

Summary report of UN-REDD 3rd Policy Board Meeting, 29-30 October, 2009

Global Witness

11 January 2009

Overview

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Epiménides Díaz, Sub-Administrator General, National Environmental Authority (ANAM), Panama, and Mr. Olav Kjørven, Assistant Secretary General, UNDP. The meeting was divided into 6 sessions over one and a half days, with the chairs alternating between sessions starting with Mr. Kjørven. Brief updates were given on the UN high-level event on REDD, the FCPF, UNFCCC negotiations, the UN-REDD Global Programme, and UN-REDD organizational and procedural issues. The Global Programme is making progress, both on MRV, in defining the need for monitoring beyond carbon in addition to providing support on 'carbon monitoring', and on the development of a recourse procedure for complaints, preliminary recommendations for which were presented. Five countries expressed interest in joining UN-REDD and were accepted with observer status. Progress reports on REDD activities were given by all nine UN-REDD pilot countries and the five observer countries, and the Panama National Programme was approved by the Policy Board. The updates from pilot countries were generally brief and lacked detail (an issue raised by UNFPPII, supported by the Northern CSO rep), and substantive discussion was curtailed by the limited time allotted to them with the exception of Panama. It was agreed that Panama had made significant progress since the last Policy Board meeting in addressing issues that were raised at that time. Generally, however, we are concerned about the lack of transparency and clarity about how decisions to allocate funds and sign grant agreements are being made. We raised this point several times and the Secretariat noted its plans to prepare guidance notes to clarify the process. Nonetheless, funds have been allocated in six of the nine pilot countries already and grants signed for four of them, with grants for PNG and Panama expected to be signed soon, pending a final review process that is not transparent. The Panama grant will be signed once the Secretariat and UN agencies are satisfied that a few final concerns, raised by the PB, independent expert, and the Secretariat, are addressed. Compared with the FCPF, the disbursal of funds to UN-REDD countries has been accompanied by fewer review steps according to a less well-defined set of criteria for assessment and with less opportunity for an iterative process of feedback and improvement of National Programmes. It would be helpful for the Secretariat to document the process by which the National Programmes have been approved so far - what issues were raised during the review process, at what points, by whom, how the issues were addressed, and on what basis decisions

Abbreviations

CSO - Civil society organization	NGO - Non-governmental organization
DRC - Democratic Republic of the Congo	NJP - National Joint Programme (UN-REDD)
FAO - United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization	PB - Policy Board (UN-REDD)
FCPF - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (World Bank)	PC - Participants Committee (FCPF)
FLEGT - Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (EU)	PNG - Papua New Guinea
FMT - Facility Management Team (FCPF)	R-PP - Readiness Preparation Proposal (FCPF)
FPIC - Free, prior and informed consent	UNDP - United Nations Development Program
HACT - Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers	UNEP - United Nations Environment Program
JPD - Joint Programme Document (UN-REDD)	UNFCCC - United Nations Framework Convention Climate Change
LAC - Latin America and the Caribbean	UNFPPII - United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
MDTF - Multi-donor trust fund	VPA - Voluntary Partnership Agreement (FLEGT)
MRV - Measurement, reporting and verification	

to approve National Programmes were made. This could help inform the process going forward and improve transparency.

All presentations and documents from the meeting are now available on the UN-REDD public website at: <http://www.un-redd.org/PolicyBoard/3rdPolicyBoard/tabid/2151/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

Decisions and major developments

Five additional countries were approved to join the UN-REDD program with observer status.

Argentina, Cambodia, Ecuador, Nepal and Sri Lanka were approved to join UN-REDD with observer status.

The allocation of funds for Panama's NJP was approved. A grant agreement will be signed once Panama has addressed a few issues that were raised by members of the Policy Board and the Secretariat.

