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Agenda item 4

Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries

Methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) considered views on methodological guidance for activities relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries, taking into account issues identified in appendix II to decision 1/CP.16 and relevant issues.
2. In considering methodological issues referred to in paragraph 1 above, Parties identified a range of issues, including guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 are addressed and respected, modalities relating to forest reference emission levels and forest reference levels, and modalities for measuring, reporting and verifying as referred to in appendix II to decision 1/CP.16.
3. The SBSTA decided to continue its consideration of the methodological guidance referred to in paragraph 1 above, taking into account the elements referred to in the annex, with the aim of completing its work on these matters at its thirty-fifth session and reporting to the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth session on progress made, including any recommendations for draft decisions on this matter.
4. The SBSTA invited Parties and accredited observers to submit to the secretariat, by 19 September 2011, their views on the issues identified in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 above. It requested the secretariat to compile the submissions by Parties into a miscellaneous document for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-fifth session. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize, subject to the availability of supplementary funds, meetings of

technical experts on matters referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above, including a meeting before its thirty-fifth session.

5. The SBSTA requested its Chair to continue exploring ways of facilitating the coordination of the activities relating to decisions 2/CP.13, 4/CP.15 and 1/CP.16, and to report back to the SBSTA at future sessions.

6. The SBSTA took note of the progress report by the secretariat on the implementation of the activities identified in document FCCC/SBSTA/2010/6, paragraph 40, in particular the establishment of an interactive discussion forum on the web platform.¹ The SBSTA encouraged all Parties and their relevant experts, relevant organizations and stakeholders to participate actively in the interactive discussion forum.

7. The SBSTA encouraged Parties to support the other activities identified in its conclusions at its thirty-second session² and those identified in decisions 2/CP.13, 4/CP.15 and 1/CP.16. It also reminded Parties, relevant organizations and stakeholders to continue sharing information and experiences on these activities via the web platform on the UNFCCC website.

¹ <http://unfccc.int/methods_science/redd/items/4531.php>.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2010/6, paragraph 40.

Annex

[English only]

General guidance for submissions and future work regarding: guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards referred to in appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 are addressed and respected; modalities relating to forest reference emission levels and forest reference levels; and modalities for measuring, reporting and verifying as referred to in appendix II to decision 1/CP.16

1. Guidance on systems for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected:
 - (a) Characteristics;
 - (b) Design;
 - (c) Provision of information;
 - (d) Potential barriers, including barriers, if any, to providing information, on addressing and respecting safeguards;
 - (e) Other relevant issues.
 2. Guidance for modalities relating to forest reference levels and forest reference emission levels:
 - (a) Scope and/or purpose;
 - (b) Characteristics, including elements listed in paragraph 1 of appendix I to decision 1/CP.16;
 - (c) Guidance for the construction;
 - (d) Process for communication;
 - (e) Other relevant issues.
 3. Guidance on modalities for measuring, reporting and verifying, as referred to in appendix II to decision 1/CP.16:
 - (a) Characteristics, including elements listed in paragraph 1 of appendix I to decision 1/CP.16;
 - (b) Elements;
 - (c) Process for reporting;
 - (d) Other relevant issues.
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