

Strategy Group (SG) of the UN-REDD Programme Workplan and Priorities (21 March 2014)

Introduction

1. The role of the Strategy Group (SG) is to provide clear strategic direction related to the UN agencies contributions to the UN-REDD Programme (see SG [Terms of Reference](#)).
2. The SG is an internal arrangement which, together with the Management Group (MG), operationalizes the 'Coordination Group' envisaged in the UN-REDD Programme [Policy Board Terms of Reference](#).
3. Current membership of the SG¹ is: Xiangjun Yao, Eduardo Rojas, Madgy Martinez-Soliman and Elizabeth Mrema.

Proposed operating arrangements

4. The SG will operate via quarterly conference calls, with the option of having an additional call before Policy Board if needed. In between calls, the Secretariat will provide regular written updates. Face to face meetings will take place biannually in the margins of Policy Board meetings, and it is hoped to organize an SG-MG retreat during the second half of the year. A draft schedule of meetings is outlined below:
 - i. 17 March: SG Call (90 mins)
 - ii. May/June: SG Call (90 mins)
 - iii. July: SG meeting in the margins of PB12 (half day)
 - iv. August: SG Call (90 mins)
 - v. October: SG Call (90 mins)
 - vi. November: SG meeting in the margins of PB13 (half day)
 - vii. November/December (possibly back to back with UNFCCC COP): SG-MG retreat (tbc – 1 day)
5. Meetings will be chaired by the SG member currently acting as the rotating Policy Board Co-Chair, and supported by the Secretariat. This includes preparation of meeting agendas and documents, arrangements for conference calls and preparation of minutes documenting the decisions made at respective meetings.

Workplanning

6. The objective is to map out important issues for the SG to cover this year, and plan ahead of time when these should be discussed in order that issues are addressed when they are still in the "important but not urgent" category.
7. The draft list of 'priority SG items' provided below was distilled by the Secretariat based on past experience and the anticipated issues that should receive most SG attention during the year, and updated to

¹ As indicated in the SG ToR, FAO may nominate two representatives (in line with the shared responsibility for the UN-REDD Programme between the FAO Department of Natural Resources Management and Environment and the FAO Department of Forestry), who will express a single agency position.

incorporate initial feedback from the SG (17 March 2014). Where known, the anticipated timing of when issues will be brought to the SG is indicated in calendar quarters.

SG priorities for 2014

1. Development of the Programme Strategy beyond 2015

- i. Inputs into internal +2015 Strategy paper prepared by Secretariat/MG (Q2)
- ii. Inputs into external +2015 paper & preparation for PB13 and beyond (Q2-3, although timeline for presentation to PB will depend on progress at PB12).

2. Resource mobilization

- i. Review RM Strategy (Q2)
- ii. Participate in RM efforts (e.g. UK, DE and others where high level intervention required) (Q3 & 4)

3. Engagement on strategic partnerships and issues

- i. Review Strategy for engagement with strategic partners (Q3)
- ii. Strategic outreach with key strategic partners as needed (Q3 & Q4)

4. Programme Evaluation

- i. Guidance, review and approval of management response (developed by the Secretariat /MG) (Q2).

5. Programme Audit

- i. Interviews with Audit team (Q3)
- ii. Review and approval of Programme Audit management response (in 2015)

6. UN-REDD Programme Policy Board Meetings

- i. PB12 (July 2014)
 - a. Review of draft agenda (Q2)
 - b. Review of anticipated decisions (Q2)
 - c. Attendance at PB12 (Q3)
- ii. PB13 (November 2014)
 - a. Review of draft agenda (Q3)
 - b. Review of anticipated decisions (Q4)
 - c. Attendance at PB13 (Q4)

7. Head of Secretariat Workplan

- i. Review of HoS performance for April 2013- March 2014 performance year (Q2)
- ii. Review of Workplan for April 2014 – March 2015 performance year (Q2)