the submission form, taking into account the recommendations from the independent technical reviews, and the Secretariat. These

recommendations should be included in the R-PP and National Programme document prior to the finalization.

8. The Policy Board approved **Mongolia's** funding request of US\$ 3,996,450 for its National Programme, and associated budget allocation, as per the submission form, taking into account the recommendations from the Policy Board, independent technical reviews, and the Secretariat. These recommendations should be included in the R-PP and National Programme document prior to the finalization.

### **Session 8: Strategy and Policy Issues**

#### *8a. Development of the Programme Strategy*

9. The Policy Board approved the roadmap ([UNREDD/PB12/2014/VIII/8a/INF1](#)) presented at the 12th Policy Board meeting and requested the agencies and Secretariat to initiate the process as described in order to develop the UN-REDD Programme 2016 – 2020 Strategy and to bring a proposed strategy forward for discussion at the Thirteenth Policy Board meeting.

#### *8b. Programme Evaluation*

10. The Policy Board agreed to the management response to the three recommendations in the external evaluation that are addressed to the Policy Board and acknowledged the draft response to the nine recommendations directed to and responded by the UN-REDD Agencies. The Policy Board requested the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat to compile and finalize the consolidated management response and circulate to the Policy Board for information. The Policy Board encouraged the countries to take note of the recommendations addressed to them.

### **Session 9: Closing of Meeting**

11. The Policy Board approved the proposal to hold its next meeting, the Thirteenth Policy Board meeting, back-to-back with the FCPF, in Africa during the first half of November 2014. The Secretariat will communicate the confirmed meeting dates and venue.

## Introduction

The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (the UN-REDD Programme) held its 12th Policy Board meeting on 8-9 July 2014 in Lima, Peru. The meeting was co-chaired by Professor W.D.L. Sumathipala, Chairman of the National Science Foundation and Chair of the National Climate Change mitigation Committee (Sri Lanka); and Mr. Eduardo Rojas-Briales, Assistant Director-General, Forestry Department, (FAO). The meeting was attended by 102 participants (see Annex 1). All documents and presentations are available on the UN-REDD Programme [website](#) and [workspace](#).

### Session 1: Opening and approval of Agenda

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

Mr. Mario Boccucci, Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, welcomed all participants to the meeting and thanked Peru, the host country for holding the meeting in advance of UNFCCC COP20 to be held in Lima in December 2014. Mr. Boccucci then introduced Prof W.D.L. Sumathipala and Mr. Eduardo Rojas-Briales as the co-chairs of the 12th Policy Board meeting.

Prof W.D.L. Sumathipala opened the meeting by thanking representatives of the Programme's now 53 partner countries that were attending the meeting and observers for travelling to Lima and welcomed fellow new Policy Board members. He also thanked the donors, especially Norway for their continued support to the forests of developing countries. He noted that the 12th Policy Board meeting, which is taking place before the Secretary-General's Climate Summit in New York in September and the UNFCCC-COP20 in Lima, is an opportunity for all the participants of the meeting to work together in ways that will have a positive impact on these important milestones for REDD+, and ultimately to harness the potential benefits of REDD+. He invited all the participants to have a collaborative, respectful and mutually supportive environment for the meeting and welcomed his co-chair Mr. Eduardo Rojas-Briales.

Mr. Eduardo Rojas-Briales welcomed the participants to Lima. He started by highlighting the five-year report of the Programme shared with the participants the day before and commended that the successes illustrated in the report have been achieved through the collaborative work of the UN-REDD Programme partner countries, FAO, UNDP and UNEP, the Programme's technical staff, and with the continued support of committed donors. He also stressed that the report also highlights the challenges of REDD+, as does the independent evaluation of the Programme and there have been many hurdles that the Programme had to navigate to reach where we are today. He also reminded the Board that the Programme is not a negotiating platform, but a technical initiative aiming to help countries to achieve REDD+ objective as well as social and environmental co-benefits.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Rebeca Arias, UN Resident Coordinator, highlighted the upcoming UNFCCC COP20 in Lima, and the support that UNDP Peru would be providing to the government of Peru. She also highlighted the work of the UN-REDD Programme and its 53 partner countries, together with the World Bank-facilitated FCPF, to bring the global community closer to realizing the social, environmental and economic benefits of REDD+. Ms. Arias then commented that the UN-

REDD Programme Targeted Support received by the government of Peru has helped to build REDD+ capacity and to bring stakeholders together.

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

##### *Announcement of one-time observers*

The co-chairs introduced the one-time observers present, whose requests to observe the Policy Board had been approved in advance of the meeting. These were the Climate Markets and Investors Association (CMIA) and Derecho, Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (DAR) Lima. In addition, a request from The Nature Conservancy was received shortly before the meeting, which was also approved.

The co-chairs introduced the draft agenda, highlighted the consensus-based Policy Board decision-making and some operational aspects such as importance of time management and reminded the participants to sign the disclosure of interest form.

The agenda was approved by the Policy Board. See Policy Board **Decision 1**.

## **Session 2: Overview of progress and results since the 11th Policy Board**

### **2a. Overview of progress and results since 11th Policy Board Meeting**

Mr. Mario Boccucci; Ms. Thais Linhares-Juvenal, Senior Officer; and Ms. Mirey Atallah, Senior Programme Officer from the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat, updated the Policy Board on key developments since the 11th Policy Board meeting.

Mr. Boccucci reminded the Policy Board of the key decisions taken at the 11th Policy Board meeting and reported on developments since then, including the approval of Bangladesh's fund allocation request, approval of changes to and no-cost extension of Panama's National Programme leading to the resumed implementation of the National Programme, and the Review of the Policy Board Structure. Guinea Bissau, Malawi, Equatorial Guinea and Chad have been accepted as partner countries and an extension for Colombia to have its National Programme document signed. Other highlights were the announcement of the East Africa Initiative on Illegal Timber Trade and REDD+, support for the Abu Dhabi Ascent and the preparation of the Secretary-General's Climate Summit in September 2014, and the ongoing work on the new online platform for knowledge sharing, expected August 2014.

Ms. Linhares-Juvenal gave an update on developments of the Support to National REDD+ Action: Global Programme Framework 2011-2015 (SNA), in particular the approval of the 2014 Work Plan and Budget revision at the last Policy Board meeting. These developments include strengthening of support to the private sector engagement, the REDD+ Academy, the Country Needs Assessment process and increased provision of support through Targeted Support. Highlights from the six-month period following the last Policy Board meeting include the launch of the UN-REDD Programme Country Approach to Safeguards Tool (CAST), significant safeguards advancement in countries, and

other country-specific achievements such as Kenya's publication on legal framework for REDD+ and recommendations for legal reforms.

Ms. Atallah gave a situation update on the National Programmes, which now include 12 active Programmes, six completed Programmes, five pipeline Programmes and two Tier 2 countries. With regard to harmonizing the UN-REDD Programme and FCPF reporting at the country level, Ms. Atallah reported that it has been agreed to synchronize the timing, the content of the FCPF and UN-REDD Programme. Given similarities in the reporting templates and the limited number of countries where the programmes overlap in implementation, alignment will be done on a case by case basis in such countries. The new dashboard tool for National Programmes was briefly introduced with a country example to be further discussed in session 4.

The full Overview presentation is available at: <http://bit.ly/UN-REDD-PB12>

Following an invitation by the co-chair, and recalling the request of PB11 in Geneva, Ecuador's representative provided clarification on the closing of Fundación Pachamama. She explained that a legal process is currently underway, remarking that it is linked to petroleum exploration and not related to Ecuador's REDD+ process. However, in view that the Fundación receives its permit through the Ministry of Environment in view of its area of activity, the closure was effected by the Ministry of Environment on request of the Ministry of Interior. Clarification was requested from the Policy Board regarding the nature of the legal process. Ecuador's representative responded that the legal process consists of an appeal to the Ministry of Interior's resolution to dissolve Fundación Pachamama. Regarding the links with REDD+ she clarified that non-renewable and renewable natural resources have different legal frameworks according to the Ecuadorian Constitution which recognizes collective land-rights in relation to forests. Therefore the Programme Steering Committee estimated there would be no impact on REDD+ or the UN-REDD National Programme ensuing the closing of the Fundación.

