



Proposals on modalities of stakeholder participation of the REDD+ Partnership

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July 25, 2010

1. Firstly, we refer to the agreed and committed text of the REDD+ Interim Partnership Agreement signed in Oslo on the 27th of May that discloses the need to respect the principle of inclusiveness and the need to full and effective participation of civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities. In order to fulfill these commitments, we propose the following modalities of stakeholder participation to the Partnership:

2. The Partnership is expected to have at least the same level of participation than the REDD+ multilateral initiatives already established. This means participation of stakeholders as effective Partners, not just observers, having right of voice and vote, given as an example our participation in the UNREDD Policy Board. As emphasized by Global Witness and Rainforest Foundation's on their proposal², "trust-building and representation of all interests are essential for REDD+ to succeed. The full and effective engagement of all relevant stakeholders in decision-making concerning design, planning and implementation, i.e. through inclusive representation and voting rights, will help to ensure this. This should apply equally to international as well as national REDD+ institutions. Currently, the only international REDD+ institution with voting rights for non-state stakeholders is the UN-REDD Policy Board". In fact, according to the UNREDD's rules, civil society and Indigenous People acquired membership on the Policy Board by a self selection process in which civil society voted for their representatives according to geographic balance. IPAM was elected as the Latin America and Caribbean civil society representative during a two months process. We receive the agenda for input well in advance and we have the right of voice and vote through our one full member spokesperson that rotates among ourselves. In addition, other members of civil society have an important role on as the UNREDD's Policy Body advisory group. FIP and FCPF also have their official ways of giving civil society and IP official mandates to participate. Also, the Amazon Fund's Guiding Committee used the self selection process to elect a full member civil society organization. Moreover, the Guiding Committee accepts any interested stakeholders as observers.

3. REDD+ Partnership meetings should assure a transparent multiple and inclusive modality of stakeholder participation in all the processes of the Partnership, since the development of agendas until the decision-making.

4. The Partnership should assure the participation of diverse representative members of different relevant stakeholder category, such as indigenous people, local communities, civil society organizations and private sector, including those not registered as UNFCCC constituent

¹ IPAM is a Brazilian no governmental institution, founded in 1995, with the mission of contributing to the process of development of the Amazon that fulfills the social and economic aspirations of its population.

² Proposal on Modalities for Stakeholder Participation in the REDD+ Partnership submitted on July 23, 2010

groups. Four representatives of each of these stakeholder categories should be elected as observers of the Partnership through a self selection process according to the four geographic area (one member elected for Latin America & Caribbean, one for Africa, one for Asia & Pacific and one for Developed Countries). One representative of each of stakeholder category should hold Partner status. Elected representatives should coordinate among their selves who will hold the full member Partner status to act in each meeting and determine the period of rotation. The UNFCCC is the forum with the least participation among the UN forums. Registration takes more than 1 year and by then the Partnership will be over.

5. The governance structure of Brazil's Amazon Fund is another possible model, if adapted to an international REDD+ initiative. Its Guidance Committee (COFA) consists of three membership constituencies; federal government, state governments and civil society³. The civil society group includes representatives of indigenous peoples, NGOs, labour unions, the research community and the private sector. Each constituency has one vote with respect to committee decisions, and each member has one vote within their constituency.

6. Stakeholder's representatives from developing countries and indigenous people should be financed to attend to the meetings.

7. In order to assure principles of transparency and legitimacy, all REDD+ Partnership meetings, without exceptions, should be public and open to observers, who should be present during the entire event, as well as to distant observers, through webcast technology.

8. In line with the submission made by Woods Hole Research Center, together with other organizations³, with the purpose of facilitating Stakeholders participation, there should be public access and clear deadlines to the following information on the Partnership that should be available in a website:

- a. Announcement of meetings no less than four weeks in advance of the meeting
- b. Meeting agendas no less than three weeks in advance of the meeting
- c. List of meeting participants no less than two weeks after the meeting
- d. Meeting summary no less than three weeks after the meeting
- e. Documents open for public comments no less than four weeks in advance of the end of the comment period
- f. Comments by both countries and civil society should be posted on the website and their incorporation into the final document should be transparently communicated."

³ Proposal for participation in the REDD+ partnership Submitted on behalf of Conservation International, Environmental Defense Fund, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Rainforest Alliance, Union of Concerned Scientists, Wildlife Conservation Society and Woods Hole Research Center on the 13th July, 2010.