

Minutes of the Third Programme Executive Board (PEB) Meeting of Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme

Date : 22 May 2014

Venue : “Saptha Parisara Mandapaya” Conference Room, Ministry of Environment and Renewable
Energy, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka

Time : 2.00 pm - 5.15 pm

The Participants

Members

1. Mr. B.M.U.D. Basnayake, Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy
2. Ms. Beth S. Crawford, FAO Representative, Sri Lanka and the Maldives
3. Mr. Anura Sathurusinghe, Conservator General of Forests, NPD, Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme
4. Ms. Lovita Ramguttee, Deputy Country Director, UNDP
5. Dr. Thomas Enters, UN-REDD Regional Coordinator, UNEP
6. Ms. A.L.S.C. Perera, Deputy Surveyor General, Survey Department of Sri Lanka
7. Mr. Sarath Kulathunga, Additional Conservator General of Forests (Operations)
8. Mrs. Shanthi Fernando, Director General, Land Use Policy Planning, Ministry of Lands and Land Development
9. Mr. Gamini Jayasinghe, Deputy Director General (EM&A), Central Environmental Authority
10. Dr. D.B.T. Wijeratne, Additional Secretary (Agriculture Technology), Ministry of Agriculture
11. Mr. A M K B Attanayake, Director Forest and Environment, Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka
12. Mr. R. D. S. Jayathunga, Director, Climate Change Division, Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy
13. Dr. M A Wijerathne, Senior Research Officer, Ministry of Plantation Industries
14. Mr. Hemantha Withanage, Executive Director, Centre for Environmental Justice
15. Mrs. Renuka Badrakanthi, Chief Co-ordinator, Women Development Federation
16. Eng. N.A. Sisira Kumara, Director, Water Resources Planning, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management
17. Dr. U K L Peiris - Assistant Director, Department of Wildlife Conservation (Alternate Member)
18. Mr. Thalawarige Guna Banda (Alternate Member)

Observers

- Mr. A R L Wijethunga , Programme Officer, UNDP
Ms. Tharuka Dissanaikie, Technical Advisor, UNDP
Ms. Shireen Samarasuriya, National Coordinator (GEF/SGP), UNDP
Mr. W C Weragoda , SDCF, Forest Department
Mr. Lal Abeygunasekera, CF (SF&E), Forest Department
Mr. W Dissanayake, CF (P&M), Forest Department
Mr. Wimalarathna (Translator to IP Representative)
Ms. Manel Jayamanna, UN-REDD National Consultant
Mr. K K Ranjan, UN-REDD National Consultant
Mr. S A Nagananda, Deputy Commissioner, Land Title Settlement Department
Mr. Mahinda Seneviratne, CF (EM), Forest Department
Mr. M L A Majeed, CF (P&LE), Forest Department

Excuses

Mr. Subinay Nandy, UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator (UNRC), UN Sri Lanka
 Ms. Razina Bilgrami, UNDP Country Director, UNDP
 Dr. D.S.P. Kuruppuarachchi, Assistant FAO Representative (Programme), FAO
 Mr. Lalith Chandrapala, Director General, Department of Meteorology
 Mr. H. D. Ratnayake - Director General, Department of Wildlife Conservation
 Mr. Uruwarige Wannila Aththo, Dambana - Chief of IP Forum
 Mrs. Noor Rizna Anees, Director, Department of External Resources
 Mrs. Shiranthi Rathnayake, Additional Director General, Department of National Planning

Subject	Activities/Decisions/Recommendations	Presenter
Summary of Minutes	<p>The third Programme Executive Board (PEB) meeting of the Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme was held on the 22nd May 2014 from 2.00 - 5.15 pm at “Saptha Parisara Mandapaya” Conference Room, Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.</p> <p>The meeting was attended by 18 members and 12 observers. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. B. M. U. D. Basnayake, Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy and Ms. Beth S. Crawford, FAO Representative for Sri Lanka and the Maldives.</p> <p>National Programme Manager (NPM) informed the participants on the progress of the decisions made at the second PEB meeting and progress during January - May 2014 was delivered by the National Programme Director (NPD).</p> <p>The Programme Team’s responses to the 8 point IP expectations were tabled and discussed with the additional support from the officers of relevant government institutions. These responses were agreed by the members and the PMU was asked to take further actions to meet the expectations. The revised annual work plan for 2014 was approved by the members.</p>	Info
Welcome Remarks	<p>Ms. Crawford highlighted the importance of the UN-REDD Programme in addressing climate change and its impacts and also the protection of natural resources in the country.</p> <p>She further expressed that the 29% of Sri Lanka’s existing forest cover is not only catering to the national interests but also contributing in meeting challenges such as adverse effects of climate change through reducing emissions caused by forest degradation and deforestation. The Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme supports the Government to enhance the capacity of its staff and other stakeholders to develop a sound national REDD+ strategy.</p> <p>Further, she highlighted that there is a great potential in achieving socio-economic development goals in Sri Lanka. She also commented positively on the progress that the Programme has achieved so far. She also mentioned that the PEB members are ready to continue with the wonderful cooperation for the success of the Programme.</p> <p>Finally she thanked the Ministry and all other stakeholders, including, the National Programme Director of the Pogramme and PMU staff for</p>	Info