Policy Board feedback:

Clarification was sought regarding new partner countries joining the Programme, and if the Policy Board has a say in acceptance or rejection of these requests.

The Secretariat responded that the Rules of Procedure of the UN-REDD Programme do not establish any criteria for accepting new partner countries to the Programme. The Secretariat confirmed that so far all countries' requests to join have been accepted.

## **2b. Financial status of the UN-REDD Programme Fund**

Ms. Mari Matsumoto, Senior Portfolio Manager, Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF-O), UNDP, updated the Policy Board on the financial status of the UN-REDD Programme Fund and introduced the financial section of the UN-REDD Programme annual report for 2013. She highlighted the contributions and commitments to the fund cumulatively. In 2013, deposits of US\$ 60 million were received, US\$ 52 million were transferred to programmes approved by the Policy Board and US\$ 32 million expended. Cumulatively, the fund demonstrates good performance with rates of deposits, transfers and expenditures increasing consistently. She also provided clarification on the process to

ensure transparency and accountability of the UN-REDD Programme's oversight structure, financial management and reporting.

## **2c. 2013 Annual Report of the UN-REDD Programme**

Ms. Linhares-Juvenal presented the Fifth Consolidated Annual Progress Report of the UN-REDD Programme Fund (2013 Annual Report). The content, structure and design has undergone a significant change aiming at clearer reporting on results in a consolidated and integrated fashion rather than reporting exclusively on the delivery modality. She clarified that the report focuses on delivery of the REDD+ readiness support and results at the country level, and presents consolidation of narrative and financial data, lessons learned, challenges and opportunities, looking ahead and greater analysis to support policy development and decision making. SNA key results per outcome, the support provided through the categories of support and challenges and lessons learned were described. The total expenditure (US\$ 39.2m) of the total allocation for SNA to up to 31 December 2013 (US\$ 49.2m) shows an overall financial delivery rate of 80 per cent. The importance of tailoring the support to the country's specific needs and engagement with other initiatives to build common understanding of differences in approaches and promote harmonization was highlighted.

Ms. Atallah presented highlights of the National Programmes up to December 2013 with two new National Programmes approved (Colombia and Bangladesh), three National Programmes completed and evaluated (Indonesia, Tanzania and Viet Nam in 2012), two National Programmes closed in 2013 and to be evaluated in 2014 (DRC and the Philippines) and approximately 4,500 people trained in 2013. The total amount approved for National Programmes by December 2013 was US\$ 73.6m of which US\$ 57.5m were transferred and US\$ 35.7m cumulatively expended, showing an overall financial delivery of 62 per cent. Some of the lessons learned referred to the transition along REDD+ phases which is not linear but iterative, the need to accommodate changes of circumstances and of counterparts during the lifetime of a National Programme and to define the scope of REDD+ with proper analyses of drivers of deforestation and delineation of a REDD+ vision for the country.

Policy Board feedback:

Ecuador's representative thanked the Programme for the support received to date through the National Programme that is coming to an end and highlighted their plan of a targeted support request to support the work towards results based payment. Norway's representative commended the Programme for its efforts, in particular for promoting an inclusive approach to REDD+, good governance, gender issues, and targeting anti-corruption and noted that the Annual Report has improved significantly, including illustrations, challenges, more financial details and encouraged the Programme to continue this improvement including comparison of cumulative and annual figures. He also mentioned that no-cost extension of National Programmes is justified in several cases and encourage the programme to continue to mitigate risks.

Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Argentina concurred on the need for more time and funds be allocated to National Programmes, that the duration be based on a country's capacity and that the quality of implementation should supersede considerations of delivery. They also highlighted that important multi-stakeholder consultation processes take time and flagged the importance of generating lessons learned from all countries and strengthening mechanisms for south-south exchange. Argentina



raised the need to incorporate these lessons into National Programmes that are now starting given the different baseline compared to countries that started in 2008 and requested more information on criteria and modalities to access Tier 2 support. Honduras stressed the importance of having a long-term vision for the country on REDD+ and needs to plan ahead, and welcomed the regional capacity building workshop held in Panama, with a recommendation to have such regional preparatory meetings before each Policy Board meeting in the future.

The Secretariat highlighted the work on further linkages between financial and progress performance, and coming meeting sessions addressing the National Programme dashboard, a revised process for inviting new National Programmes and the Programme Evaluation recommendations, and stressed the Programme's value as a knowledge sharing platform.

The Policy Board took note of the update of the Funding Framework of the UN-REDD Programme Fund and approved the 2013 Annual Report of the UN-REDD Programme Fund. See **Decision 2**.

#### **2d. Update and progress of the FCPF since the 16<sup>th</sup> Participants Committee meeting**

Ms. Ellysar Baroudy, Head of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and the Carbon Fund provided an update of recent FCPF decisions. She reported that outcomes from the 17th Participants Committee meeting, held just preceding the Policy Board's 12th meeting, included: Expansion of the partnership, 47 countries in the Readiness Fund, and US\$ 34 million approved. She signalled that each country supported by the fund will receive US\$ 3.8 million, and that during PB17 funds were allocated to Madagascar and Paraguay. Three countries requested mid-term reviews (Costa Rica, Indonesia and Ghana) and requested additional funds (US\$ 5 million each). She also indicated that the Fund is reaching its mid-term stage.

She also shared information from the two recent Carbon Fund meetings, where countries presented Emission Reductions Program Idea Notes (ER-PIN) to be considered for selection into the Carbon Fund pipeline (Costa Rica, Chile, Mexico, DRC, Republic of Congo, Ghana, Nepal and Vietnam); and signalled that around 8 countries will eventually be selected from the pipeline to receive payments for emission reductions. She also indicated that there had been some discussion on pricing, and that coordination with UN-REDD Programme is progressing.

Policy Board feedback:

Policy Board meeting participants commented on the importance of the issue of coordination among multilaterals, bilaterals and other initiatives. The example of Papua New Guinea where Japan, the UN-REDD Programme and Australia are coordinating well on the ground was shared. Collaboration between FCPF and the UN-REDD Programme regarding the methodological framework of the Carbon Fund, contracts, and requirements to access the funds recently approved by the FCPF but with implications in all REDD+ countries was queried.

The Secretariat responded by recognizing the need to integrate and align at all levels. On the coordination with FCPF, it was highlighted that the coordination is done upstream in the context of designing readiness activities in a given country using the common R-PP framework.

The FCPF representative clarified that there is a discussion happening at this moment on the general conditions for accessing the Carbon Fund, through a currently ongoing consultation process, but clarified that the implications are only for those countries that are currently under the Carbon Fund.

## **2e. Report back from the Information and Knowledge Sharing Sessions**

*SNA Work Plan and Budget 2015, reported by Clement Chilima, Malawi:*

The 2015 budget was elaborated following the new process for budget development, including the recommendations from the Policy Board in this regard. The new proposed 2015 budget is US\$ 24 million for ensuring continuity of the UN-REDD Programme operations and technical support to countries. Through targeted support, the SNA has provided support to partner countries, including those which have completed National Programmes and those receiving support from other REDD+ initiatives but with needs of complementary support. It was also highlighted that the 2015 budget presents a small increase in the area of private sector engagement and a decrease on green economy.

*Implications of the Warsaw UNFCCC COP19 decisions for the UN-REDD Programme, reported by Maria Del Carmen, Ecuador:*

The session included a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation on the evolution of REDD+ under the UNFCCC culminating in the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ and anchored in the Cancun decisions. The main highlights and elements for NFMS, RELs, MRV, SIS and National REDD+ strategies and action plans were provided during the presentation, as well as the UNFCCC guidance for demonstration activities.