Denmark announced that it will contribute \$2 million to UN-REDD. It will thus be a full member of the PB at the next meeting.¹

Participants

Policy Board members

Pilot countries: Bolivia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Panama, Paraguay, Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia

Other members: Norway (donor), FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UNPFII (IP observer), Global Witness (CSO)²

Observers

IP observers: Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, UNPFII (PB member); Ms. Mina Susana Setra, AMAN (Asia – Pacific); Mr. Elifuraha Laltaika, CORDS (Africa); Mr. Diego Escobar Guzman, COICA (LAC)

CSO observers: Dr. Rosalind Reeve, Global Witness (Northern/Developed country); Ms. Effrey Dademo, PNG Eco-forestry Forum (Asia – Pacific); Mr. Pacifique Mukumba Isumbisho, Centre d'Accompagnement des Autochtones Pygmées et Minoritaires Vulnérables (CAMV, Support Center for Indigenous Pygmies and Vulnerable Minorities) (Africa); Ms. Paula Moreira, Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia (IPAM, Amazon Environmental Research Institute) (LAC)

Other observers: Germany, Cambodia, Australia, Argentina, Ecuador, IUCN, Sri Lanka, Japan, Nepal, Denmark, Sweden, MDTF, UNFF, IUCN, the Advisory Group on Forests, Rights and Climate, and the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

¹ Spain recently announced its intention to contribute roughly \$22.5 million to UN-REDD. A presentation by Tim Clairs on December 13 at Forest Day in Copenhagen stated that total funding given or promised to date is \$106 million, which includes additional funding from Norway.

² The CSO representatives agreed among themselves to rotate membership on the Policy Board for each meeting. Global Witness was chosen to be the CSO Policy Board member for this meeting. If the next meeting is held in Central Africa as planned, the African CSO representative, CAMV, will be the Policy Board member.

Session I - Opening

Newly elected CSO observers were introduced.

Session II - Sharing information and experience

Update from the Secretariat (Mr. Yemi Katerere, Head of the UN-REDD Secretariat)

The Secretariat gave a brief overview of the activities of the National and Global Programmes. The UN-REDD, FCPF and FIP had a meeting at the end of September and agreed to adopt a joint readiness framework (see the UN-REDD document “Harmonization of Readiness Components”), continue joint missions, and identify common counterparts in countries of overlap. A new UN-REDD Programme strategy will be developed taking into account COP15 outcomes before the next PB meeting and presented at the meeting. An outline of the strategy will be developed and circulated to the PB for comment.

Update on UN General Assembly high-level event on REDD (Mr. Charles McNeill, UNDP)

Mr. McNeill gave a presentation about the event, held on September 23 in New York. A webcast of the event is available on the UN-REDD website.

Update from the FCPF (Mr. Werner Kornexl and Mr. Benoit Bosquet, FCPF FMT)

On the first day, Mr. Kornexl gave a brief summary of the FCPF 2nd Participants Assembly and 4th Participants Committee (PC4) meetings. In addition to a general synopsis of the topics of discussion at PC4, he mentioned discussions around harmonizing the operational guidelines on consultations and collaboration with UN-REDD on other issues such as MRV. The Northern CSO rep noted that a decision on disclosure, initiated by civil society, had been accepted, which will lead to more transparency in the release of R-PPs and their accessibility at country level. On the second day, Mr. Bosquet described the decision by the FCPF Participants Committee to form a working group to look at options for collaboration between the FCPF and UN-REDD, as well as with regional development banks. The working group will include representatives from the PC (members and observers), the World Bank, the regional development banks, and UN agencies, and will report its findings at the next PC meeting. The decision calls for the FCPF FMT to draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the working group. The Northern CSO rep pointed out the concern, expressed by some members of the PC during the FCPF meeting, that where high standards have been developed, these should be maintained. Charles McNeill suggested that the working group should also report its findings to the Policy Board and Yemi Katerere further suggested that a joint ToR should be drafted by the PB and FMT to strengthen the outcomes of the working group. The process of harmonization between the FCPF and UN-REDD of consultations and stakeholder engagement was described in detail by Charles McNeill on Day 2 (see below).

Session III - Admitting new countries into the UN-REDD Programme

Argentina, Cambodia, Ecuador, Nepal and Sri Lanka were approved to join UN-REDD with observer status since there were not sufficient funds at the time of the meeting for them to receive funding from UN-REDD. Calls were made by some PB members for efforts to recruit additional donors. Argentina noted that while there could be some issues of overlap with the FCPF, it was better to have both approaches. Cambodia acknowledged problems with illegal logging, but that they were working towards local community development and want to see a strong MRV system. It was agreed to consider future requests to join UN-REDD intersessionally to save time in meetings.