	their leadership and hard work.	
Opening Remarks	<p>Mr. B.M.U.D. Basnayake, giving his welcome remarks, appreciated the presence of a representative membership in the PEB. He also mentioned the contributions made since Sri Lanka became a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to the protection of biodiversity and reducing the impacts of climate change through formulation of policies, programmes and projects and also that the setting up of the required institutional structure within the Ministry are remarkable.</p> <p>The goal of the climate change policy of Sri Lanka is to adapt to and mitigate climate change impacts within the framework of sustainable development. Sri Lanka's forests, remnants of a unique ancient civilization, cover 1.9 million hectares. They can make a significant contribution to both the adaptation and mitigation of climate change.</p> <p>He also remarked that since Sri Lanka is having an impressive record of natural resource management and sustainable use, it is not a difficult task for a country like Sri Lanka to protect natural resources and the environment to ensure that the future generations of Sri Lanka will also be able to meet their needs and sustain the development. Mr. Basnayake further extended his gratitude to the Forest Department and the Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme for their leadership and hard work in supporting the Government to enhance capacities for a future REDD+ mechanism.</p>	Info
Progress against the 2nd PEB decisions	NPM presented the progress on 9 action points which were proposed and agreed at the last PEB Meeting and the members were satisfied on the progress made.	Mr. Nalin Munasinghe, NPM
Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme Progress Since Last PEB Meeting of 9 January 2014	<p>The following major activities and achievements were reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness sessions on UN-REDD Programme and REDD+ were conducted for several audiences including high level officials of DWLC, alternates of PEB members, members of CSO Platform and some regional journalists at the Sri Lanka Press Institute. • A training/brain storming workshop on Remote Sensing Application in Forestry, Ecology and Environmental Issues was conducted for representatives of the MRV Task Force on 28-31 January 2014 (32 Trainees) • A training programme on Greenhouse Gas Inventory for Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Uses was conducted during 17-21 February 2014 (33 Trainees) • Another training workshop on Tree Allometric Equations - 20-24 May 2014 (22 Trainees) • CSO Work Plan for 2014 was finalized • Studies/Assessments initiated Analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation Review of national legal, institutional and procedural arrangements Private sector engagement to be organized through a consultative process by hiring a consultant and the TOR has been finalized & procurement is in progress. 	

Work of Taskforces

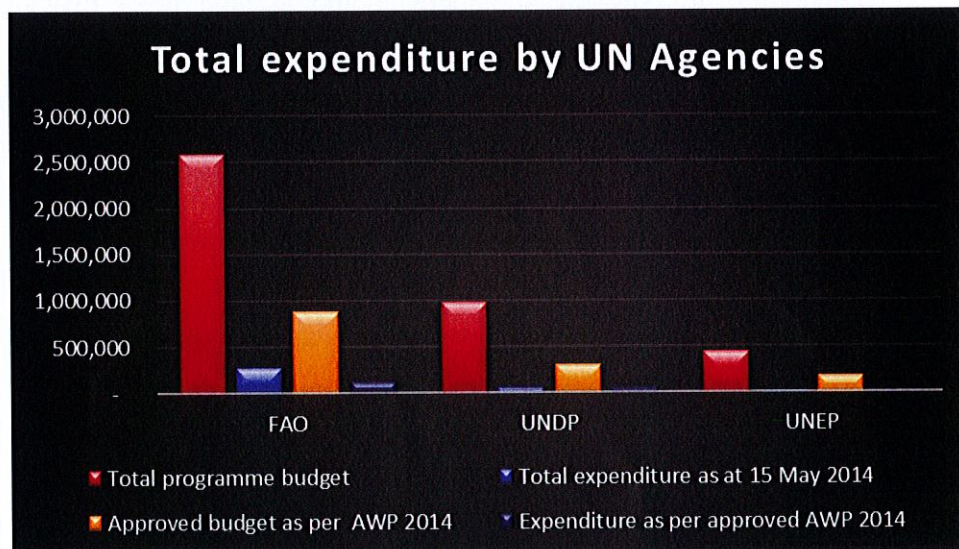
- TF on MRV - Data sharing agreement between FAO and 5 government institutions finalized and 2 agreements between FAO and the Survey Department and the Forest Department prepared to digitize the district land use / land-use maps
- TF on Biodiversity - ToR drafted
- TF on National Policies and Strategies - ToR drafted and Potential membership identified

