



## CAMBODIA UN-REDD NATIONAL PROGRAMME

### Minutes of UN-REDD Programme Executive Board Meeting on 07 June

Venue: Himawari Hotel – Phnom Penh

Date: 07 June 2012

Time: 14:30-17:15

#### Summary of Minutes:

The first Cambodia UN-REDD Programme Executive Board (PEB) meeting was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June at Himawari Hotel Phnom Penh.

The meetings objectives were to; provided participants with information on programme progress, agree the terms of reference of the PEB, and review and approve the programme's annual workplan.

Participants were informed that the programme was running significantly behind schedule but that important progress had been made in recent weeks with regard to staff recruitment and this combined with the development of the Annual Workplan was anticipated to speed up the implementation of the programme. Participants broadly supported progress so far although stressed the need for a significant increase in the speed of progress over the coming months.

Discussions were held on the Terms of Reference of the PEB with participants providing a number of important operational recommendations. Comments focused on the need for meetings to occur on a regular basis and for documents to be provided in advance of meetings. It was also noted that at present civil society (CS) and indigenous peoples (IP) representation on the PEB was insufficient. The REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat is committed to rectify this through engagement with CS and IP groups prior to the next meeting.

The annual workplan was presented noting its focus on, establishing the operational structures of the programme, capacity building, awareness raising and initial identification of the costs of and benefits of existing forest management approaches and how REDD+ can be integrated within these. Comments were provided on this with participants indicating broad support for the annual workplan but stressing the need for it to be implemented effectively.

#### **Decisions and Actions**

- Comments from the meetings will be incorporated into both the terms of reference and workplan and that these should be circulated on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> June.
- Participants will be invited to comment on the documents prior up to Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of June at which point any further comments would be incorporated.
- A final version of both documents will then be prepared for signature by the Co-Chairs.
- The next meetings of the PEB are scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> December

- The REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat will work with CS and IP groups to ensure that appropriate CS and IP representatives are present at that meeting.

## **I. The Participants:**

### **Members**

1. H.E. Cheng Kimsun – Director General, Forestry Administration (FA)
2. Mr Douglas Broderick - Resident Coordinator, United Nations Cambodia
3. Ms Elena Tischenko – Country Director, UN Development Programme
4. Ms Nina Brandstrup – Country Representative, Food and Agriculture Organization
5. H.E. Chea Sam Ang – Deputy Director General, FA
6. Mr Meng Monyrak –Deputy Director of International Conventions and Biodiversity Department,General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection (GDANCP), MoE
7. Mr Ouk Vibol – Director Department Fisheries Conservation -Fisheries Administration (FiA)
8. Mr Thomas Enters –UN-REDD Regional Representative UNEP, UN Environment Programme
9. Mr Koen Everaert – Head of Natural Resources and Environment,Delegation of the European Union to Cambodia
10. Mr Lin Makara – Local Officer Economic and ODA Section, Embassy of Japan
11. Tom Evans – Deputy Country Director, WCS Cambodia (Invited Civil Society observer)
12. Mr Tol Solechea– Learning Institute,(Invited Civil Society Observer)

### **Observers**

1. Mr Khun Vathana, Chair for National REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat, FA
2. Ms Ly Sophorn– Vice Chair for National REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat, GDANCP
3. Ms Meas Monika – Finance and Operations, REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat, GDANCP
4. Ms Rin Chanda, - Admin assistant, REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat, FA
5. Mr Bun Racy – Technical Officer, REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat, FiA
6. Mr Philip Cowling – UN-REDD Start-up Advisor,
7. Mr Somreth Vannara – Deputy Director of Forest and Forest Community Department, FA
8. Mr Omaliss Keo – Deputy Director of Wildlife and biodiversity Department, FA
9. Mr Leng Chivin - Chief of Watershed Management and Forest Cover Assessment Office, FA
10. Mr Chhum Sovanny – Programme Analyst, UNDP
11. Mr Soy Seung, Programme Assistant, FAO
12. Mr GiacomoFedele- Programme Analyst, UNDP
13. Ms AyakoTsuyada - Programme – Analyst, UNDP
14. Mr Lay Khim, Director of Environment and Energy Unit,UNDP
15. Ms SopheakTheng – Programme Assistant, UNDP
16. Mr Hiroshi Nagkata – Technical Advisor to the DG-FA
17. Ms SivCheang – Programme Officer, JICA
18. Mr Matieu Henry – Technical Specialist, FAO Rome
19. Mr Tim Boyle – UN-REDD Regional Representative UNDP, UNDP