*National REDD+ Strategies, reported by Dania Moreno, Paraguay:*

The session included case studies from Sri Lanka, the Zambia and Peru, which included ideas on how to develop action plans and national REDD+ strategies, according to each country's circumstances, towards results-based payments through a continued process. The importance of the linkages with all elements of readiness, especially Reference Emissions Levels and National Forest Monitoring Systems was highlighted, as well as the importance of the participatory processes. Main challenges included inter-sectoral coordination, institutional weaknesses and lack of clarity on long-term finance for REDD+.

*Update on the Secretary-General's Climate Summit, reported by Edwin Usang, CSO Africa:*

The session highlighted the importance of the Secretary-General's Climate Summit towards strengthening countries' climate change commitments and the roadmap towards the UNFCCC COP21 in Paris. The Climate Summit will work in two streams in the forest area: combating deforestation and accelerating forest restoration, in which forest countries and advanced economies will be invited to announce ambitious deforestation reduction goals.

*REDD+ beyond 2015, reported by Kenneth Peralta, Peru:*

The session was a panel discussion reflecting on perspective on lessons learned through REDD+ since 2007-2008 and visions for the future of REDD+. Peru's Environment Minister highlighted the complexities of the REDD+ process that needs simplification so the main stakeholders can understand it. Indonesia stressed the main challenges that they had to overcome, including institutional strengthening, legal framework and persistent sectoralism, as well as the importance of participatory processes. The European Commission representative highlighted the need to improve collaboration and to clarify complexities to the extent possible. The CSO of Latin America representative highlighted the importance of addressing REDD+ under the national context strengthening internal and national processes and balancing actions and efforts to combat deforestation, as well as the need to develop specific indicators for monitoring participation.

*Status of forest carbon rights, reported by Andrew White, RRI*

The session involved a presentation of new research, coordinated by RRI, on the status of carbon rights, and comments by the other panel members H.E. Pak Heru Prasetyo (Head, Indonesia REDD+ Agency), Victor Armando Lopez Illescas (CSOs LAC representative), Chris Meyer (CSOs northern countries representative), Roberto Espinosa (Peru). The main points emerging from the panel discussion related to the increasing relevance of carbon rights, driven by a number of things including more guidance from the UNFCCC and procedures related to the Carbon Fund. The research indicated that few countries have established national level legal frameworks over carbon rights and trade of carbon, though some countries are doing studies to identify these legal frameworks. The discussion on the panel confirmed that this is a contentious issue, with H.E. Pak Heru Prasetyo indicating that Indonesia is committed to the "no rights, no REDD+" approach, and that there are a lot of discussions within Indonesia's REDD+ agency on how to define carbon rights; Roberto Espinosa noted that indigenous peoples remained concerned about carbon rights; Chris Meyer recognised a positive structure that respects rights in the State of Acre at the jurisdictional level, noting that perspectives on the issue of carbon rights continue to be mixed. Overall it was recognised that there might be a need to do more on tenure in the context of REDD+.

## **Session 3: Strategic and Policy Issues**

### **3a. Programme evaluation (Part 1)**

Alain Frechette and Robert Hofstede, independent evaluators, presented the report of the Programme Evaluation, described the methodology, the process, the main comments received, the key findings and the recommendations. It was recognised that the overall performance rating of 'moderately satisfactory' reflects that many issues are out of the control of the Programme and due to external factors. Mette Løyche Wilkie of UNEP presented an initial management response with general remarks including the acceptance of all the recommendations addressed to the UN REDD Programme agencies. Proposed actions to follow up each recommendation were included in the management response.

Policy Board feedback:

The high quality of the report was acknowledged, and the recommendations were welcomed, along with the initial management response from the Agencies on how to respond to the recommendations. Feedback, summarised below, was provided by the representatives of Denmark, Bangladesh, EC, Norway, Japan, Nigeria, Ecuador, Panama, Tunisia, TNC, IAG, UNPFII.

Donors highlighted that they have closely followed the evaluation process, that it comes at a time when the Programme is at a crossroads, and recognised that greater engagement in the evaluation by representatives from developing countries would have been valuable. The donors also noted agreement with the recommendations on the need to tackle the drivers of deforestation and were pleased that the Programme has recently launched the East Africa Illegal Timber Trade Initiative, which includes addressing drivers of deforestation amongst its objectives.

Participants commented that one of the challenges must be related to the confusion of the UN-REDD Programme interventions with other interventions (i.e. voluntary market projects) at a country-level and the attribution of results. Stakeholder participation has been a continuous challenge in the forestry sector in general before REDD+ started, the UN-REDD Programme is one part of the overall REDD+ process and cannot change the world, and therefore coordination is very important.

It was noted that main strengths of the evaluation were that the Programme is strategic and an important initiative reaching many countries. It was recognized that there is a good opportunity to build upon good practices on stakeholder engagement. Also, that the Programme is efficient at delivering results at the output level in particular on the issues of safeguards, FPIC and others and that the Programme is empowered to bring REDD+ onto the international agenda. The satisfactory disbursement rates were highlighted.

Participants also commented on the evaluation's identification of the Programme's weaknesses including: inter-agency coordination, which it was felt that it would be helpful to move forward jointly, particularly in budgeting and implementation at the national level; the need to improve inter-sectoral coordination; and the need to include agriculture and development sectors at the national level. There was also concern that the issue of efficiency was not dealt with in the context of the Agencies initial Management response, and about the high transaction costs.

Regarding country ownership, the suggestion was made that perhaps limited participation in the evaluation is a reflection of limited country ownership. Some also commented that it is important to acknowledge the role of the Programme in developing country-led approaches. Challenges that have been mentioned need to be addressed, and there is a need to improve coordination and efficiency and support other areas. There was some agreement on the issue of the evolving REDD+ landscape and the UNFCCC process that needs to be taken in account. There is willingness to work with others to ensure that country needs are well reflected in the new strategy. It was also acknowledged that the report is very important for the Programme and for the countries that have many lessons learned to share.

Two of the evaluation's recommendations were highlighted: the recommendation to enhance collaboration with FCPF, and the recommendation to take into account other stakeholders including the private sector. It was acknowledged that there has been significant collaboration between the

UN-REDD Programme and FCPF to date, that should continue and be strengthened, but that calling for FCPF and the UN-REDD Programme to operate “as one programme” does not make sense. It was also asked why the evaluation did not address the engagement of the private sector especially considering that there is no private sector observer in the Policy Board. It was suggested that it may be appropriate to review the role of the Independent Advisory Group established in 2009 during any future discussion on the Policy Board structure.

The UNPFII representative, with respect to indigenous peoples, reiterated the need to enhance inter-agency collaboration and to strengthen indigenous people’s participation in the national level coordination entities, as to access to resources is part of complying with indigenous people’s rights (UNDRIP) at the national level. Another participant endorsed the recommendation to address the rights and tenure matters noting that the UN agencies should play a strong role in this.

Several participants commented that they endorsed the results of the evaluation, and that the overall rating provides a good foundation on which to build, drawing on the opportunities identified, as well as areas that can be strengthened. In sum, the Board acknowledged that there are concerns that need to be addressed, but remarked that it is necessary to keep in mind that the Programme was shaped to fit the REDD+ landscape at the time it was conceived, and that as the landscape has since changed, now is the opportunity for the Programme to evolve in the context of developing a new strategy.

Response by evaluators:

The evaluators thanked the Policy Board members for their comments. They informed the Board that the recommendations regarding coordination with FCPF and private sector engagement are expanded in full in the report. Also, that there is a lot of difference between progress of countries and different levels of progress, but the team recognizes the balance between the differences between the context and the programme itself. It is difficult, they noted, to separate REDD+ from the UN-REDD Programme itself. What matters, they said, is that we have a glass half-filled that needs to be filled. On the issue of agency workplans and budgets, it was recognised that each agency adheres to strict internal accountability rules. On the participation in the evaluation, they commented that it is clear that there is some way to go in moving from intent to action. Also, that sustainable forest management is not a new concept.