Communication Activities

- The introductory brochure and a leaflet with information on the UN-REDD Programme finalized
- Communication strategy for REDD+ drafted
- Baseline survey on REDD+, as part of the knowledge management strategy, initiated
- Development of a trilingual website initiated
- A master presentation on introduction to UN-REDD Programme developed
- 3 versions of the above, for 3 different stakeholder audiences (FD/CSOs/IPs) delivered
- Awareness raising and public education through monthly radio series (Thurumadala) initiated
- Communications Network, for increased collaboration and coordination, with key Government Institutions established
- ToR for the Communications Network drafted and reviewed

Financial Progress

- Total expenditure against the total project budget as at 15 May 2014 - USD 335,775
- Total expenditure against the approved AWP 2014 as at 15 May 2014 - USD 160,736
- Expenditure by UN Agencies as at 15 May 2014 is shown below

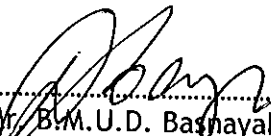


<p>PEB Decisions/ Approvals</p> <p>1. AWP 2014 2. CSO WP for 2014 3. PEB consent for the PMU responses to 8 points raised by IP representative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on 2014 annual work plan (AWP): The changes to the AWP were presented and explained by the NPM. Decision: Since the revised annual work plan did not make any changes at the output level, PEB approval was not required as per Dr. Thomas Enters. However, the overall consent was received for the changes. • Presentation on the CSO Work plan for 2014: The CSO Work plan for the 2014 was presented and PEB consent was taken. PEB approval was not required as this was in line with the already approved AWP of the NP. • PEB consent for the PMU responses to 8 points raised by IP representative: The PMU responses were tabled together with a few presentations to support them further. Decision: PMU suggestions and responses were approved by the members for further action. 	<p>Mr. Nalin Munasinghe, NPM</p> <p>Mr. Anura Sathurusinghe, NPD</p>
<p>Open Discussion</p>	<p>The following points were also raised and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An introduction to the status of the climate change adaptation action plan development was given by Dr. R. D. S. Jayathunga, Director, Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Environment & Renewable Energy. Dr. Jayatunga, requested the UN-REDD Programme to fund this activity. Co-chairs requested PMU to share the draft proposal Note among the PEB members and to further discuss with FD and UNDP and report back at the next PEB Meeting. • Ms. Shireen Samarasuriya, National Coordinator GEF/SGP, UNDP provided an introduction to the Community Based REDD+ Programme (CBR+). CBR+ was highlighted as an entry point to address some of the expectations raised by the IP Representative. CSO member who was nominated to the CBR+ National Steering Committee (NSC) raised some concerns of accepting the same as per the existing rules of GEF SGP for funding mechanism. PMU to discuss further with NPD, Shireen and Celina on the process. • “Thurumadala” Radio Programme was also introduced by Mr. Nishantha Mallawaarachchi, Communications Officer, UN-REDD Programme. Co-chairs requested to get the PEB members also involved in the radio programme. The purpose and the language of the radio programme were also questioned by the membership. • As a response to one of the expectations of the IP Representative, a presentation on ‘Bimsaviya Programme’ a concept of the Land Development Ministry was made by Mr. S A Nagananda, Deputy Commissioner, Land Title Settlement Department. PMU to discuss with the IP community and understand their requirements and then to link up with the department officials. • To respond to the request made by IP Representative on the water related issues, Eng. N.A. Sisira Kumara, Director, Water Resources Planning, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management was invited to talk about their current programme which could help IP 	

