**Management Group (MG) of the UN-REDD Programme**

**Meeting Minutes of 11 September 2018**

**15h Geneva/Rome**

**Attendance:**

MG members and alternates

FAO: Margo BuszkoBriggs, Tiina Vahanen

UNDP: Elspeth Halverson, Josep Garí

UNEP: Dianna Kopansky, Gabriel Labbate (and Florian Eisele for COP24 agenda item)

Secretariat: Mario Boccucci, Mihaela Secrieru

1. **UNFCCC COP24 Events**

*Decisions and Actions:*

1. Two events will be organised, with different focus: the UNS side event SDG15 will be inspirational/forward looking and strategic with a focus on REDD+ overall (not UN-REDD *per se*) and involve other partners in the space, while the invitation-only reception will celebrate the Programme.
2. Time-sensitive: UN Environment to approach (i) the Secretary-General on his availability for both events, (ii) other high-level speakers to book timeslots in their agenda for the reception event, and (iii) MG members to share ideas of inspiring speakers for the UNS side event and moderator.
3. The Comms/KM Working Group will revise the concept note and provide an update to the MG by 21 Sept.

*Additional elements of the discussion*

It was underlined that, if the SG’s attendance is secured for the reception, this event should be sharpened to ensure impact, i.e. include a very short 20-min session where the SG can speak and interact with and hear from high-level influential leaders, with the aim to position forests and UN-REDD with the SG in preparation for the Climate Summit.

The UNS side event could be framed around the innovation/emerging approaches angle. While the approaches highlighted should be linked to UN-REDD experiences/expertise angle, they should represent major achievements, illustrative of transformational change.

1. **Paper on UN-REDD post-2020**

*Decisions and Actions:*

1. Secretariat to share the revised pre-concept note with the MG (by 13 Sept) for inputs, before this is shared with Norway by end of this week
2. Agencies to continue providing tangible inputs also on the full concept note (i.e. the annotated outline, which is internal and will not be shared with Norway in the short term) by the end of September. Inputs for this round are needed on:
   1. Answering the framing question as well as the additional questions in the outline;
   2. Providing concrete ideas on what the programme should do and how
   3. Provide options on the branding of the future partnership (how should it be called)
3. **Update on Workshop to promote forest bilateral deals with European countries**

*Decisions and Actions:*

1. Secretariat to confirm the time of the call with the group planned for Thursday 13 Sept and debrief the MG after it.
2. **Update on Mekong initiative**

*Decisions and Actions:*

1. FAO to debrief the MG on further developments after the 18 September meeting of the regional team in Bangkok and share the revised project document.

*Additional elements of the discussion*

FAO debriefed the MG on advancements of the process so far, including a meeting of the UN-REDD team in Bangkok the first week of September, to further develop content under the four outcomes outlined in the initial concept note (shared with Norway in June) and discuss among others the consultation process to be undertaken. Feedback from Norway remains as in June, i.e. full support; awaiting the full project document by the end of October; and two options to be considered regarding the breadth of the project: (i) USD10-20+M or (ii) a “+” option with clearly elaborated larger impact.

On next steps, FAO noted the development of the results framework and concept, an upcoming meeting of the UN-REDD regional team on 18 September to develop more content, activities and a solid narrative, as well a mission of Norway to Viet Nam in end of September. Further consultations with countries will continue in October once there is the official commitment and related envelope announced by Norway.

The MG discussed how to manage Norway’s expectation for a full project document while countries are expecting more consultations. FAO clarified that until we have a clear commitment from a donor such endorsement is not appropriate, and added that Norway does not expect at this stage a project document endorsed by the countries, and that fully fledged consultations with countries will only happen once Norway commits a budget envelope.

1. **AOB**
   1. **Second Executive Board meeting Agenda**

*Decisions and Actions:*

1. Secretariat to share the revised draft integrating inputs from the MG by 12 Sept. Agencies to provide quick feedback and concrete suggestions for substantive issues (FAO and UN Environment) with a view to share the agenda with the Board by 17 Sept (one-month prior to the meeting).

*Additional elements of the discussion*

Issue of rotation of members will not be elevated to a standalone item but dealt with through the Chair person.

* 1. **Argentina no-cost extension**

*Decisions and Actions:*

1. Agencies expressed no objection to processing this request with the Board.
2. Upon suggestion by the agencies, the Secretariat will add an explanatory paragraph when sending the request to the Board to underline the extension is not related to UN-REDD and instead due to internal domestic issues at country level.