



BRIEFING PAPER

The Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP)

2-6 August 2010, Bonn

FIELD has prepared this briefing paper to assist developing country negotiators who are working on REDD-plus. It is available in English, and will be available soon in French and Spanish, at <http://www.field.org.uk/work-areas/climate-change-and-energy/climate-change/redd>.

FIELD provides this information on a neutral, non partisan basis. FIELD would welcome feedback on the briefing paper.

Introduction

Firstly this short briefing paper considers recent REDD-plus negotiations. It then highlights key issues coming up at the next UNFCCC negotiating sessions in August in Bonn, Germany, where the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) will be meeting.

As noted in previous briefing papers REDD-plus is considered in the AWG-LCA, but the negotiations on REDD-plus have implications for the negotiations in the AWG-KP and vice versa. REDD-plus related issues often arise under several agenda items.

Recent REDD-plus negotiations

The REDD-plus negotiations progressed better than negotiations on many other issues in the preparations for the UN Copenhagen Climate Change Conference. The AWG-LCA and AWG-KP have met twice since Copenhagen, in April and in June 2010, on both occasions in Bonn.

The AWG-LCA has had limited time to consider REDD-plus since Copenhagen. At the June meetings Parties highlighted funding-related issues, such as including a REDD-plus window in a new climate fund that might be established under the UNFCCC, and

includes sub-national strategies; reference emission levels and reference levels; and measuring, reporting and verifying support by developed countries.

REDD-plus is also mentioned in Chapter 1.D of the text (paragraph 60) on page 14, in connection with a reference to a new fund that would support activities including REDD-plus. In Chapter III on 'enhanced action on the provision of financial resources and investment', which starts on page 23, substantial finance to REDD plus is mentioned in paragraph 2 and forestry referred to in paragraph 5. Paragraph 9 refers again to a new fund and REDD-plus.

Chapter IX on page 45 addresses 'cooperative sectoral approaches and sector-specific actions in agriculture', which is relevant to REDD-plus. For example, the text includes a proposed request to SBSTA to establish a work programme on agriculture.

The AWG-LCA annotated provisional agenda is available at http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/3594.php?rec=j&priority=600005897#beg

The AWG-LCA Chair's scenario note is available at http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/3594.php?rec=j&priority=600005898#beg

The Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol in August

The AWG-KP's main agenda item is to agree new emissions reduction commitments for Annex I countries. This includes considering what contribution the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and other mechanisms may make to achieving such targets in the future. One question will be to what extent Annex I countries might be able to rely on REDD-plus to reach their targets.

One of the priority issues on the AWG-KP's agenda in August will be land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF). The AWG-KP needs to agree new rules for how Annex I countries can treat LULUCF in the future. The new rules may have a great influence on what other actions Annex I countries will need to take to reach their targets.

At the AWG-KP session in June the member states of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) argued that many requests are made to developing countries in the REDD-plus debate, while developed countries are introducing more and more flexibility for themselves in the LULUCF debate. For example, the COMIFAC countries noted that a developed country is allowed to replace an existing forest with a plantation under current rules, while the REDD safeguards would not allow a developing country to do so.

The AWG-KP annotated provisional agenda is available at http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/3594.php?rec=j&priority=600005912#beg

The AWG-KP Chair's scenario note is available at
http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/3594.php?rec=j&prir ef=600005914#beg

Other AWG-KP documents are available at
http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/4577.php

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