## **Session 4: National Programmes**

### **4a. Update on development of new National Programmes**

#### **Honduras**

Honduras presented on the current context in Honduras, the REDD+ process in the country, and the support they envisage from the UN-REDD Programme. The vision for REDD+ in Honduras is to “improve the quality of life for women and men through conservation, sustainable forest management, and the restoration of degraded forest areas.” The nation’s climate change strategy includes both adaptation and mitigation approaches. There are several legal and political enabling

frameworks for REDD+ in the country. The country is engaged with both multilaterals (UN-REDD Programme and FCPF) and bilateral (GIZ, USAID) partners on REDD+. The country would like to seek US\$ 3.4m from the UN-REDD Programme to develop the enabling framework for implementing its REDD+ strategy, support the implementation of its national REDD+ strategy and develop the technical and scientific capacity to sustainably manage its forests.

## **Uganda**

Uganda presented a roadmap of their REDD+ process. The goal of the R-PP is to ensure that Uganda is ready for REDD+, to develop options for addressing drivers of deforestation, develop the technical capacity to deliver REDD+, and ensure stakeholder consultation. Uganda's REDD+ vision aims to integrate REDD+ in the green development process of the country and that it has established management and institutional arrangements to that end.

The current portfolio of donor support was also presented (FCPF, UN-REDD Programme and bilaterals), as well as the status to-date and schedule (e.g. key deadlines/milestones). The goal to move from 15 per cent forest cover to 24 per cent was also highlighted, as was the expected UN-REDD Programme support for policy dimensions of the strategy and Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV). The intent is to use the UN-REDD Programme support to catalyze what is going on in the country already.

### **Policy Board feedback:**

Policy Board members recommended that Honduras provides a comprehensive country budget, given that it has already engaged with FCPF and begun REDD+ readiness efforts. The CSO representative for Latin America noted that the national budget allocation is an indication of the country's political commitment and that this should be clarified given that Honduras is going through a transition and restructuring. He also noted that drug trafficking and related impunity is a driver of deforestation that REDD+ can contribute to solutions to this and other issues such as land titling. Accounting for progress in matters related to REDD+ but not labelled as REDD+ would help minimize redundancies and build on existing gains. Furthermore the Policy Board recommended that REDD+ needs to be taken out of the "technical bubble", incorporating local stakeholders and improving existing good practices. The CSO representative from Africa asked how indigenous peoples and civil society are represented on the national committee in Uganda, and noted a lack of trust between the government and civil society – requesting information on how this gap would be bridged. The FCPF representative welcomed the complementarity between UN-REDD Programme and FCPF support to Uganda, recognizing that more resources are needed. She also acknowledged the joint mission and assessment of readiness status that took place earlier in June and flagged the need to ensure that Uganda's absorptive capacity and progress on implementing existing support is not impeded by the support envisaged through UN-REDD.

Uganda responded that the detailed National Programme will be presented at the next Policy Board meeting, and that a CSO representative is already in the national climate change policy committee, which will be expanded further with two additional members from forest dependent communities, and CSOs. There is also an elaborated stakeholder engagement plan, separating them both in geographies and interests. All of those have space at the national and sub-national levels. He also

agreed with the comments of the FCPF, and the joint mission being useful in ensuring complementarity.

The Policy Board took note of the estimated budget needs for Honduras and Uganda and of their progress on the preparation of R-PPs and encourages them to formally submit their National Programmes by the Thirteenth Policy Board meeting, taking into consideration recommendations made by the Policy Board. See **Decision 3**.

Following the country presentations, Ms. Atallah presented a proposed approach for the development of a new pipeline. The existing process applied to invite countries to submit National Programmes for the consideration of the Policy Board was reviewed. This includes the establishment of a working group at PB5 and the approval of criteria for ranking countries to be invited to submit National Programmes. Based on that process, the last six countries selected and invited were Argentina and Honduras (Latin American and Caribbean), Bangladesh and Mongolia (Asia-Pacific), and Cote d'Ivoire and Uganda (Africa). She highlighted changes in external and internal circumstances that warrant a new pipeline development process and introduced the proposed approach consisting of the reestablishment of the Working group, the substitution of existing criteria by an expression of interest from partner countries, and the revision of the mandate of the working group to assess received expressions of interest.

The CSO representative for Latin America welcomed this process as being more indicative of country demand and suggested that the recommendations of the evaluation be considered in the new proposed process. He further stressed the need to integrate, from early stages of preparation, the vision of REDD+ within specific country circumstances.

The Policy Board approved the proposed approach for establishing the National Programme pipeline through a request for expressions of interest as indicated in the session background document ([UNREDD/PB12/2014/4a/pipeline](#)). Furthermore, the Policy Board reactivated the Policy Board Working Group with a mandate to review Expressions of Interest and to select new countries to receive support from National Programmes. Policy Board members were requested to volunteer to participate in the Working Group to be established within two weeks after the Twelfth Policy Board meeting. See **Decision 4**.

#### **4b. Introduction to the performance dashboard for National Programmes**

Ms. Atallah presented the performance tracking tool for National Programmes for information and feedback of Policy Board members. Given the growth of the Programme from nine pilots to 53 countries, this item was requested by the Policy Board as a way of providing a snapshot of the portfolio and to enable an overview of progress of National Programmes. An introduction to the proposed REDD+ Analysis of Data, Assessment and Reporting (RADAR) was provided. Information on the RADAR system is sourced from the Secretariat tracking tool with process related milestones, from the National Programme annual and semi-annual reports and from financial reports of the agencies. It aggregates this data and contrasts it with more qualitative and substantive data to balance the purely quantitative aspects. The purpose is to move towards interactive maps and the web-based real-time RADAR system fed directly by countries and quality assured by the Secretariat. The following presentation was presented by way of illustrating the efforts and processes related to the



achievement of targets or outcomes as designated in National Programmes in order to flag the intricacy of meeting targets and milestones.

The introduction was followed by a presentation by Patricia Serrana of Ecuador, on the Consultation Guidelines for REDD+ in Ecuador. The presentation included information on the background and process for developing consultation guidelines; the objective and scope of the guidelines, including the importance of FPIC; and an update on the current process and next steps.

Policy Board feedback:

Norway, Denmark, Paraguay welcomed the innovative proposal of the dashboard and in particular the inclusion of qualitative parameters in addition to the quantitative and process related indicators. Responding to a question from Norway, it was clarified that the plan is to launch the dashboard by the next Policy Board meeting in November 2014. Clarification was provided on the scope of application of the FPIC consultation guidelines in Ecuador which do not apply to the mining and hydro-business sectors as per the national constitution.

## Session 5: SNA Update

### 5a. Country Specific Support

Ms. Linhares-Juvenal presented that the Country Specific Support under the Support to National REDD+ Action – Global Programme Framework 2011-2015 modality of support has been continuously increasing, and has become an important tool for more tailored and timely delivery of support by the UN-REDD Programme. The presentation provided an updated status of delivery of backstopping and targeted support, and clarified options available for country-specific support under the SNA, namely Backstopping, Targeted Support and the Country Needs Assessment process.

Specifically, the presentation highlighted that Backstopping to National Programmes and to Targeted Support is a pillar of the UN-REDD support to countries – and Backstopping requests can be done directly to the leading agency on the particular area of work. In 2013 almost US\$ 6m was delivered for Backstopping and 37 countries were supported. It was also shared that as of end June 2014, US\$ 8.4m has been approved in Targeted Support to 29 single country requests and one regional request for the Pacific Islands. The Targeted Support and Backstopping results of Kenya, Indonesia, Bangladesh and Paraguay were also outlined. Full details are available in the 2013 Annual Report.

It was also shared that the Call for Proposals for Country Needs Assessments deadline has been extended to 25 July 2014.

Ms. Alexandra Saéñz of Fondo Nacional de Financiamiento Forestal (FONAFIFO) in Costa Rica complemented the Secretariat's presentation by providing a summary of progress of Targeted Support for Costa Rica. Costa Rica's request for Targeted Support to design a Safeguards Information System approach and ensure compliance with the UNFCCC Safeguards (decision 1/CP.16) was approved in 2012 to the amount of US\$ 225,000. The results reported up to June 2014 include a



methodology for constructing indicators, a tool for continuous updating of the system, and a first group of indicators validated.

