**The United Nations Collaborative Programme on**

**Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and**

**Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme)**

**Technical Working Groups**

Terms of Reference

1. Background

As part of the fight against deforestation and forest degradation, it is increasingly necessary to promote the development of systems for monitoring of forest cover. Systems for monitoring forest cover include software, tools, and users’ services. To be operational, the system for monitoring forest cover must be adapted to national circumstances, national policies and the human, technical and financial capacities. As part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, REDD-Plus aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the forestry sector either through an increase in forest cover as a reduction of its deterioration.

The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme) is a collaboration between FAO, UNDP and UNEP. It builds on the convening power of its participating UN agencies, their diverse expertise and vast networks, and “delivers as One UN”.

The work contemplated under this TOR is part of the implementation of the UN-REDD in the Philippines and the national roadmap for REDD-Plus as reflected in the Philippine National REDD-Plus Strategy (PNRPS). This basically involves identifying actions and mechanisms to achieve the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: REDD+ readiness supported by effective, inclusive and participatory management process

Outcome 2: Systematic and structural approach to the application of safeguards in REDD+ readiness identified through concrete studies of options and inclusive consultation

Outcome 3: Enhanced capacities for M & MRV

2. Purpose

The purpose of the Technical Working Groups is to support the Programme Executive Board (PEB) in decision-making by providing expertise in the analysis, identifying options, and translating concepts into a series of actions that will contribute to the attainment of the UN REDD Outcomes.

3. Tasks

The TWGs will focus on providing technical assistance in achieving the outputs related to the identified Outcomes of the Programme:

* Establishing mechanism to operationalize NMRC and PMRCs
* Enhancing awareness of key stakeholders on REDD-Plus
* Supporting National REDD-Plus capacity programme
* Identifying systematic and structural approach to the application of safeguards in REDD-Plus readiness
* Designing of a forest monitoring system for REDD-Plus
* Conceptualizing and proposing a national MRV approach

4. Members of the Technical Working Group (Identified during the workshop – base on mandate and technical competencies or additional skills and expertise)

**4.1 Policy/Governance**

 Lead - CCC

Members - ELAC, FMB, NEDA, DA, GIZ, DAR, NCIP, NTFP, UNDP, FAO, and Forest

Development Center (FDC)

**4.2 Capacity Building and Communications**

Lead: - CODE REDD

Members: - WISE, ASoG, DENR-HRD, FMB-HR, DILG, GIZ, UNDP, FAO

**4.3 MRV (FMB as lead ) and Safeguards (PAWB as lead):**

4.3.1 Community/Social: NCIP, FMB, WISE, CI-P, ASoG, Tebtebba, GIZ, NTFP-TF, FFI, FAO, UNDP

4.3.2 Carbon: NAMRIA, FMB, CI-P, FFI, GIZ, UP-DGE, FAO, UNDP

4.3.3 Biodiversity: PAWB, FMB, FFI, GIZ, FAO, UNDP, CI-P

5. Other agreements during workshop:

* Set minimum members; ask organizations to nominate principal and alternate members
* For government agencies who are not familiar with UN REDD, try to set an appointment for a more in-depth orientation
* Nominate lead/focal person for each group (option is to adopt PNRPS structure; co-chaired by CoDE REDD and Government Agency)
* NTFP-EP, NTFP Task Force at implementation level
* If we invite other CSOs, we must make sure that they understand and will support REDD-Plus and that they are willing to invest in REDD-Plus initiatives; they should also exert efforts to participate in programme activities and they are willing to feedback and share information; familiarity and knowledge of REDD-Plus

5. Frequency of meetings

To be agreed upon by the TWGs or as needed.

6. Communication and Reporting

The Project Manager will serve as a channel of communication between the PEB and the TWGs. The PM shall also be responsible for reporting and submitting to the PEB all recommendations and actions taken by the TWGs. In some instances, the PEB may also call on a member or some members of the TWGs to participate or provide inputs on technical matters concerning Programme implementation.

7. Secretariat Support

The PMU shall provide secretariat support to the TWGs. This support includes organization of meetings, preparation of meeting minutes, keeping all documentation current and informing the UN REDD PEB of Programme developments through regular communications channels.

The PMU shall also include in its Annual Work Plan provisions for transportation, meals, and applicable allowances during out-of-town meetings and travels.