## **II. Background**

In October 2009, Forestry Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries as representatives of the RGC were granted observer status in the UN-REDD programme. Following this the RGC with support from UNDP Cambodia and FAO Cambodia, prepared a REDD+ Readiness

planning process, which led to the development of Cambodia REDD+ Roadmap, a core document outlining how the country will develop policies and measures to become 'REDD+ ready'.

The Cambodia UN-REDD National Programme forms part of this approach, and has been specifically designed to support implementation of the Roadmap, which was developed by the interim REDD+ Taskforce and stakeholder groups during the period January-September 2010. The UN-REDD programme has four outcomes:

- 1) National REDD+ Readiness Management arrangements and stakeholder consultation;
- 2) National capacity-building towards development of the REDD+ strategy and implementation framework;
- 3) Sub-National REDD+ capacity-building and demonstration; and
- 4) Support to development of the Monitoring system.

The programme design looks to fully incorporate relevant line ministries and agencies with FA, GDANCP and FiA being fully engaged within the implementing structures, while other ministries are engaged within higher level decision making bodies as well as technical assessment and consultation processes.

A final programme agreement was signed between Forestry Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and General Department of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection of the Ministry of Environment, and Council for the development of Cambodia representative of the Royal Government of Cambodia and UN-REDD in August 2011. Since this point in time the UN agencies have worked to make initial preparations for the beginning of the programme and an Inception Workshop was held the week of the 14th of November. At this workshop it was decided that the period from December to March would focus on establishment of the programme with approval of the first quarter workplan being scheduled for March 2012.

The Programme Executive Board meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June is the first meeting within the programme and brought key decision makers together to review programme progress and 2012 Annual Workplan.

### **III. Agenda:**

Time	Description	Speaker	Facilitator
14:15-14:30	Registration		Secretariat
14:30- 14:35	Welcome Remarks	Mr. Douglas Broderick	Secretariat
14:35- 14:40	Opening Remarks	H.E. ChhengKimsun	Secretariat
14:50- 15:10	UN-REDD Programme Progress to Date	Mr. MengMonyrak	Secretariat
15:10- 15:30	Review and adopt PEB ToR	Mr. KhunVathana	Secretariat
15:30- 16:30	Review of Annual work plan and adopt	Mr. KhunVathana	Secretariat
16:30-17:00	Open discussion and any other issues	H.E. ChhengKimsun	Secretariat
17:00- 17:05	Closing Remarks	Mr. Douglas Broderick	Secretariat

## **IV. Meeting discussion:**

### **1. Welcoming Remarks**

Mr. Douglas Broderick (UN RC) thanked all participants for attending and with additional thanks to the Governments of Japan and Norway (representatives not present) who are supporting the programme and further REDD+ developments nationally. He explained that REDD+ was a true opportunity for Cambodia to support efforts against climate change and to develop a sustainably financing mechanism for the management and protection of the country's forests. He noted the progress that Cambodia had already made in engaging in REDD+ commenting specifically on his own experiences of visiting the Oddar Meanchey Pilot site and witnessing the levels of collaboration between different forest stakeholders. It would be this spirit of collaboration, he continued that would be critical in developing mechanisms at the national scale and he urged all participants to continue their work with this in mind.

H.E. Mr Chheng Kimsun (FA) thanked all participants for attending and for the support that was being provided from both the UN agencies and those governments supporting the UN-REDD Programme. He noted Cambodia's commitment to maintaining its forest cover as part of the country's economic resource as well as an environmental and social resource for future generations. He reiterated that REDD+ was a complex issue that would require engagement from a broad range of stakeholders, a process that had happened during Roadmap development and one that would continue during programme implementation. He also expressed excitement about the establishment of the interagency Taskforce explaining that the body's broad membership of nine different government agencies would be key to ensuring cross government coordination.