**Policy Board feedback:**

It was requested that the PowerPoint presentation be made available online to reach as many people as possible, and Costa Rica was congratulated for their work. There was also the request to see an example of a joint proposal for Targeted Support from indigenous people and a country.

There was a request for more information on the financial details of Targeted Support including any limits. Ms. Linhares-Juvenal clarified that a limit amount has not been established, rather, the Country Needs Assessment is designed to assess the need and scope of the planned work, and that the request for amount would be aligned with this.

It was noted that the development of the Targeted Support mechanism has been quite impressive, with the increasing amount allocated testament to the demand, and demonstrating the achievements of Targeted Support and Backstopping. This should continue as a critical component of the Programme. Thanks were given to the Secretariat for calling on the agencies to support and facilitate the process.

**5b. Update on the REDD+ Academy**

**(This session took place on Tuesday evening, before Session 5a).**

Mr. Tim Christophersen (UNEP) provided an update on the development of the REDD+ Academy. He shared that to date, the development of the REDD+ Academy has made significant progress. One-day Design Workshops have been held for the Asia-Pacific region (on 7 May 2014), for Africa (on 13 May 2014), for Latin America and Caribbean (on 29 May 2014) with the participation of 38 UN-REDD Programme partner countries as well as CSO and indigenous peoples representatives. The workshops generated positive and constructive input on the scope, objectives, curriculum and design of the REDD+ Academy. Yale University will provide pedagogical design of the curriculum, and award certificate to the graduates of the regional sessions of the Academy. Indonesia (for Asia-Pacific), Argentina (for Latin America and the Caribbean) and Nigeria (for Africa) offered to host the first sessions of the regional REDD+ Academy in 2014 and 2015. Subsequent regional sessions of the REDD+ Academy will be hosted by willing countries on a rotational basis. Mr Levis Kavagi, REDD+ Academy Coordinator, was introduced. Policy Board members were invited to participate in the Advisory Group; with minimum of one country per region, along with a representative from the private sector, CSO and indigenous peoples.

**Policy Board feedback:**

The development of the REDD+ Academy was congratulated by the Policy Board, which stressed the REDD+ capacity enrichment value of the REDD+ Academy across all levels (national, regional and global). The curriculum will serve as practical training based on collaboration between countries and complement other initiatives, including the CBR+. Following a query on the need for capacity

building, it was clarified that, among others, the joint FCPF/UN-REDD Programme Country Needs Assessment conducted in 2012 showed a significant need by countries for REDD+ capacity building.

### **5c. Update on Community-based REDD+**

Mr. Charles McNeill (UNDP) provided an update on the development and launch of Community-based REDD+ (CBR+). At the tenth UN-REDD Programme Policy Board meeting, in June 2013, in Lombok Indonesia, an allocation of US\$4 million from the Government of Norway was approved for support to CBR+. CBR+ will deliver grants directly to indigenous peoples and local communities to empower them to fully engage in the design, implementation and monitoring of REDD+ readiness activities, and develop experiences, lessons and recommendations at the local level that can feed into national REDD+ processes. It is part of the Stakeholder Engagement work. It is being delivered in partnership with the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), and grants up to US\$ 50,000 will be disbursed using SGP's tried-and-tested, decentralized grant delivery mechanism. Nearly 90 per cent of funds will go directly to countries.

Progress since the last Policy Board has been: six pilot countries confirmed Cambodia, DRC, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Sri Lanka – representing two countries in each region, which have National Programmes; defined coordination and finance arrangements; consultations with stakeholders; CBR+ National Steering Committees formed; work plans and budgets developed. Programme was officially launched on 14 May.

Policy Board feedback:

Participants noted that CBR+ is an initiative that facilitates the involvement of IPs into the REDD+ process and to access grants. It is also positive to see such success with the Programme in such short time, and it should be scaled up. For these reasons, there is a need for donors and the Programme to increase support for this initiative. It was asked if CBR+ offers private sector engagement. CBR+ can help to show actions at the field level, as communities want to see this. This will help to strengthen forest conservation efforts. It is important to work with communities on REDD+, and support this initiative for this reason. Examples were shared of the structures and laws in Peru that support community managed forests. It is important to have a platform for community managed forestry that is based on REDD+. The representative for Nigeria commented that by the end of the month the structures for CBR+ will be in place in Nigeria and that CSO and local communities will be sensitized to the issue.

It was reiterated that it is important to involve civil society and forest dependent communities in REDD+. Looking forward to see how fast CBR+ can be implemented, as the sooner we can put these programmes on the ground, the better for REDD+ in Africa. It will help to counter negative perceptions by some communities in Africa. It was suggested that the goal of fund delivery be set as an accountability of the Programme staff and included in performance reviews. Also, recommended increasing grants to above US\$50,000 to tackle larger problems. The need was identified for sustainability of these types of projects. Through CBR+ communities can be engaged directly, while deforestation can be reduced. People will get a chance to measure carbon in their forests and to share this. In this way, these people can contribute directly to forest management and REDD+. CBR+ should be expanded to other countries.

Mr. McNeill responded to comments noting that: entrepreneurial enterprises such as business initiatives of communities could be eligible, but otherwise the focus is on communities rather than private sector. Interest to engage with Peru, perhaps through the Programme's regional stakeholder engagement specialist. Commented that responsibilities for the CBR+ work should be shared with CSOs. Agree that should be high priority for Programme staff, but may be difficult to include in performance reviews; and that there may be the opportunity to raise the funding levels in the future.

## Session 6. Funding Allocation Requests

### 6a. SNA Workplan and Budget 2015

Ms. Linhares-Juvenal presented the proposed Support for National REDD+ Action: Global Programme Framework Document 2011-2015 (SNA) 2015 work plan and budget, which had also been discussed at the information session the previous day. These included details on its main components and on the strategic approach adopted, increasingly focused on ensuring technical capacity for strengthened support to countries through backstopping to national programmes and targeted support. The feedback received from the Policy Board, including on priorities, and how these have been addressed were also summarized, including key focus per outcome. It was also highlighted that the budget is designed to meet evolving country needs. The breakdown of the total US\$ 24.4m SNA budget for 2015 was also shared.

Policy Board feedback:

Reflecting on the evaluation recommendations and that some of the budget has implications beyond 2015 next year, it was acknowledged that it is important to harmonize and coordinate. For the year 2015, it was recognised that it may be possible to incorporate implementation of some of the short term evaluation recommendations. Norway signalled that they supported the components of the work plan, and particularly wanted to see results in gender mainstreaming and regarding addressing drivers of deforestation. The lack of a monitoring framework plan attached to the budget/work plan was queried.

Ms. Linhares-Juvenal responded to comments noting that whilst it is important to reflect on the evaluation for this process, the evaluation was not ready at the time that the budget and work plan for 2015 was developed. Despite this, there are several aspects of the budget/work plan that do reflect some of the evaluation recommendations. She acknowledged that it is a process, and it is valuable that countries contribute to this process. Ms. Linhares-Juvenal noted that the Secretariat looks towards having stronger engagement from countries in this regard, and to working together to address the evaluation recommendations, and that the UN agencies and Secretariat are ready to reflect on and apply the evaluation recommendations during the implementation of the SNA. She agreed that the evaluation recommendations are important, and hoped that at the next Policy Board, the Secretariat can report on how specifically evaluation recommendations have been implemented. She also highlighted that the key work areas identified by Norway are supported by the Programme and included in the work plan. Regarding the monitoring framework, due to the planning process for budget and work plan development the timeline of the monitoring framework timeline was set. This

will be updated to reflect the continuation of the 2015 work plan and the two additional outputs, and be presented at the next Policy Board meeting. Also, it was shared that the overall monitoring framework for the UN-REDD Programme will be developed. In regards to budget levels for countries, the budget is designed to facilitate on-going work, in keeping the operational and technical capacity of the Programme, and is consistent with the current level of funding. As funds are made available, it may be possible to have a higher level of Targeted Support fund allocation in 2015.