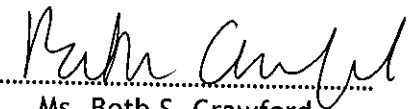
	<p>communities. PMU to discuss with the IP community and understand their requirements and then to link up with the department officials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PEB member inquired on the private sector plantation companies and their involvement on the REDD+ process and the PMU responded that this would depend on the outcomes of the two on-going studies. • PMU and NPD were requested to have a closer look at the activities of the next few months and to seek possibilities to expedite/speed up the progress. • Members highlighted the importance of having the website as early as possible. 																																					
	<p>Summary of the PEB decisions and requests made to both PEB and PMU for further follow up.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="319 667 1266 2011"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="319 667 639 712">Decision/Request</th> <th data-bbox="639 667 959 712">Action point</th> <th data-bbox="959 667 1266 712">Time Frame</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 712 639 801">Revised AWP 2014 approved</td> <td data-bbox="639 712 959 801"></td> <td data-bbox="959 712 1266 801"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 801 639 869">CSO work plan for 2014 approved</td> <td data-bbox="639 801 959 869"></td> <td data-bbox="959 801 1266 869"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 869 639 981">Progress to be reported against targets and indicators</td> <td data-bbox="639 869 959 981">PMU</td> <td data-bbox="959 869 1266 981">At the next PEB Meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 981 639 1048">A sample format on this to be shared with PMU</td> <td data-bbox="639 981 959 1048">Dr. Thomas Enters</td> <td data-bbox="959 981 1266 1048">Immediately</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 1048 639 1205">The PEB consent for 8 Points raised by the IP representative received.</td> <td data-bbox="639 1048 959 1205"></td> <td data-bbox="959 1048 1266 1205"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 1205 639 1317">Responses to be followed and the progress to be reported.</td> <td data-bbox="639 1205 959 1317">PMU</td> <td data-bbox="959 1205 1266 1317">At the next PEB Meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 1317 639 1518">Correct procedure of getting visa for UN passport holders (especially international staff of the UN-REDD Programme) to be informed</td> <td data-bbox="639 1317 959 1518">Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy (PMU to follow up)</td> <td data-bbox="959 1317 1266 1518">By the next PEB Meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 1518 639 1675">Concept note on developing climate change adaptation action plan to be shared among the membership</td> <td data-bbox="639 1518 959 1675">PMU</td> <td data-bbox="959 1518 1266 1675">Before the next PEB Meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 1675 639 1832">Initial discussions with the Private Sector plantation companies to be initiated and reported.</td> <td data-bbox="639 1675 959 1832">PMU</td> <td data-bbox="959 1675 1266 1832">By the next PEB Meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 1832 639 1921">2 FD officials to be nominated for training on REDD+ negotiations</td> <td data-bbox="639 1832 959 1921">NPD (PMU to follow up)</td> <td data-bbox="959 1832 1266 1921">Immediately</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="319 1921 639 2011">All PEB documents to be translated into Sinhala and also to Tamil when</td> <td data-bbox="639 1921 959 2011">PMU</td> <td data-bbox="959 1921 1266 2011">Immediately</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Decision/Request	Action point	Time Frame	Revised AWP 2014 approved			CSO work plan for 2014 approved			Progress to be reported against targets and indicators	PMU	At the next PEB Meeting	A sample format on this to be shared with PMU	Dr. Thomas Enters	Immediately	The PEB consent for 8 Points raised by the IP representative received.			Responses to be followed and the progress to be reported.	PMU	At the next PEB Meeting	Correct procedure of getting visa for UN passport holders (especially international staff of the UN-REDD Programme) to be informed	Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energy (PMU to follow up)	By the next PEB Meeting	Concept note on developing climate change adaptation action plan to be shared among the membership	PMU	Before the next PEB Meeting	Initial discussions with the Private Sector plantation companies to be initiated and reported.	PMU	By the next PEB Meeting	2 FD officials to be nominated for training on REDD+ negotiations	NPD (PMU to follow up)	Immediately	All PEB documents to be translated into Sinhala and also to Tamil when	PMU	Immediately	
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	sharing with other stakeholders.			
	Improve translation facilities for the IP Representative and those who required during the PEB Meeting	PMU	Next PEB meeting onwards	
Next PEB Meeting	18 th September 2014 was proposed as the next PEB meeting day. Confirmation of this date together with time and venue to be communicated through the e-mail network of the PEB members.			NPD/NPM
Wrap up and closing remarks	<p>Ms. Crawford thanked all the participants and highlighted the efforts made to address the requests of the IP Representative. She also mentioned that all the presentations made will help addressing these issues.</p> <p>In her closing remarks she also stated that the clearance of issues such as account opening etc. will help to fast track the Programme.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 5.15 pm.</p>			Info

Minutes reviewed and approved.



 Mr. B.M.U.D. Basnayake
 Secretary, Ministry of Environment
 & Renewable Energy



 Ms. Beth S. Crawford
 FAO Representative for Sri Lanka
 and the Maldives

