CDM: Recommendation Form for Small Scale Methodologies (version 01)

(To be used for presenting questions/proposals/amendments to the simplified methodologies for small-scale CDM project activity categories)

Date of SSC WG meeting:	11–14 January 2011, SSC WG 29
Title/Subject (give a small title or specify the subject of your submission, maximum 200 characters):	Clarification on the baseline emissions calculation under AMS-III.AO
Indicative methodology to which your submission relates (refer the items of Appendix B of the Simplified Modalities and Procedures), if applicable.	AMS-III.AO "Methane recovery through controlled anaerobic digestion"
Name of the authors of the query:	Marcelo L. Iezzi Institution: PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) marcelo.iezzi@ar.pwc.com

Summary of the query:

Please use the space below to summarize the query related to SSC methodologies/categories SSC Modalities and Procedures provide recommendation/analysis of the SSC WG.

Original text from PP:

The Arrows Project activity consists in the avoidance of methane production from decay of biomass through a Municipal Solid Waste treatment system. This project activity will be developed in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The project activity will avoid the methane emissions that would have been generated in a landfill where the waste would have been disposed. In the absence of Arrow project, 650 tons/day of Buenos Aires MSW would be disposed in a landfill. The waste treatment system will generate biogas, through an anaerobic digestion, that will be used to generate electricity that will be introduced to the National Grid displacing other generation sources.

In Buenos Aires, Argentina, the current practice of MSW is disposal in landfills. The organization in charge of landfills management is CEAMSE (Coordinación Ecológica Área Metropolitana Sociedad del Estado). Almost all CEAMSE landfills have systems to capture and flare the biogas registered as CDM projects or in process of registration.

In Argentina there is no regulation requiring capture part or all of biogas generated in landfills, so this would have been vented to the atmosphere, in the absence of the CDM. All the landfills that have capture of biogas have been implemented as CDM projects, in fact, all CEAMSE capture projects have been developed as CDM project.

The project proponent seeks clarification regarding the how to calculate baseline emissions using the methodology AMS***.III.AO "Methane recovery through controlled anaerobic digestion".*** The problem is not related with the applicability conditions (as it will be demonstrated in the PDD that it is common practice in the region to dispose off the waste in solid waste disposal site) but with the description of the parameter $BE_{SWDS,y}$, specifically when it is said: "The tool may be used with the factor f=0.0 assuming that no biogas is captured, flared or used" The clarification is required since the landfills where the MSW would have been disposed, have biogas capture and flare, but implemented as CDM project activities.

As specified in the methodology, projects participants should calculate the methane emission of the solid waste disposal site ($BECH_{4,SWDS,y}$) using the *"Tool to determine methane emissions avoided from dumping waste at a solid waste disposal site"*. Project participants would like to know if it is correct to use the tool with the factor "f=0.0", assuming that no methane is captured and flared in the baseline.

Recommendation by the SSC WG:

Please use the space below to provide amendments/change (in your expert view, if necessary).

Please refer to paragraph 34 of the meeting report of the SSC WG 29 <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Panels/ssc_wg>.

Answer to authors of query by the SSC WG:

Please use the space below to provide answer to the authors of the above query.

The small-scale working group of the CDM Executive Board would like to thank the author for the submission.

The SSC WG agreed to clarify that:

- The "Tool to determine methane emissions avoided from disposal of waste at a solid waste disposal site" estimates methane generation adjusted for, using adjustment factor "f", any landfill gas in the baseline that would have been captured and destroyed to comply with relevant regulations or contractual requirements, or to address safety and odor concerns. As this is already accounted for in determining parameter $MD_{reg,y}$ in equation (1) of AMS-III.AO, "f" in the tool shall be assigned a value 0;

- In addition, the landfill site from which the municipal solid waste (MSW) treated in the project is diverted, must be identified, and the parameter $MD_{reg,y}$ for the underlying project must be consistent with the value used in the PDD corresponding to the identified landfill site.

Signed by the Chair, Mr. Peer Stiansen

Date: 14/01/2011

Signed by the Vice-Chair, Mr. Hugh Sealy

Date: 14/01/2011

Information to be completed by the secretariat	
SSC-Submission number	SSC_501
Date when the form was received at UNFCCC secretariat	14 January 2011
Date of transmission to the EB	14 January 2011
Date of posting in the UNFCCC CDM web site	14 January 2011