

UN-REDD Programme Strategy Group
Decisions of meeting 12 September 2014

Participants

SG members: Eduardo Rojas, FAO (Chair); Nik Sekhran, UNDP; Mette Loyche Wilkie, UNEP.

Others: Charles McNeill (UNDP), Eduardo Mansur (FAO)

Secretariat: Mario Boccucci, Thais Linhares Juvenal, Mike Speirs, Mirey Atallah, Sharon McAuslan

It was agreed to revise the order in which agenda items were considered.

1. Secretary General's Climate Summit

- a. The information update provided by UNDP was welcomed. The SG acknowledged that the absence of a reference to the UN-REDD Programme in the summit documents (forest action agenda etc.) may be unavoidable due to the UN's role in convening the Summit.
- b. *Actions: Charles to send forest session details to UNEP.*

2. Programme Strategy

- a. The SG endorsed the progress made in strategic planning, including the preliminary elements of the revised Programme 2016-2020. Feedback was provided regarding the need to:
 - Build on the foundation of the 'What', by emphasising the country driven nature of the approach, and providing more detail e.g. how many countries;
 - Address the potential mismatch between Norway's suggestion to focus on small number of countries and UNRP's proposed approach to support both a small number of countries that go onto to deliver RBA, as well as the preparatory work involving a larger cohort. Decreasing marginal costs provide an argument for identifying countries close to tipping point, for instance some high forest that may not require significant investment to push them over the threshold towards RBP;
 - Make quick progress on the more substantive 'How' aspects of the Strategy, including more details of the proposed management revolution, such as: how to strengthen Secretariat's ability to ensure accountability; options to reduce transaction costs, including best operational funding models;
 - Consider additional Programme partners.
- b. Whilst the proposal for greater face to face interaction between the MG was welcomed, the issue of potential MG co-location (e.g. in Geneva) requires further discussion, taking into account the existing proximity of FAO, other means of communication, the need to avoid perception of creating new institutions etc.
- c. The SG also noted the important of taking a thorough look at the key issues raised in the Norway non-paper, to ensure adequate preparation for the forthcoming meetings in Oslo and New York.
- d. *Actions: Secretariat to send next iteration of elements of the revised Programme Strategy.*

3. Engagement with Norway

- a. The SG agreed that the emerging storyline on the +2015 Strategy provides a good basis for the forthcoming mission to Oslo by the Head of Secretariat and MG, and subsequent meetings with Agency

principals and SG members. Specific points to convey include the role of the UN in:

- convening power, country presence, fiduciary systems
 - the preparatory work that establishes the foundation for countries being able to deliver RBP in the future;
- b. The SG recognized that whilst it is impossible to push for greater integration than the UN system allows, there is room to improve, and the revised “Standard Operating Procedures for Countries Adopting the Delivering as One Approach (SOPs)” should be explored in this regard. Secretariat participation in forthcoming workshops on application of the SOP should be considered.
- c. *Actions: Agencies to confirm attendance of principals in meeting in NY (tentatively 24 Sept)*
- d. *Secretariat to explore participation in forthcoming SOP workshop in Turkey, Q4 2014.*

4. AOB

- a. Article for ‘Climate Change - The New Economy’ publication for COP20 <http://www.cctne.org/>: The SG agreed in principal to be signatories of the article. The Secretariat will send the draft for SG sign off, likely end of Sept/early Oct depending on the production deadline.
- b. Next SG meetings: The Secretariat will coordinate with SG offices to make arrangements for the next call (tentatively mid October). On the basis of confirmed participation in Arusha (UNEP attendance is tbc), an SG meeting may be organized in the margins of PB.