### **2. Update on Programme Progress**

#### **Presentation**

An update on the progress of the programme was provided by Mr Meng Monyrak – Deputy National Programme Director of the Cambodia UN-REDD Programme and Deputy Director, International Conventions Biodiversity Department, GDANCP.

Key elements of the presentation were:

- Programme progress had been slow due to number of challenges including; delays between programme development and availability of funding causing a loss of momentum, the complexity of REDD+ as a topic, the level of interagency cooperation which required significant time for consultation;
- The delay had resulted in limited fund dispersal levels;
- Key activities that had been undertaken included:

- An Inception Workshop to launch the programme was held in Nov 2011 and was attended by both Ministers (MoE and MAFF)
- An Annual workplan has been developed
- Support has been provided to three pilot projects – Seima, Oddar Meanchey and Kulen Promtep
- Staff recruitment for the programme has been undertaken including:
  - Government staff who are already assigned to the programme; and
  - UN advisory and support staff have are being recruited and expected to start over the next two months.
- An initial Civil society and IP workshop held in February to discuss civil society engagement
- Invitations for the REDD+ Taskforce have been sent and nominations have been received – it is anticipated that the first meeting will happen in July

A full copy of the presentation is provided in Annex I.

### **Discussion**

The Co-Chairs thanked Mr Monyrak for the presentation, noting that it was important that the programme now accelerated progress.

- Ms Elena Tischenko (UNDP) also thanked the presenter and noted the challenges presented by the delay between programme development and the availability of funding. She noted that UNDP were currently recruiting additional staff to support the programme and anticipated that they would support the development of a capacity building plan during July that can then ensure that capacity building could occur in August. She also noted that UNDP were willing to provide additional support so that the costs of capacity building in financial and programme management elements did not have to be funded from within the UN-REDD programme.
- Ms Nina Brandstrup (FAO) – supported the progress that had been made and confirmed that FAO were undertaking a recruitment process for staff to work with the programme. She also stressed the importance of the establishment of the MRV team to facilitated engagement of FAO with government representatives.
- Mr Thomas Enters provided an update on the UNEP approach noting that it was based on requests from the Government to move the programme forward. He also noted that progress had been made this week on developing the UNEP component and saw this as a positive move.
- Mr. Lim Makara – Embassy of Japan – apologized that it had not been possible for the Ambassador to attend or senior programme staff within embassy. He passed on messages of support and appreciation for the good work of the programme and encouraged it to increase the speed of its implementation.

- Mr Douglas Broderick (UN) thanks participants for their comments and confirmed the desire of the UN to see the programme fully integrate its activities into existing government strategies – something that would require both ongoing commitment to technical and operational work from the government including allocation of appropriate staff to work on the programme.
- H.E. Chheng Kimsun (FA) stated his appreciation that the programme had been government led. He also recognized the importance of formal meetings to help move the programme forward – suggesting meetings every two months.

### **3. Review and adopt of Programme Executive Board ToR**

#### **Presentation**

Mr Vathana Khun – Chair for National REDD+ Taskforce Secretariat– Acting Chief of Forest Carbon Credit and Climate Change Office- presented on ToR of board Key elements of the presentation included the membership of the PEB, which remained in line with that outlined in the National Programme Document. The overall objective of the PEB and key responsibilities were also presented. These points are summarized below and are included in the presentation in Annex II.

#### **Objective of the PEB**

*To provide guidance to, and oversight of the UN-REDD programme in Cambodia, in its effort to support effective and efficient development of measures to address REDD+.*

#### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Review and provide guidance on:
  - Annual Workplans
  - Programme Progress
  - Conflicts within the programme
- Share relevant information with REDD+ Taskforce and share programme information with other relevant parties
- Represent constituents and provide comments to REDD+ Taskforce

#### **Comments**

Following the presentation a discussion was held on the terms of reference with contributions from a number of participants. A full table of detailed comments, responses to these and a revised version of the ToR are provided in Annex III and IV for review. The below text thus provides a summary of the discussion with a focus on key areas of discussion. Comments are organized by section of the ToR for ease of reference.