The Policy Board approved the revised Work Plan and Budget for Year 4 (2015) of the “Support to National REDD+ Action: Global Programme Framework 2011-2015” (SNA) and allocation of US\$ 24,432,943 as per the submission form. See **Decision 5**.

## **6b. Presentation of National Programmes**

### **Argentina**

During this session, the UN-REDD Focal Point for Argentina, Mr. Leandro Fernández, requested the Board to exceptionally additionally grant the status of one time observer to a civil society representative from Argentina. Ms. Liliana Ortega, ECONDS, was granted the status of one-time observer. He then presented on the National REDD+ Programme of Argentina including:

- Background on forests in Argentina
- R-PP Process
- UN-REDD Programme National Programme
- National REDD+ management structure

At the end of his presentation, he invited Ms. Ortega to provide comments from civil society in Argentina. She expressed her appreciation for the presentation and progress, highlighting that since the informal presentation at PB11 the national process has been more open to involvement of national organisations. She thanked Mr. Fernandez for the consultation process with Indigenous Peoples and requested the government and the UN to work more jointly in the financial structuring of REDD+. She noted that the Argentinean forest act has promoted substantial changes and can channel resources well with solid and transparent structures.

#### **Secretariat Feedback:**

Ms. Atallah provided a summary of the submission form indicating that the submission package provided by Argentina for its National Programme is complete and in compliance with the requirements. The secretariat noted that there has been significant improvement brought to the R-PP since the information presentation at PB11 and that most recommendations of the board had been incorporated. Excerpts of the submission form were presented, notably the need to assess the political economy of commodities driving deforestation and how to engage with them, the need to determine absorptive capacity in view of the ambitions and size of the programme and the need to strengthen aspects related to safeguards both in terms of approach and budget allocation or provide clarification how a robust safeguards process will be put in place with other resources. The Secretariat recommended the Policy Board to approve the fund allocation request for Argentina, taking into consideration the comments provided in the independent reviews and in the submission

form by the secretariat. In particular aspects of power balances should be taken into account given that commodities production is one of the key driver of deforestation and further consideration to safeguards.

Policy Board feedback:

Denmark inquired if there would be implementation coordination with FCPF and other initiatives in the country and additional details on this given the concurrent implementation timelines. Panama raised land issues and CSO observers flagged FPIC as critical given that the National Programme indicates that it does not need to apply consultation with stakeholders. The question was then raised asking when consultation will take place. Ecuador reminded of the feedback provided at PB11 noting that it should be very clear in the proposal as to how FPIC and other related processes will be applied with an emphasis on differentiating what kind of consultation is appropriate for different circumstances, noting that the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ gives guidance on safeguard systems according to national circumstances, and the UN-REDD Programme is including this criteria in their objectives. More information on private sector engagement was also requested.

Response from Argentina's representative:

Mr. Fernández commented that in regards to engaging with stakeholders, Argentina is open to suggestions on how to progress on this, and to learn from experiences from others such as Brazil and others. Argentina is in the process of signing a grant agreement with FCPF, but there are challenges in the country in terms of different institutional processes for receiving World Bank funds versus UN funds. This is a challenge as it creates different processes, but it is hoped that the National Programme will help to address these challenges in part. In terms of land-use, there have been new laws that now establish a legal framework that builds a foundation for this work. With regards to communities, he recognized the importance to include them in the REDD+ dialogue and this has been done through an ongoing consultative process. It was also noted that Argentina has followed the guidelines of the programme and while specific time to apply it has not been identified this has been a continuous process.

Regarding private sector engagement, this is anticipated in view of the fact that many lands in Argentina are privately owned, including nearly 1million hectares. Some of the challenges are that taxes for forest lands are high, and there are limited benefits for owners to conserve forests. Finally, addressing questions and observations related to safeguards, he indicated this is being more proactively address and confirmed the intention to put in place a safeguards information system.

Policy Board comments for inclusion in the revised R-PP/National Programme Document:

1 – Take into consideration in the NPD issues of FPIC and consultations, indicating at which point in time they would be undertaken. The PB further recommended that proper analysis needs to be done with regards to whom, why and for what purpose consultations will be conducted.

2 – Reflect on land issues and titles as this could be a potential risk which might hinder implementation of the programme and of REDD+ overall in the country;

3 – Strengthen considerations related to safeguards, both social and environmental, making sure to align them with national priorities and circumstances and with the guidance of the convention;

4 – Ensure proper management structures are in place so that the full overlap in time between the FCPF readiness grant and the UN-REDD NP strengthen and complement each other rather than create bottlenecks, considering that the same institution will be delivering both;

5 – Welcoming the inclusion of the private sector in the steering committee of the NP, recommended to make sure conflicts of interest are firewalled and that the participation is truly conducive to cooperation.

The Policy Board approved Argentina's funding request. See **Decision 6**.

### **Cote d'Ivoire**

UN-REDD Focal Point of Cote d'Ivoire Marcel Yao presented on its proposal National Programme including highlighting:

- Context of REDD+ in Cote d'Ivoire
- Cote d'Ivoire vision for REDD
- R-PP
- And the role of REDD+

#### Secretariat Feedback:

Ms. Atallah provided a summary of the submission form indicating that the submission package provided by Cote d'Ivoire for its National Programme is complete and in compliance with the requirements. Cote d'Ivoire was congratulated for an R-PP that is quite robust and comprehensive. The Secretariat also noted the multi-stakeholder approach including involvement of the private sector. This proposal also reflects coordination at different levels of implementation. While acknowledging the multitude of initiatives and support channelled to Cote d'Ivoire, the secretariat noted that the strong government ownership demonstrated through the establishment of robust institutional and coordination structures mitigates the risk of choked implementation capacity. Noting the high quality of the revised R-PP which has taken into consideration the recommendations of PB 11 and which has been assessed by the FCPF with a satisfactory rating, the Secretariat recommended the Policy Board to approve the fund allocation request for Cote d'Ivoire.

#### Policy Board feedback:

The proposal was supported, noting the value of community engagement. The challenge that Cote d'Ivoire may have in implementing REDD+ given their existing large cocoa industry was identified. The CSO representative for Africa congratulated Cote d'Ivoire for their stakeholder plan and encouraged them to continue the planned level of stakeholder involvement through the implementation phase.

Cote d'Ivoire's representative response:

Relayed that the country once had 50 per cent forest cover, and in the last 40 years this has reduced significantly. The country has agreed to address this, recognizing that without inter-ministerial coordination, the forests were going to be lost forever. In 2010 the government realized that REDD+ was the best mechanism to address deforestation that had a multi-sectoral approach which also supports the governments' focus on gender. He indicated that in order to ensure collaboration, there are meetings every three months with the three UN agencies. While timber and cacao are big exports for Cote d'Ivoire, cacao production rate has decreased in recent years, while rubber production has increased. He commented that the country must diversify, and that in two years a land-use plan will be available to help address this.

The Policy Board approved Cote d'Ivoire's funding request. See **Decision 7**.

## **Mongolia**

UN-REDD Focal Point of Mongolia State Secretary Batbold Jamsran presented the National Programme proposal, highlighting:

- REDD+ readiness process
- Stakeholder consultations
- R-PP objectives and roadmap
- Budget and support request

Secretariat Feedback:

Ms. Atallah provided a summary of the submission form indicating that the submission package provided by Mongolia for its National Programme is complete and in compliance with the requirements. The Readiness REDD+ roadmap has been assessed as being quite ambitious, both in terms of funding and deliverables within the three-year period envisioned. The budget associated with some of the planned results seems a bit high, in particular with relation to stakeholder engagement and information sharing, which is understood to be commensurate with the sheer size of the country and the mobile lifestyles of indigenous peoples. In contrast there is no budget allocated for the establishment of a grievance mechanism, and some clarification on whether and how this will be addressed would be welcome. Overall identified risks have been addressed with appropriate mitigation measures, the most prominent of which is political will across different sectors. Considering a more multi-sectoral approach to address this would be recommended. The step-wise approach of the road map with a strategy focused on determining deforestation drivers is welcome. Reflecting on the independent reviews and on the proposed strategy, it is strongly recommended to assess the risk of undoing conservation gains should certain areas be declassified. Noting the ambitious budget and recommending a thorough appraisal of absorptive capacity during the preparation of the National Programme Document, the Secretariat recommended the Policy Board to approve the fund allocation request for Mongolia.