Session IV - Updates on National Programmes

Overview of National Programmes (Mr. Tim Clairs, UNDP)

Tim gave a timeframe for the preparation of National Programmes, the signing of grant agreements, and the inception process (see the diagram and chart below). He emphasized that stakeholder engagement would be ongoing through all steps. The Secretariat is preparing a policy on disclosure to make it clear when and how information will be available, and a guidance note on the inception process. Tim described the various assurance mechanisms in the UN-REDD system as evidence that the process is not moving too fast, including the UN-REDD Operational Guidance, the UN's 'rights-based approach' to development, the UN Development Group's Guidance Note on Environmental Sustainability, the UN's Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT), the 'learning by doing' approach and harmonization with FCPF components. The Northern CSO rep welcomed the formulation of a disclosure policy and urged public disclosure of Joint Programme Documents (JPDs) prior to approval by the PB since there had been limited public discussion of the programmes before consideration by the PB.³ She asked for more clarity on the status of funds disbursement and on the criteria for approval of NJPs, noting significant variation in the content and scope of JPDs. Mr. Clairs responded that an information note on the approval process will be prepared and presented to the PB, and noted that Panama's document had been posted beforehand, setting a standard. Ms. Mari Matsumoto of the Multi-Donor Trust Fund noted that the MDTF website is being up-dated monthly and announced that it would soon have a portal with daily updates on the status of funds disbursement, available at: <http://www.undp.org/mdtf/UN-REDD/> (the link is on the left side of the webpage under "Projects" - as of January 10 there were no updates on disbursement of funds).

National Programme updates from pilot countries:

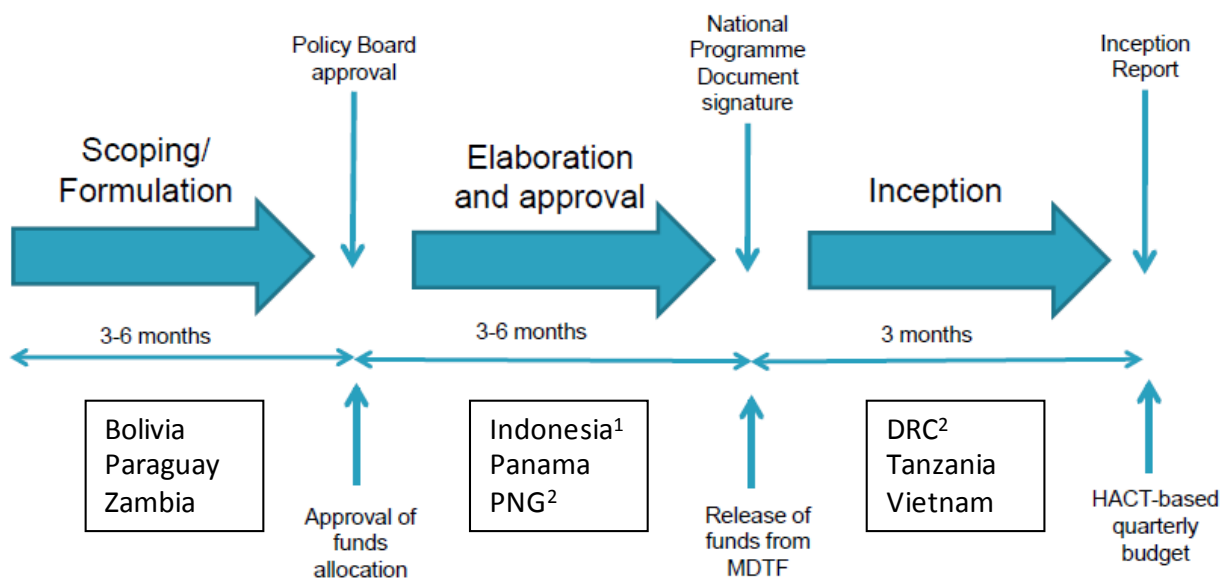
The nine pilot countries gave short presentations about their activities since the last PB meeting and their plans leading up to COP15 and beyond. All powerpoint presentations are available on the UN-REDD website at the address given earlier in this report, in English unless otherwise noted (PNG, Argentina and Nepal did not give powerpoints).