#### **Membership**

Comments focused on:

- The need for senior representation to be maintained and increased within the PEB. The need for

specific representatives and alternates to be identified within the Terms of Reference (raised by Elena Tischenko –UNDP, and Mr Koen Everaert – EU).

- The need for an effective process of civil society and indigenous peoples engagement to occur to ensure appropriate representatives are present at subsequent meetings. This was supported by comments from representatives of the Forestry Administration and the REDD+ Secretariat who noted the role that the consultation group may also have in identifying these representatives (raised by UN RC)

### **Operations**

Comments focused on:

- The need for information to be circulated well in advance of the meeting (raised by Mr Koen Everaert – EU, Ms Nina Brandstrup – FAO, Ms Elena Tischenko – UNDP, Mr Thomas Enters – UNEP).
- The need for meeting dates to be set well in advance of meetings, (raised by Mr Thomas Enters – UNEP)

### **Responsibilities**

Comments focused on:


- The need to include the ability for the PEB to make a decision on the appropriateness of a no-cost extension to the programme (raised by Mr Tim Boyle - UN-REDD Regional Representative – UNDP - Observer).

### **Reporting**

Comments focused on:

- Recommendations that a requirement to report to Technical Working groups also be included (raised by Mr Koen Everaert – EU).
- Clarifications were provided by representatives of the Forestry Administration that the PEB is a key body within the Cambodia REDD+ process but as the UN-REDD programme forms part of the Cambodia REDD Programme it is important that this is also considered within the terms of reference of the PEB.

### **Decisions**

- In response to comments regarding Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples representation, Mr Khun Vathana as Chief of the REDD Taskforce Secretariat committed to the managing an effective process for representative selection to ensure that representatives are identified by the end of September.
- It was decided that a revised version of the ToR, taking into account comments from the meeting 

should be circulated to members on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> (see Annex IV). This version will then be open to comment until the 15<sup>th</sup> of June at which point any further comments will be consolidated into a final version.

#### **4. Review of the Annual Workplan 2012:**

##### **Presentation**

Mr Khun Vathana presented the Annual Workplan of the programme. He provided an initial overview of the focus areas for the coming six months including:

- Establishing operational and management structure
- Raising awareness and capacity amongst stakeholder groups to engage in REDD+
- Establishing costs and benefits of REDD+
- Supporting existing forest management strategies
- Developing capacity to conduct MRV and REL work

A summary of the budget by component (shown below) was then provided prior to a more detailed breakdown of activities by component and their respective budgets. A full version of the presentation is attached to these minutes in Annex V.

Components	Budget 2012 (in US\$)
1. Effective Management of REDD+ Readiness Process	476,985
2. Development of National Strategy Implementation Framework	90,400
3. Improve Capacity to Manage Sub-national Approaches	210,400
4. Design Monitoring System and REL framework	383,200
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,152,685</b>

NB. It should be noted that budget figures have been reduced following comments on the AWP: Outcome 1: \$372,480, Outcome 2: \$72,052 Outcome 3: \$195,400 Outcome 4: \$385,200 Indirect Cost: \$68,319= US\$1,093,451

##### **Discussion**

A constructive discussion was held on the content and overview of the workplan. Specific comments on individual budget lines have been summarized by component in Annex VI with comments addressed in the workplan in Annex VII. The below text represents a summary of key discussion points, overview points are covered first with subsequent points being organized by workplan components:

- Questions around the relationship between the UN-REDD workplan, the potential future FCPF workplan and the existing CAM-REDD workplan and how these would be managed – raised by Koen Everaert (EU) and Ms Siv Cheang (JICA).
- A clarification was provided by Mr Omaliss Keo (FA-observer) that the principle planning body for REDD+ in Cambodia will be the REDD Taskforce – this body will work with a consolidated



workplan which will then be separated out to form the specific programme workplans