Policy Board feedback:

The progress that Mongolia has made was recognized and the country was wished continued success, and its proposal was supported. It was raised whether Mongolia has considered linkages between its vast open lands and forest lands. It was noted that Mongolia brings diversity to the issue, including low population versus high land area characteristic of the country. The focus on REDD+ as part of a green economy was also recognized as positive. In a statement delivered on behalf of the IP representative for Asia-Pacific, it was also commented that the REDD+ process may provide a platform to better include indigenous peoples as an initial step towards the discussion of more substantive issues such as the recognition of rights for nomadic and other IPs in Mongolia. The issue of sustainable use of forest products, notably fuel; and the value of engaging with local communities was also highlighted.

Mongolia's representative response:

An update on cooperation with neighbouring countries, and the challenges of forest fires was provided. It was also shared that more than 1,200 forest-use groups, which requires coordination. It is important to manage pasture lands in coordination with forest lands. The government is also taking steps to more sustainably manage forests for fuel use.

Policy Board comments for inclusion in the revised R-PP/National Programme Document:

- 1 – The need to determine the most effective measures for fire risk management given that these could have a high prevalence and impact on the performance of the national programme and readiness more broadly.
- 2 – The necessity to include a broad set of stakeholders including nomadic populations in view of their role in pasture and rangeland management which has a bearing on forest lands.
- 3 – Recognizing the size of the country and multitude of stakeholders and interests, the identification of roles and influences on drivers to be candidly done.
- 4 – Additional emphasis to be placed on safeguards and ensuring that the conservation gains of Mongolia are not undone; the readiness process would be valuable in addressing land issues, defining interactions between pasture lands and forests, and enhancing the social aspect in relation to IPs and other forest dependent stakeholders.

The Policy Board approved Mongolia's funding proposal. See **Decision 8**.

**A minute of silence was then observed by the Policy Board in honour of Victoria Flores Aguilar who was the founder and President of FEPROAH (Federación de Productores Agroforestales de Honduras), who sadly passed away on 8 July 2014.**



## Session 7: Quality assurance standards for Tier 2

This session was deferred.

## Session 8: Strategic and Policy Issues (Part 2)

### 8a. Development of the Programme Strategy

Mike Speirs of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat shared the Roadmap for development of the 2016-2020 Strategy. He noted that it would be a participatory process, and would be supported by the Meridian Institute. He also provided a timeline of the process, and some of the consultative steps to be taken, and noted that the future strategy for the Programme will be a key focus of the 13th Policy Board meeting.

Feedback from Policy Board:

The strategy development roadmap was supported by participants. It was commented that the 2016-2020 Strategy is important, should be robust, should be participatory, should reflect country needs, and the recommendation was made that it be finalized by May 2015. It was stressed that there should be CSO participation in the strategy development process. Support was also requested from the Secretariat to keep CSO representatives up to date on the process. The strategy development timeline was recognized as quite tight, and the importance of allotting enough time at PB13 to address the issue was mentioned.

The Policy Board then endorsed the presented 2016-2020 Strategy Roadmap. **See Decision 9.**

### 8b. Programme evaluation (*continued from Session 3a*)

Mr. Alain Frechette addressed the Policy Board and announced that the Evaluators had recognised that Recommendation 3 of the independent evaluation (on the UN-REDD Programme and FCPF collaboration) was open to misinterpretation, and proposed a slight revision to the wording to read as follows in order to clarify the intent of the recommendation:

“UN partner agencies should further their collaboration with the World Bank’s Forest Carbon Partnership Facility with a view to fully harmonize standards and approaches, eliminate the duplication of effort, and strengthen joint delivery on the basis of core agency competencies.”

Rapporteur of the Contact Group, Chris Meyer, CSO observer for northern countries, reported back to the Policy Board that the Contact Group met the evening of 8 July, was gender balanced and regionally balanced. The group developed draft responses to the evaluation report, which were circulated to the Policy Board for review and comment. The Contact Group explained that they were aiming to align its response to UNFCCC guidance.

Feedback from Policy Board:

The Policy Board sought clarity on the issue of responding to a recommendation from the Evaluation with “partially accept” versus “accept”, especially in the context of the importance of land tenure. It was noted that the Programme itself cannot resolve tenure issues, and it was suggested that perhaps a phrase should be added that says that the Programme will work with countries to address tenure issues, through a variety of means. It was also raised that tenure issues should be handled within national contexts, and that it already exists within many National Programmes, and is very important for ongoing programmes; and that while it is agreed that tenure is important, Recommendation 7 was written in a way that implies a project approach, which is not appropriate to the national approach of the Programme. It was raised that use of “partially accept” is confusing and could send the wrong signal, as the UN-REDD Programme is guided by international guidelines that affirm and support the rights of IPs, and so the Programme should support this recommendation.

Response from Contact Group representatives:

The Contact Group explained that some elements of Recommendation 7 were interpreted by the group as being at the “project” level, which was felt to be inconsistent with the UNFCCC, and the UN-REDD Programme. The group also explained that because it is not possible for the UN-REDD Programme to address all tenure issues before progressing REDD+, which is how the group interpreted the text, thus land tenure should be considered within the broader national context. It was also recommended that the issue should be considered under the post-2015 work of the Programme.

The country co-chair then proposed to the Policy Board members to remove the word “partially” from the Policy Board management response, and this was agreed to by Policy Board members, and the final Policy Board management response agreed upon.

The Policy Board accepted the recommendations of the Contact Group with the final text agreed as:

UN-REDD Programme Policy Board responses to recommendations 1, 7 and 11 of the independent Programme evaluation:

Response to R1: Accept:

The issue will be handled by the process of creating the new 2016-2020 strategy using a participatory process including relevant stakeholder representatives.

Response to R7: Accept:

The Policy Board recognizes the importance of tenure and that the UN-REDD Programme should contribute to country efforts to improve tenure issues in accordance with national REDD+ strategies, actions plans, and legal frameworks.

The issue will be handled by the process of creating the new 2016-2020 strategy using a participatory process including relevant stakeholder representatives.

Response to R11: Accept

The Policy Board acknowledges the importance of revising and simplifying the governance structure in order to realize efficiencies.

The subject will be handled as part of creating the new 2015-2022 strategy following the principle of form follows function and using a participatory process including relevant stakeholder representatives.

Mette Løyche Wilkie of UNEP introduced the nine draft responses to the recommendations to the UN agencies, and then outlined the process for finalizing and implementing the Management Response.

The Policy Board members then agreed:

“The PB agrees to the management response to the three recommendations in the external evaluation that are addressed to the PB and acknowledges the draft response to the nine recommendations directed to and responded to by the UN-REDD agencies; The Policy Board requests the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat to compile and finalize the consolidated management response and circulate to the Policy Board for information.”

**See Decision 10.**

## Session 9: Closing of Meeting

### 9a. Next Policy Board meeting

Mr. Mario Boccucci, head of Secretariat, announced that the 13th Policy Board will be held in either Tanzania or Nigeria and will take place in the first half of November 2014, and will be held back-to-back with the FCPF meeting, and the meeting will include a full-day Information Session Day. He also stated that the Secretariat will inform Policy Board members, in the near future, of the location of the meeting.

