

Minutes
Safeguards Group Teleconference
(Support to National REDD+ Action / Global Programme)
11 September 2012, 17.00 CET

Attendance:

FAO: Emelyne Cheney
UNDP: Kimberly Todd, Leo Peskett
UNEP: Barney Dickson, Julie Greenwalt
UN-REDD Secretariat: Helena Eriksson

Agenda:

1. Approval of draft agenda
2. a) Role of Safeguards Group
b) Any finalization and distribution of the concept note
c) Forward work plan/prioritizing tasks from concept note
3. Multiple Benefits Workshop (13-15 Nov); agenda/comments
4. Safeguards policy brief
5. Paraguay request
6. Any TS for discussion
7. Inclusion of agency safeguards work under Objective 1 in the concept note (this was raised on the MG call)
8. AOB

1. Approval of draft agenda

The draft agenda was approved.

2 a) Role of Safeguards Group

The Group referred to the concept note that was endorsed by the MG on 29 August and stressed that the Group's main role is on a more over-arching strategic level ensuring coordination and consistency with other initiatives, but cannot go into too much details.

b) Any finalization and distribution of the concept note

Julie and Kim provided an update from the MG conference call on 29 August when the concept note was presented. The Secretariat also gave a short summary based on the minutes. It is the understanding that the Group has the mandate to proceed with their work following the contents of the note.

c) Forward work plan/prioritizing tasks from concept note

The Group agreed that the preparation of the workplan is the next step. Whether to draft ToR for the Group was discussed but it was concluded that the workplan addressing the outlined discrete tasks in the concept note is the priority.

- Action: UNDP will send a draft workplan within next week.

3. Multiple Benefits Workshop (13-15 Nov); agenda/comments

UNEP updated the group on the Workshop preparations. Invitations have been sent out to countries. The comments by email from UNDP on the draft agenda are being addressed and the agenda will be further discussed over the coming weeks. The group highlighted the need of ensuring that the workshop content is consistent with the interagency approach on safeguards.

FAO will discuss the agenda internally, but mentioned that the agenda with the already expressed comments seemed to cover their main points. Secretariat asked about participation and, if needed,

offered assistance with review of invitations/participation. (It had been mentioned at the MG call that the Safeguards Group is to consider whether the invitation should be also sent from the Secretariat).

➤ Action: FAO to send comments, if any, on the draft agenda.

4. **Safeguards policy brief**

UNDP described its draft policy brief on Safeguards which will be sent through the internal review and clearance process once the concept note is finalized. UNDP is planning a policy brief with a draft concept note almost finalized. UNEP is preparing a Policy Brief on Multiple Benefits and safeguards which will be ready in October. There could be some overlaps and therefore it was agreed that the Group will review and compare these initiatives for any harmonization needed.

➤ Action: UNDP to share their draft concept note by Friday, 14 September.

5. **Paraguay request**

It was decided to deal with this item by email and possibly include it on the agenda for next call due to shortage of time and also for not going into too many details at these conference calls. Mainly (by quoting the email), the Federation for the Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples (FAPI), one of the three main Parties working on REDD+ in Paraguay, in the context of requesting a workshop on national grievance mechanisms, also requested a safeguards workshop. See email exchange The Secretariat sent an update on the country situation; UN system in the country has instructions from the Bureau for Political Affairs to continue with technical support, but limit activities with policy implications. (See further email exchange).

6. **Any TS for discussion**

It was mentioned that a request from Argentina will be circulated shortly.

7. **Inclusion of agency safeguards work under Objective 1 in the concept note (this was raised on the MG call)**

Item to be discussed at next Safeguards Group call.

8. **AOB**

No other business reported.

Next conference call: Wednesday, 19 September, at 4 pm (CET) is proposed.