DRC (Mr. Leon Kanu Mbizi, national REDD Coordinator; powerpoint in French)

The UN is heavily involved in DRC, which is working with various partners on REDD readiness activities such as analyzing drivers, designing an MRV system and reference scenario, organizing stakeholder consultations. A National REDD Committee has been formed that contains CSO and IP representatives. A workshop on a reference scenario will be held in November, another on MRV is planned for January. The first draft of the R-PP will be presented in January. McKinsey has been commissioned to do a report on REDD prior to Copenhagen. CSO reps asked about how DRC was going to monitor governance and engage with IPs and whether DRC would establish a system for independent monitoring of REDD. The Africa CSO commented that an MRV framework should incorporate indigenous or traditional knowledge systems and not rely on satellite imagery. Mr. Mbizi stated that DRC does not have a monitoring system for its forest, and that once established it will be used for the entire spectrum of forest management. He cited the review of industrial logging concessions as an example of improvements in forest sector governance in his country. In a later intervention, the Northern CSO rep responded that the concession review process had serious flaws, citing a statement released by NGOs in March, and could not be offered as evidence that forest governance was not a problem in DRC. (Note that a new document

³ See Daviet, F., Davis, C., Goers, L. and Nakhooda, S, *Ready or Not? A Review of UN-REDD Joint Program Documents*. WRI Working Paper, World Resources Institute, Washington DC, October 2009. Online <http://www.wri.org/gfi>

The diagram below shows the decision points and a rough timeframe for the process of approval and disbursement of UN-REDD grants. The chart describes the actions, outputs, reviewing bodies, and disclosure of information during the three stages of the grant disbursement process.



	Scoping/Formulation	Elaboration & Approval	Inception
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder engagement Analysis & information collection Coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder engagement Implementation arrangements HACT assessment Risk analysis National approval process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder engagement Recruitment Programme establishment HACT assessment Detailed workplanning
Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission reports Validation meeting minutes Draft NP with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Situation Analysis Results Framework Budget allocation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission reports Stakeholder meeting reports Final NP with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplan Fund management arrangements Monitoring framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission reports Inception report HACT reports Quarterly workplan
Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Agencies technical experts UN-REDD Secretariat Independent technical expert Policy Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Agencies technical experts UN-REDD Secretariat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Agencies technical experts
Disclosure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission reports on website Validation minutes & Draft NP circulated to PB 10 working days in advance, then on website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission reports on website Signed NP on website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission reports on website Inception report on website

The figures above were taken from a presentation by Tim Clairs, UNDP, available as Presentation 3 (“National Program Update”) at: <http://www.un-redd.org/PolicyBoard/3rdPolicyBoard/tabid/2151/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

¹The Indonesia National Programme was signed on November 23, 2009.

²Note that the initial programmes approved for PNG and DRC are not full National Programmes and did not require review by an independent technical expert prior to approval by the Policy Board.

“Engaging Civil Society in REDD – Best Practice in the Democratic Republic of Congo” is now available on the DRC page of the UN-REDD website.)

Tanzania (Dr. Felician Kilahama, Director, Forest and Beekeeping Division)

Tanzania held multi-stakeholder consultations in July to address PB comments and finalize its NJP. The duration of the NJP has been extended to two years. The programme was recently signed off on by the Government and UN-REDD in October and an inception meeting is planned for Nov along with a joint FCPF/UN-REDD meeting. Supported by the Government of Norway, some NGOs are piloting REDD activities on the ground. The -Africa IP rep questioned why the National REDD Taskforce contained only government representation so far in a country that has active civil society and IP organizations and whether rushing the consultations was a good idea. Dr. Kilahama said that CSOs (NGOs, academia and the private sector) would be included on the Taskforce soon and that they understand the need to broaden consultations. The Northern CSO rep pointed out that consultations take time and that the VPA/FLEGT consultations in Ghana took some years, stressing the importance of inclusiveness in engaging stakeholders. FAO noted that with respect to both DRC and Tanzania MRV is a priority for the national programmes, that needs will evolve (e.g. in relation to drivers) and that there will be a need for MRV of governance aspects.