This was agreed by the Policy Board. **See Decision 11.**

### 9b. Decisions and conclusions

The 11 draft decisions from Sessions 1 through 8 were presented by the co-chairs. There was a request for clarification on Decision 7, and Ms. Atallah confirmed that there were no Policy Board recommendations for Cote d'Ivoire's National Programme.

Ecuador's representative asked for clarification text to be made to Decision 9, and the co-chairs agreed that Ecuador would do this. Ecuador and Panamá requested the Secretariat to highlight under Decision 9 the importance to develop, when developing the UN-REDD Programme 2016 – 2020 Strategy, appropriate modalities to provide technical and financial support for countries in a transition phase for scaling up from REDD+ readiness into full implementation of REDD+ activities to

access and obtain results based finance, acknowledging that closure of National Joint Programmes does not equal to finalizing REDD+ readiness. Ecuador expressed its will to actively participate in the process of development process of the UN-REDD Programme 2016 – 2020 Strategy. It was confirmed that the request would be captured in the body of the meeting report rather than be incorporated in the decision, for consistency with the level of detail of Board decisions.

MPTF's representative recommended that additional text be added to Decisions 6, 7 and 8 to avoid accounting complications. The suggested text is: "If requested and agreed to by the three participating UN agencies and the government, budget allocations per agency may be revised, as long as the total budget allocation is not changed." It was decided that this will be included in the actual documents, rather than the Board decisions, for efficiency.

Peru suggested that Peru's desire to have a National Programme be included in Decision 4. The Co-chair said this would be reflected in the meetings minutes rather than the decisions.

Cambodia asked for the text of Decision 10 to be shifted to address the text "... to the Policy Board for information." The co-chairs and the Secretariat raised the point that this may not be accurate to do so. UNEP then suggested that the text could be edited to "encourage countries to take note of recommendations addressed to them." This was agreed.

The Policy Board decisions were then agreed to with the changes made.

UNDP's representative recalled that the CSO members will be rotating, with new members starting their term at as of PB13, and thanked outgoing Policy Board members for their work and commitment during their period as members.

The meeting was declared closed by the co-chairs.

## Annex 1: List of participants

		First Name	Last Name	Representing
1	Mr.	Leandro	Fernández	Argentina
2	Mr.	Haradhan	Banik	Bangladesh
3	Mr.	Pema	Wangda	Bhutan
4	Mr.	Samreth	Vanna	Cambodia
5	Ms.	Diana Marcela	Vargas	Colombia
6	Ms.	Alexandra	Saenz	Costa Rica
7	Mr.	Marcel	Yao	Côte d'Ivoire
8	Mr.	Peter Aarup	Iversen	Denmark
9	Ms.	Maria del Carmen	Garcia	Ecuador
10	Ms.	Patricia	Serrano	Ecuador
11	Mr.	Nelson Saul	Ulloa	Honduras
12	Mr.	Masahiko	Hori	Japan
13	H.E. Mr.	Heru	Prasetyo	Indonesia
14	Mr.	Alfred Ndungu	Gichu	Kenya
15	Mr.	Clement Zephnat	Chilima	Malawi
16	Mr.	Alinafe Arthur	Chibwana	Malawi
17	H.E. Mr.	Jamsran	Batbold	Mongolia
18	Mr.	Gantulga	Bat-Ochir	Mongolia
19	Mr.	Resham Bahadur	Dangi	Nepal
20	Mr.	Odigha	Odigha	Nigeria
21	Mr.	Tore	Langhelle	Norway
22	Ms.	Rannveig	Knutsdatter Formo	Norway
23	Mr.	Candido	Mezua	Panama
24	Mr.	Carlos Alberto	Gomez	Panama
25	Ms.	Dania	Moreno	Paraguay
26	Mr.	Gabriel	Quijandría	Peru
27	Mr.	Gustavo	Suárez de Freitas	Peru
28	Mr.	Kenneth	Peralta	Peru
29	Ms.	Giulliana	Labán	Peru
30	Ms.	Fabiola	Muñoz	Peru
31	Mr.	Juan Diego	Ruiz	Spain
32	Mr.	Manuel	Ruiz	Spain
33	Ms.	Laura	López-Ortum Collado	Spain
34	Mr.	José Walter	Hermoza Jery	Spain
35	Mr.	Anura	Sathurudinghe	Sri Lanka
36	Prof.	Wadawawatte L.	Sumathipala	Sri Lanka
37	Ms.	Sayed Ali Ahmed	Khalil	Sudan
38	Mr.	Nderinyanga	Evarist Nashanda	Tanzania
39	Mr.	Rafik	Aini	Tunisia
40	Mr.	Xavier Nyindo	Mugumya	Uganda

41	Mr.	Davies	Kashole	Zambia
42	Ms.	Aulikki	Kauppila	European Commission
43	Ms.	Ellysar	Baroudy	FCPF FMT
44	Mr.	Edwin Eyang	Usang	CSO - Africa
45	Mr.	Kashif Majeed	Salik	CSO - Asia
46	Ms.	Claire Ann	Martin	CSO - Northern countries
47	Mr.	Chris	Meyer	CSO - Northern countries
48	Mr.	Victor Armando	Lopez Illescas	CSO - LAC
49	Mr.	Lekumok Lemeria	Kironyi	IP - Africa
50	Mr.	Alvaro Esteban	Pop Ac	IP - UNPFII
51	Mr.	Andy	White	Rights and Resources Initiative (IAG)
52	Ms.	Janis Bristol	Alcorn	Rights and Resources Initiative (IAG)
53	Ms.	Omaira	Bolanos	Rights and Resources Initiative (IAG)
54	Mr.	Sebastian	Snoek	Derecho, Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
55	Mr.	Duncan	Marsh	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
56	Ms.	Liliana	Ortega	ECONDS
57	Mr.	Timothy	Mealey	Consultant – Meridian Institute
58	Mr.	Gary	Decker	Consultant – Meridian Institute
59	Mr.	Alain	Frechette	Independent Evaluator
60	Mr.	Robert	Hofstede	Independent Evaluator
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62	Mr.	Adam	Gerrand	FAO
63	Ms.	Maria Jose	Sanz Sanchez	FAO
64	Ms.	Tiina	Vahanen	FAO
65	Mr.	Jorge	Mesa	FAO
66	Ms.	Serena	Fortuna	FAO
67	Ms.	Catherine	Bodart	FAO
68	Mr.	Alberto	García de Romaña	FAO Peru
69	Ms.	Carla	Ramirez	FAO Peru
70	Ms.	Rebeca	Arias	UN Resident Coordinator
71	Mr.	Tim	Clairs	UNDP
72	Mr.	Charles	McNeill	UNDP
73	Mr.	Nik	Sekhran	UNDP
74	Ms.	Gaya	Sriskanathan	UNDP
75	Mr.	Pierre Yves	Guedez	UNDP RSC Panama
76	Ms.	Clea	Paz Rivera	UNDP RSC Panama
77	Mr.	Marco Antonio	Chiu	UNDP RSC Panama
78	Mr.	Bruno	Guay	UNDP RSC Panama
79	Mr.	Jose Arturo	Santos	UNDP RSC Panama
80	Mr.	Fernando	Pinel	UNDP RSC Panama
81	Ms.	Elsie Gyekyawaa	Attafuah	UNDP Zambia
82	Ms.	Lillian	Portillo	UNDP Paraguay
83	Mr.	James	Leslie	UNDP Peru

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87	Mr.	Edoardo	Zandri	UNEP
88	Mr.	Ivo	Mulder	UNEP
89	Mr.	Daniel	Pouakouyou	UNEP
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91	Mr.	Masa	Nagai	UNEP
92	Mr.	Gabriel David	Labbate	UNEP ROLAC
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97	Ms.	Thais	Linhares-Juvenal	UN-REDD Secretariat
98	Ms.	Frances	Lim	UN-REDD Secretariat
99	Ms.	Sharon Elizabeth	McAuslan	UN-REDD Secretariat
100	Ms.	Jennifer	Ferguson-Mitchell	UN-REDD Secretariat
101	Mr.	Michael	Speirs	UN-REDD Secretariat