- A further clarification was provided by Tim Boyle (UN-REDD Regional Representative – UNDP - Observer) that UNDP had been identified as the delivery partner in Cambodia for FCPF funds. This would occur under the common approach to multiple delivery partners and as such would allow one workplan to be used for both FCPF and UN-REDD funds.
- Ms Elena Tischenko (UNDP) requested careful consideration by the Government of the workplan delivery plan to ensure that it was realistic as UNDP targets for 2012 need to be set in June and as such programme performance would be judged against the ability of the programme to deliver those activities they commit to now.
- Mr Matieu Henry (FAO - observer) noted that there were a number of Technical Teams identified for establishment within the workplan. He stressed the important role these teams will play in facilitating engagement of technical work by the UN agencies.
- Mr Khun Vathana responded that the Technical Coordinator (UNDP Inter-national Consultant) who will sit within the Secretariat will take a lead on coordinating these teams. It is anticipated this individual will be in place in July and as such Technical teams should begin to become more operational from that point forward.

#### **Component 1: Effective National Management of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Stakeholder Engagement**

- Mr Tim Boyle (UN-REDD Regional Representative – UNDP - Observer) noted that there was a proposal to include a vehicle within the procurement plan – he proposed that this was not necessary and should not be seen as a priority.
- Mr Keo Omaliss (FA – observer) responded that the need for a vehicle had been identified during programme inception and as such they would raise the issue within the UN-REDD Policy Board if necessary.

#### **Component 2: Development of the National REDD+ Strategy and Implementation Framework**

- Board members expressed support for the inclusion of activity 2.1c Development of a Protected Areas Strategic Management Plan within the workplan (comments made by Elena Tischenko - UNDP, Koen Evereart – EU),

#### **Component 3: Improved Capacity to Manage REDD+ at Sub-national Levels**

- Mr Vibol OUK (FiA) noted that pilot project funding had been provided to three pilot projects within areas managed by the FA and GDANCP. He thus noted it may be appropriate for funding to also be provided to a project within a FiA managed area.
- It was clarified by Mr Omaliss Keo, Mr Tim Boyle and Mr Philip Cowling that the funds provided to pilot projects were related to a call for proposals that had been issued by UNDP in 2010. A prerequisite for this was that pilot activities were already underway with funds only providing a top up to both speed activities and to increase their capacity to support and inform the national process.

## Component 4: Design of a Monitoring System and REL Framework and Capacity Building for Implementation

- Mr Koen Everaert (EU) noted the need for continued investment on MRV and the important linkages that this could have with approaches to forest monitoring under the EU's Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade initiative that Cambodia may engage with.

### 5. Any other business

H.E. Chheng Kimsun (FA) provided an update on the review of Economic Land Concessions declared by the Prime Minister in May 2012 in response to a question by Mr Douglas Broderick (UN-RC). He informed the meeting that the Deputy Prime Minister and visited the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) to discuss how ELC's can be monitored and reviewed. H.E. Chheng Kimsun also informed the meeting that the Prime Minister had informed MAFF that there would soon be further progress with regard to discussions on the role of local people living within forest areas under protection, or within ELCs.

Ms Siv Cheang (JICA) commented that to have effective and efficient monitoring and evaluation, of the different REDD+ initiatives in Cambodia ideally there should be a joint monitoring and evaluation. However, this may be not realistic in practice due to the different policy and situation of each organization. Therefore, it is important and necessary to have close coordination among different frameworks supporting REDD+. This will also help reduce the burden of the secretariat. With this respect, we would like to see the work plan of the Taskforce soon and UN-REDD, FCPF and CAM-REDD should all work towards aligning their workplans to this.

### 6. Date of Next Meeting

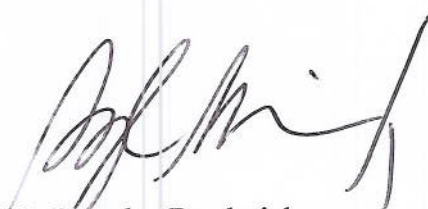
Dates were set for two following meetings of the PEB within 2012. These dates are the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October and the 13<sup>th</sup> of December.

The meeting ended at 17:15 *va*

Minutes seen and approved by: *R*



H.E. Chheng Kimsun  
Co-Chair UN-REDD Programme *h*  
Executive Board  
Director General  
Forestry Administration



Mr Douglas Broderick  
Co-Chair UN-REDD Programme  
Executive Board  
Resident Coordinator  
United Nations Cambodia *vet*