Indonesia (Mr. Agus Sarsito, Director, Bureau of International Cooperation, Ministry of Forestry)

Indonesia is transitioning to a new government after recent elections. A final draft of the NJP was endorsed by the Ministry of Forestry and went to Bappenas (National Planning Authority) for review on Oct. 1. A review of legal frameworks will be carried out in November by the GoI, IAFCP (Indonesia-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership) and UN-REDD - preliminary results will be ready before COP15. The IP rep asked about results of consultations with IPs.

PNG (Mr. Gunther Joku, Policy Advisor, DEC; Ms. Frederica Bietta, Senior Advisor, Office of Climate Change)

It was agreed intersessionally (between PB2 and PB3) to earmark funds amounting to \$3.8 million to enable PNG to develop a full NJP. These funds are in addition to the \$2.6 million for the initial programme that was approved at PB1 but has not yet been signed off on and disbursed. PNG expressed its intention to pursue this initial national programme. The government is preparing a report in advance of COP15 involving various ministries, and addressing, in particular, drivers of deforestation and degradation, economic implications and benefits sharing (using models from the mining and oil sectors); the report will inform the development of PNG's low carbon development strategy. Frederica Bietta added that they haven't moved forward with the FCPF or UN-REDD while the prime minister focuses on developing a LCDS. After Copenhagen they will have a better idea of how to use UN-REDD money. Activities include MRV (the Office of Climate Change with help from FAO and the Brazilian Space Agency), and a national forest inventory (the Forest Authority with help from a university in Australia). Earmarked UN-REDD money has allowed PNG to step aside from receiving FCPF funding. She asked for clarification on process for distribution of MDTF money. Tim Clairs described the macro-assessment of general working conditions in a country (in place for all pilot countries already) and micro-assessment of the entity that will work directly with the MDTF (the OCC in the case of PNG, which is a new office and hasn't been assessed yet). The Asia-Pacific CSO rep questioned the process for earmarking funds intersessionally, pointing out that the initial programme grant has yet to be signed and that there are enough issues to 'write a book about' concerning PNG. She asked what will be done to reassure the Policy Board that the money should be allocated. Mr. Joku responded that the full NJP would be revisited after Copenhagen and after the policy review being carried out by the government was finished. Ms. Bietta said that PNG wanted the earmarked funds so they could decline FCPF money and

free it up for other countries and that the NJP would not be submitted until the time was right. The Northern CSO rep recalled concerns raised at PB2 regarding governance and enforcement and asked how such issues would be addressed if there was no process for iterative feedback and review.

Table: Status of UN-REDD National Programmes

Country	Funding status (millions USD) Initial programme = Quick start			Status	Status of Joint Programme Document (JPD)
	Earmarked	Allocated	Grant Signed		
Bolivia				Formulation mission in Aug, draft NJP will be ready in Nov, submitted to Secretariat in Jan	Draft not yet available
DRC			1.9 for initial NJP	Initial NJP (1 year) approved at PB1, grant signed	Draft (final?) of JPD for initial NJP on website
Indonesia			5.6	Full NJP (18 months) approved at PB1, pending further stakeholder consultations as recommended by the Secretariat and PB, grant signed 23 Nov 2009, , inception workshop will be held in Jan '10	Draft on website
Panama		5.3		Full NJP (3 years) approved at PB3, grant signature pending	Draft posted on website after PB3
Paraguay				Validation meeting in Nov, submit draft NJP in Dec	Draft not available
PNG	3.8		2.6 for initial NJP	Initial NJP (1 year) approved at PB1, grant signature pending, was expected by Dec, full NJP will not be ready before COP15	Draft of JPD for initial NJP on website
Tanzania			4.3	Full NJP (24 months) approved at PB1, grant signed, inception meeting planned for Nov	Draft (final?) on website
Viet Nam			4.4	Full NJP (20 months) approved at PB1, grant signed and disbursed, a national inception workshop was held in Sept	Final version on website
Zambia				Formulation mission in Sept, draft NJP ready before COP15	Draft not available
Total (by Dec)	3.8	5.3	18.8*	*Assuming grant for PNG initial NJP is signed	
UN-REDD Global programme			9.6		
Total allocated / earmarked			37.4		

