

Strategy Group (SG) of the UN-REDD Programme
Decisions of meeting 14 June 2013

Participants:

SG members: Eduardo Rojas, FAO, Xiangjun Yao, FAO; Veerle Vandeweerd, UNDP; Ibrahim Thiaw, UNEP

Secretariat: Mario Boccucci, Sharon McAuslan

UNDP: Charles McNeill (attended the Panama item only, to provide update)

1. Panama

- a. The SG recommended that, pending the outcome of the information session, the MG prepare to include Panama on the PB10 agenda (for instance, during the Secretariat's overview session, or as an additional item) (*Secretariat and MG to incorporate into the planning for this issue*).
- b. The SG agreed that discussion on this issue should emphasize the response that the Programme is taking to the broader issue of grievance, including an update on development of interim grievance procedures.
- c. The PB10 outcome should aim to take note of the rapid progress being made regarding the investigation-evaluation, and request an update at PB11 (including on interim grievance procedures).

2. PB Review

- a. The SG recommended that the PB10 outcome should aim for a decision on a process/roadmap, rather than try to reach agreement at PB10 on the substantive issues raised in the recommendations. Initial PB feedback on the general findings of the review, along with reaction to specific recommendations heard during PB10 will provide some guidance to the WG, to feed into the subsequent response.
- b. The process should involve the establishment of a representative Policy Board Working Group (including an Agency), mandated to develop a response to recommendations, structured in two categories: i. 'quick wins/no regrets issues', that could be implemented in the short term, for consideration at PB11, and ii. 'longer term issues' that require further reflection, and should be deferred for now, to be considered alongside discussions on the Programme post 2015 during the next 12-24 months. The Secretariat would facilitate the work of the WG as ex officio member.
- c. The SG noted that it will be important for the Policy Board to be given the chance to consider the draft response in advance of PB11, given the need for consensus, and the lack of any higher body to make decisions.
- d. The SG requested preparation of a common position, clarifying expectations and anticipated decisions under this agenda item, along with draft ToR/principles for the PB WG (*Secretariat and MG to prepare and circulate week beginning 17 June*).

3. Programme evaluation

- a. The SG agreed that there should be one integrated Management Response (MR) prepared, coordinated by the Secretariat, with inputs from all the persons and organizations targeted by the recommendations, including the PB constituencies. In this way the UN participating agencies will not release their own MR as a stand-alone document, but will have its response integrated in the "Programme" MR.

- b. The SG noted that it is important to ensure that the appointed evaluation team recognize the unique circumstances of the UN-REDD Programme, and account for this in the approach to the evaluation.
(Secretariat to ensure inception report recognizes and reflects Programme circumstances)

4. Other PB10 preparations

- a. UNDP, who will assume the role of Policy Board Co-chair at PB10, confirmed that Olav will attend PB10 to temporarily assume the Agency Co-chair role, in place of Veerle.

5. Taking stock of previous SG decisions and planning for next SG call/ SG-MG Retreat

- a. The SG welcomed the preparations being made to schedule the next call in September, followed by a 2 day SG-MG retreat in November, and welcomed the suggested priority agenda items:
 - i. Post 2015 Strategy
 - ii. PB Review
 - iii. Programme 5 Year Anniversary
 - iv. Resource Mobilisation
 - v. Oslo Exchange.
- b. Additional priorities identified included:
 - vi. Review of previous decisions
 - vii. Tier 2, particularly related to Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC)
 - viii. Accountability and Grievance Mechanism
 - ix. Results based payments *(The SG requested the Secretariat and MG to prepare a discussion paper in advance)*
 - x. Operational and financial management systems of the Agencies