

SUBMISSION BY NORWAY ON THE EXPERIENCE OF USING THE REVISED UNFCCC REPORTING GUIDELINES ON ANNUAL INVENTORIES FOR PARTIES INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION AND THE UPGRADED CRF REPORTER.

Decision 15/CP.17 adopted the UNFCCC Annex I inventory reporting guidelines and new common reporting format tables for trial use. Norway appreciates the opportunity to submit views on the experience of using these revised guidelines and the upgraded CRF Reporter.

Upgraded CRF Reporter

Norway has to some extent tested the upgraded CRF Reporter, but there were few functionalities to test. We were for instance unable to import a xml file and the software did not produce any CRF tables. Section 2.2 in the user manual (for CRF Reporter v. 1.2.2) reflects that there are many other functionalities that have not yet been implemented.

Some specific comments, observations and questions on the upgraded CRF Reporter:

We note that emissions of precursor gases now should be reported at the most detailed level. In previous versions these gases were reported at aggregated nodes.

We would like the view to be enlarged so that more than 6 years may be seen at a time.

On direct data entering into CRF-web. When copying cells from Excel, only single cells can currently be pasted into CRF-Web. This should be improved so that ranges can be pasted. The current CRF version accepts rows of cells, but not two-dimensional ranges.

On import of Excel. Currently, the only Excel files that can be imported into the system are those that have been exported from the system. Will this limitation also exist in the final version?

On import of xml files:

- This has been the preferred method for entering data in Norway. Currently, CRF-Web does not allow xml import for all nodes. Only nodes listed in appendix 3 will be accepted. Will this be improved in the final version, so that all data can be entered by xml?
- The manual states that "It is also important to note that this functionality could make the system very slow for other users." Does this mean that parties are encouraged to avoid using xml import, and that Excel import is preferred?
- The current version (3.6.2) allows export and import of several types of xml files: "InterReporter" and "Simple", and the latter may use "editable cells only". Will these options become available in the new CRF-Web? Norway has used the "simple" option extensively to import data from the national inventory system.
- The manual states that "The new CRF Reporter enables import of data from the XML file generated by the current CRF Reporter software." Does this mean that xml files generated by our current version (3.6.2) can be imported into the web version? The xml files look very different, and a simple trial with node 1A3D was not succesful. – However, this problem might be due to issues with *submission* vs *InterReporter* xml files. The manual for version 4 states that "user roles management" is not implmented. Our trial used InterReporter xml files while logged in as "national inventory compiler".
- What kind of documentation is available for the structure of xml files? (Cf annex 1 in the old manual.)

We did not see anything related to the reporting of KP-LULUCF.

For LULUCF:

- For the carbon stock change estimates it appears that it is necessary to make own definitions for all child nodes for land conversion (e.g. forest land converted to cropland). This should be possible, but not mandatory to make child nodes for the land conversion categories, e.g. forest land converted to cropland.
- For other land conversion categories (e.g. 4.D.2.1 Land being converted for peat extraction) there are pre-defined names for child nodes and it is necessary to determine from where the land that has been converted to peat extraction) come from. If data is not available for this differentiation, these child nodes will not be useful. The default should be that it is not necessary to define from where the land conversion is.
- The current structure adds some confusion since some of the non-CO2 estimates are both under specific area categories (e.g. Forest land) and under 4.H Other. For instance, 4(I) Direct N2O emission from N inputs/inorganic fertilizer is found both under 4.A.1 Forest Land Remaining Forest Land][4(I) Direct N2O Emissions from N Inputs][Inorganic N Fertilizers] and 4(I) Direct N2O Emissions from N Inputs][Inorganic N Fertilizers]
The same goes for 4(II) Direct N2O emission from N mineralization/immobilization that is both under Cropland and Other. We suggest that all non-CO2 gases are placed under Other, or that they are deleted from Other if they fit under a land use category.

The manual states that "User role management" is not yet implemented. We have some questions relating to user roles. The manual should provide clear guidance on this.

- Will each user (with unique login ID) work with a separate version of the database? This would be akin to the current version (3.6.2) which is installed on individual PCs.
- It is not clear to us if it be difficult for persons to store data in the same database at the same time. Will it be necessary to upload data for different sectors?
- Is it possible for several simultaneous logins using the same login ID? If so, how will possible conflicts between different data entered be resolved?

Norway is concerned for the time that is left to develop the final version of the upgraded CRF Reporter. Parties will need to test versions that are more developed and will also need sufficient time with the final version before it is used for reporting in April 2015. The shortfall of funding for finalizing the upgraded CRF Reporter is worrying.

SBSTA will in 2013 initiate its consideration of any supplementary reporting tables required for the reporting of LULUCF activities under Articles 3.3 and 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol for the second commitment period. The supplementary reporting tables will be one module of the CRF reporting software. It would therefore be beneficial if this work is seen in conjunction and are adopted at the same time, to allow the Secretariat to make only one final version of the software.