

SUBMISSION BY DENMARK AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

This submission is supported by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Copenhagen, 8 March 2012

Subject: Submission on enhanced action on mitigation, policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (AWG-LCA)

Context

In relation to REDD+, Decision XX/CP.17 (Outcome of the work of the AWGLCA) invited submissions from Parties and accredited observers on *views on modalities and procedures for financing results-based actions and considering activities related to decision I/C.P.16, paragraphs 68, 69, 70 and 72*. The EU wishes to take this opportunity to set out its vision for a decision at COP18 on this matter. Such a decision should give guidance to foster financing for results-based actions. The AWGDP should address the role of REDD+ in the broader post-2020 arrangements

General remarks

As part of the overall scaling up of international support, all Parties should seek to mobilise adequate and predictable funding to support results-based REDD+ actions, with the aim of:

1. Slowing, halting and sustainably reversing global forest cover and carbon loss¹, in order to achieve long-lasting and credible GHG emission reductions, consistent with the 2°C objective;
2. Preserving and enhancing other benefits of forests such as poverty alleviation, biodiversity, restoration and resilience of forests ecosystems and the services they provide, recognizing the linkages between adaptation and mitigation, in line with international commitments and objectives;
3. Enabling broad participation of developing countries resulting in a wide coverage of forests to avoid international carbon emission displacement;
4. Anticipating and encouraging further movement towards sustainable land use and resource consumption patterns as a basis for food, water and energy security, raw material supply and rural income and in the context of low emission development strategies.

¹ Including the enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

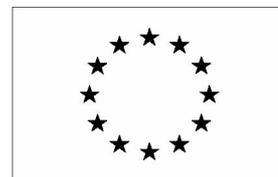


REDD+ activities and actions should also address drivers of deforestation and degradation across sectors and focus on land and resource governance. Modalities and procedures for financing results-based actions should guide the effective and efficient design and implementation of national forest related policies and use of financing informed by the principles of aid effectiveness. Experiences from sectoral policy changes in developing countries, the synthesis of evolving modalities and procedures of multilateral and bilateral REDD+ initiatives, lessons learned from voluntary carbon markets, and demonstration activities should inform the process of designing REDD+ results-based actions.

Indicative content of a possible decision.

In the EU view, the decision should elaborate on the following elements:

- A quantifiable baseline for the provision of finance for results-based actions and how those baselines differ from forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels, ensuring environmental integrity.
- Operational definitions building on existing definitions as far as possible.
- Participation requirements for results-based financing
 - A description of the contribution of REDD+ activities to Nationally Appropriate Mitigations Actions;
 - A national REDD+ strategy or action plan is in place in accordance with paragraph 72 of Decision 1/CP.16 and links to relevant policies and programmes such as national forest programmes, FLEGT systems etc.;
 - A national forest monitoring system in accordance with the guidance by the COP, is in place;
 - Forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels are independently assessed, according to guidance by the COP, and are adopted by the COP;
 - Anthropogenic forest related emissions and removals are fully measured, reported and independently verified;
 - A system for providing information on how safeguards are addressed and respected is in place;
 - A summary of the information on how all safeguards are addressed and respected is provided as part of the National Communications and biennial update reports;
 - An agreed scope, methodology and quantifiable baseline for the provision of finance for results-based actions;
 - Fiduciary and institutional arrangements.
- An encouragement to the operating entities of the financial mechanism of the Convention and to other public and private organisations and institutions, to apply these modalities and procedures while providing REDD+ results-based finance.



- An invitation to the private sector to help addressing the drivers of deforestation and degradation.
- Indicative guidance for results-based demonstration activities in accordance with the annex to decision 2/CP.13 and with decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 73