Viet Nam (Dr. Pham Manh Cuong, REDD Focal Point, Dept of Forestry, MARD)

The JPD was approved by the Prime Minister in July, and has since been signed by UN-REDD. The UN-REDD inception workshop was held September 15-17. A local workshop will be held on November 25-26

in Lam Dong province where a pilot REDD project is planned. A ministerial decision on September 16 established a national REDD network including civil society and international partners that will help with different aspects of design and implementation. A policy workshop on benefits distribution will be held on November 13. There will be a presentation at a side event at COP15 on the benefit distribution system in Viet Nam, chaired by the Prime Minister.

Bolivia (Ms. Doris Villarpando, Programa REDD-PNCC del Viceministerio de medio Ambiente, Biodiversidad y Cambio Climatico; powerpoint in Spanish)

Bolivia is currently only in the process of preparation for implementation. The IP rep commented at the end that it was good to see a country working on how to operationalize IP rights and that the examples from Bolivia could inform other countries or processes. However, the LAC IP rep, who just returned from an IP workshop in Bolivia, found that there was still a lack of understanding about REDD amongst the IPs there.

Paraguay (Mr. Miguel Lovera, Asesor del Gabinete Ministerial, Secretaria del Ambiente)

Paraguay recently had elections and the new government decided to work with the NJP begun by the old government despite some serious problems. They are working to improve the consultation elements, especially with regards to IPs. The validation meeting will be held in Nov and the draft JPD will be submitted to UN-REDD in December.

Panama (Mr. Adrian Benedetti, REDD Coordinator, ANAM)

The new government took office in July. A joint meeting with the FCPF and UN-REDD was held and a national stakeholder meeting in September at which it was agreed that IPs would be actively involved in revising the JPD and in a National REDD committee. The presentation described how this was done in close coordination with COONAPIP culminating in a validation meeting on October 13 that was apparently acceptable to all. The two areas that the NJP will address are 1) governance and institution building and 2) MRV. The Secretariat described how Panama had, since the previous meeting, addressed the principle issues raised by the Secretariat, PB and independent technical expert. Issues that need to be addressed before the grant is signed are: coordination between the FCPF and UN-REDD processes, for example FCPF due diligence and NJP elaboration, better assessment of the drivers of deforestation, and better elaboration of how the NJP will link in with national development policies. The LAC IP rep agreed with PNG that Panama needs funding to move forward, but pointed out that IPs still need to decide in their own assemblies whether they want to join REDD – COONAPIP cannot replace the IP processes of decision making. Norway asked what steps Panama would take to understand and deal with drivers of deforestation, how the analysis of the R-PP was being considered, how links to national development would be addressed as pointed out by the Secretariat. The Northern CSO rep noted that provisions on MRV appeared limited and pointed out a disconnect between the national programmes and the policies evolving on monitoring in the global programme as well as the FCPF and UNFCCC which acknowledge the need for a broad-based monitoring system. She asked what efforts Panama was taking to include monitoring of social and environmental issues and governance given that the UNFCCC negotiating text now included language on safeguards on these issues; asked who had done the independent expert review, noting that the FCPF has the TAP; and observed that the process for approving NJPs was less transparent than the process developing around R-PPs. Panama explained its plan to address drivers, risk, coordination with FCPF (doesn't want to go through the process twice), and thinks this process presents a good chance to bring governance issues to the table in a way that hasn't been done before. Tim Clairs explained that the FCPF TAP team leader did the independent review of the NJP.

Zambia (Ms. Anna Masinji)

Zambia is carrying out a review of its forest policies and legislation and developing an institutional framework through a consultative process with stakeholders. A national stakeholder engagement workshop was held at the end of September, including civil society and based on UN-REDD's operational guidance. The presentation stressed the need for capacity building and reaching broad consensus on a national REDD strategy. An initial draft of the National Programme document was expected to be finished at the end of October.⁴ The Northern CSO rep raised the topic of illegal logging and asked whether Zambia had considered involving the Lusaka Agreement Task Force since they are a party to the Lusaka Agreement.⁵ FAO pointed out that Zambia was doing well to build on what it already had in terms of monitoring rather than starting from scratch. Benoit Bosque of the FCPF asked whether Zambia was planning to build on its experience in community development such as the Zambia Social Investment Fund. Ms. Masinji said they have been considering how to address illegal logging, and are working closely with communities in designing strategies for benefit sharing.

