



INFORMATION PAPER

Proposal for UN-REDD Governance Arrangements 2016-2020

UN-REDD PROGRAMME
FOURTEENTH POLICY BOARD
MEETING

20-22 May 2015

Washington, D.C, United States

I- Context

The current UN-REDD Programme (2009-2015) only allows allocation of new funds up to 31st December 2015. To receive new donor funding, the UN-REDD Programme requires the following:

- a new **strategic framework** (2016-2020), setting the Theory of Change, priorities and key approaches;
- a set of **governance arrangements**, revised and tailored to the new strategic framework, and
- A new **Agreement** between the donors and the MPTF, on the basis of the two above elements and an MoU between MPTF and the UN-REDD agencies.

The proposed design of the new governance arrangements of UN-REDD is based on the following contributions:

- recommendations from the review of the Policy Board (2013) and the external evaluation of UN-REDD (2014);
- lessons learnt in 2011-2015, including feedback from UN-REDD stakeholders;
- consultation with Policy Board members (on the basis of a paper circulated on 13th March 2015);
- discussions during a UN-REDD governance expert meeting (held in Geneva, 24th April 2015);
- general considerations of institutional design and reform, including best practices, and guidance from the UN Development Group (UNDG) and the MPTF (which is the UN-REDD administrative agent); and

II- Proposed UN-REDD governance arrangements for 2016-2020

A 3-tier governance arrangement is proposed:

- A broad **Policy Board**, focusing on strategic functions (monitoring progress towards the Programme's strategic framework), with roles in international coordination/dialogue and knowledge-management;
- A small **Executive Board**, to improve efficiency of operational decisions;
- Multi-stakeholder **national steering committees**, systematically created for every national programme, to guide and oversee implementation at the national level.

Participation of each of the core stakeholders of the UN-REDD Programme is envisaged in all 3 levels of governance. The following table below outlines the key features of the proposed governance arrangement.

Proposed UN-REDD Programme Governance Arrangements – At a Glance

	National Steering Committees	Executive Board	Policy Board
Key Role	Oversee programme implementation Ensure alignment with national priorities	Fund Allocation Programme Operation	Strategic guidance Knowledge exchange
Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approving annual work plans and budgets • approve progress and financial reports, • commission external evaluations, • approve minor budget revisions and no-cost extensions • Ensure the application of the UN-REDD technical guidance <p><i>In addition, for national-level earmarked funds:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve programme design (description of outcomes and outputs) and budget allocation – and any revisions thereof 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve UN-REDD 2016-20 results framework • approve annual UN-REDD Programme consolidated report • quality assurance and oversight • define criteria for eligibility and prioritization of countries to guide the allocation of funds • Approve country budgets at outcome level and any substantive budget revisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend issues for UN-REDD consideration and seek inputs from all UN-REDD partners • Review UN-REDD progress and consistency with Strategic Framework • Exchange lessons, identify challenges and share REDD+ practices • Enhance collaboration with FCPF and other initiatives • Discuss developments from the international REDD+ landscape and potential impacts to the Programme
Composition	<p>At least one representative from each:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government • CSO (self-selected), • Indigenous Peoples (self-selected), • UN country rep. • UN-REDD lead advisor (technical quality assurance) <p>in addition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donors may participate • Other relevant stakeholders may be invited 	<p>Representatives from all constituencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner Countries • UN agencies • Donors • CSO and IPs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • broad and inclusive as per current PB composition
Size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As needed • National level decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small and executive • Should have size and capacity for frequent meetings and online communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad and inclusive as per current PB • Other partners and UN-REDD constituents welcome on self-funding basis • Open to observers
Meeting Arrangements	As needed, at least once a year	As needed, at least one face to face meeting a year	Once a year, back to back with FCPF PA
Facilitated by	National PMU and facilitating UN country office	UN-REDD Secretariat	UN-REDD Secretariat