Observer country updates:

Argentina (Mr. Leandro Carlos Fernandez, REDD National Focal Point)

A new forest law was concluded in 2008 but is still in the process of being implemented. Argentina has a federal system, so states will choose how to approach REDD but federal government can provide them with incentives. There are three categories of activities in the new forest law: conservation, management, and conversion. Most forest territory is in private hands. The land tenure system is generally good but cases where tenure is not clearly established will need to be a focus of REDD. Other focuses will be on a governance system and how to distribute REDD funds.

Cambodia (Mr. Omaliss Keo, REDD Focal Point, Forest Administration)

The Forest Administration will be the REDD authority. A national REDD working group was designated in October 2008 and Cambodia joined the FCPF in March of 2009. The government has decided that at least 50% of the revenues from REDD will go to local communities. The country has had trouble with logging concessions in the past. They want strong MRV and consider forest law enforcement and governance (FLEG) important. The country has two pilot REDD projects, one of 60,000 ha which involves community forestry and one of 180,000 ha where there are many IPs. Since Cambodia is not among the 20 priority countries to receive FCPF funds it will be a long time before they receive money for starting. He thanked Denmark and Danida for providing support. The Northern CSO rep commented that Global Witness had a history of engagement in Cambodia and that relations were not always easy, but that the move to join UN-REDD was welcome, as were remarks concerning strong MRV and the need for FLEG.

Ecuador (Mr. Marco A. Chiu, Special Advisor)

Ecuador described its Sociobosque programme, which incorporates a constitutional mandate to protect biodiversity and mitigate climate change, and how it would be integrated with REDD pilot projects. They see REDD generating revenues that can help support Sociobosque. They are currently developing social and environmental standards with CCBA. In Ecuador there are two REDD scenarios, those in Sociobosque and those outside. For areas outside Sociobosque, REDD will require working with other

⁴ The UN-REDD internal website states that a draft JPD was ready in November and validated during a mission at the beginning of December - the JPD is not yet available on the website.

⁵ The Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora established an inter-governmental task force which is based in Nairobi, Kenya, and investigates illegal trade in timber from Africa as well as wildlife.

stakeholders. Ecuador will use domestic funds to support the REDD process, and are waiting to see what REDD looks like after COP15 before engaging in discussions with IPs. They plan to really move on REDD in 2010.

Sri Lanka (Mr. Anura Sathurusinghe, Forest Department)

The country has 30% natural forest cover and high biodiversity, but 30-40% of the forests are considered degraded. Most of the forest is on state land (90%). There's a lack of information about forests. Sri Lanka has plans to assess the state of its forests, review existing policies and legislation, design a monitoring system, and use a multi-stakeholder approach to the REDD process.

Session V - Next steps in UN-REDD programme

Update on Engagement with IPs and CSOs (Mr. Charles McNeill, UNDP)

Charles presented updates on harmonization with FCPF on stakeholder guidelines, a recourse mechanism (for complaints), and implementing Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), followed by a short presentation from the Advisory Group on Rights, Forests and Climate Change (formerly called the Civil Society Advisory Group).

Harmonization of stakeholder engagement guidelines:

- It was agreed to begin a harmonization process between UN-REDD and the FCPF after the 1st Policy Board meeting in Panama, maintaining the higher standards of the two processes where they overlap, to produce a shared and streamlined consultation process for the two programmes.
- Guideline documents from the FCPF and UN-REDD are being combined to produce the "Harmonized Guidance on Stakeholder Engagement".
- There has been no change in the primary elements of the UN-REDD Guidelines for NJPs as a result of harmonization, including validation, a recourse mechanism, transparency and disclosure.
- Elements that remain distinct include the World Bank's Operational Policy 4.10, UNDRIP, the Guidelines for R-PPs and UN-REDD National Programs, and the WB's SESA.
- Examples of progress with stakeholder engagement were given from DRC and Panama.

Recourse mechanism:

- Currently complaints are submitted to the Secretariat and UN Resident Coordinator and reviewed by the PB for decision.
- CIEL is advising on alternatives, either using existing mechanisms or creating a new one - UN-REDD will consider CIEL's recommendations and present options at the next PB meeting.
- Some CIEL recommendations (not public) include: add reference to existing national obligations and conflict resolution mechanisms in National Program Documents; create a mechanism within UN-REDD to do fact-finding, offer mediation, refer complaints to experts, and consider complaints before forwarding to PB chairs; indicators for compliance.
- The northern NGO rep noted there should be a link with the MRV / monitoring system and proposed incorporating the indicators for compliance into the MRV process.
- The FCPF expressed interest in the recourse mechanism, noting that the FCPF already has a recourse mechanism, the Inspection Panel of the World Bank. Charles agreed to collaborate on recourse work.

FPIC:

- UN-REDD is engaging Professor James Naya, UN Special Rapporteur to help answer questions about how FPIC should apply in the REDD process, eg. at what level should it apply (project,

province, national, global) and when (at inception, to whole programme, to specific activities or components).

- CIEL is helping with analysis of practical application of FPIC.
- Charles presented a series of "practical steps for documenting FPIC".
- Outcomes of consultation with AMAN, AIPP, and Tebtebba Foundation, co-hosted by UNDP on 1 Oct 2009, were described.

Update from the Independent Advisory Group on Forests, Rights and Climate Change (Ms. Jutta Kill, FERN)

The name was changed from the Civil Society Advisory Group so as not to be confused with the civil society observers to the Policy Board, now that they have been selected. Current members of the Advisory Group include: Rights and Resources Institute, World Resources Institute, FERN, Rainforest Foundation Norway, Tebtebba, Forest People's Program, ACICAFOC (Costa Rica), Civic Response (Ghana), and others. They managed the self-selection process for CSO reps to the PB, and will provide advice on socio-economic aspects of REDD. Co-chairs of the Advisory Group are currently Jutta Kill of FERN and Kyeretwie Opoku of Civic Response Ghana.

Updates on MRV (Dr. Peter Holmgren, FAO) ***and Multiple Benefits*** (Dr. Barney Dickson, UNEP)

Good presentations were given by FAO and UNEP. Both are available on the website. Peter emphasized the need for a broad monitoring system that is robust and transparent and can meet MRV needs beyond carbon to inform policy options. He noted that some traction was finally being gained on this issue. He considered that remote sensing data should be 'free, frequent and useful'. After the presentation, Hans Brattskar of Norway said that they are happy to see new collaborations developing in the area of monitoring, for example those involving Brazil and Global Witness, and that countries are approaching the UN-REDD programme for its expertise on monitoring. Paraguay explained that they are receiving help from Indigenous People to do field work on MRV, gaining advantage from their knowledge. In response, Peter described how they've been working with local people and knowledge systems for a while and will continue to do so on issues like resource utilization, tenure systems and conflict avoidance. Following Barney Dickson's presentation, FAO pointed out the significant overlap between the three themes of the Global Programme (stakeholder engagement, MRV and multiple benefits). The IUCN rep stressed that it was important not to raise expectations about multiple benefits unrealistically, but also not to get away from the basic fact that if REDD saves forests, other benefits will flow from this. The Northern CSO rep pointed out that the negotiating text on MRV in the UNFCCC negotiations⁶ called for a robust and transparent monitoring system but that all the elements addressing 'monitoring beyond carbon' were in square brackets. She appealed to any negotiators in the room to support text that would enable the establishment of a broad monitoring system.

Session VI - Closing

Next meeting:

It was noted that the next FCPF meeting will be in Gabon from 22-26 March 2010. Norway supported holding the next UN-REDD meeting in Africa. DRC was floated as one of three possible countries to host the meeting but practical considerations were raised. (It is possible but not confirmed that the next meeting could be in Nairobi.)

⁶ Negotiating text post-Bangkok and pre-Barcelona.