

Coalition for Rainforest Nations

Submission of Views

By

Bangladesh, Belize, Chad, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Kenya, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Congo, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Uganda and Vietnam

**Matters referred to in paragraphs 34 and 35 of decision 1/CP.18,
including potential functions, modalities and procedures.**

Draft

1) Background

The COP at its eighteenth session, respectively in paragraph 34 and 35 of decision 1/CP.18:

Recognized 'the need to improve the coordination of support for the implementation of the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, and to provide adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support, to developing country Parties for implementation of those activities.'

And requested 'the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at their thirty-eighth sessions, to jointly initiate a process with the aim of addressing the matters outlined in paragraph 34 above, and to consider existing institutional arrangements or potential governance alternatives including a body, a board or a committee, and to make recommendations on these matters to the Conference of the Parties at its nineteenth session.'

Under paragraph 36 of decision 1/CP.18 the Conference of the Parties invited Parties and admitted observer organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 25 March 2013, their views on the matters referred to in paragraphs 34 and 35, including potential functions, and modalities and procedures.

For this purpose, the Coalition for Rainforest Nations considered issues related to the above and drafted this submission of views. This submission has been prepared to reflect the discussions and views from many other developing country Parties on the need for adequate and predictable support for the implementation of REDD+ activities and on potential governance alternatives. Furthermore, this submission includes concepts and textual language prepared by CfRN during COP18.

2) Justification

Given that REDD+ is a reality within many rainforest nations, where readiness and preparatory phases are ongoing, this submission of views outlines key elements for the establishment of a [REDD+ Committee] which should function as the overall advisory body to oversee, address and facilitate the implementation of REDD+ activities in developing countries, including the provision of financial support, capacity development and technology.

The [REDD+ Committee] should work under the authority of the COP to provide recommendations to coordinate cross-cutting issues, guide the subsidiary bodies, and coordinate multilateral funding bodies and bilateral financial cooperation.

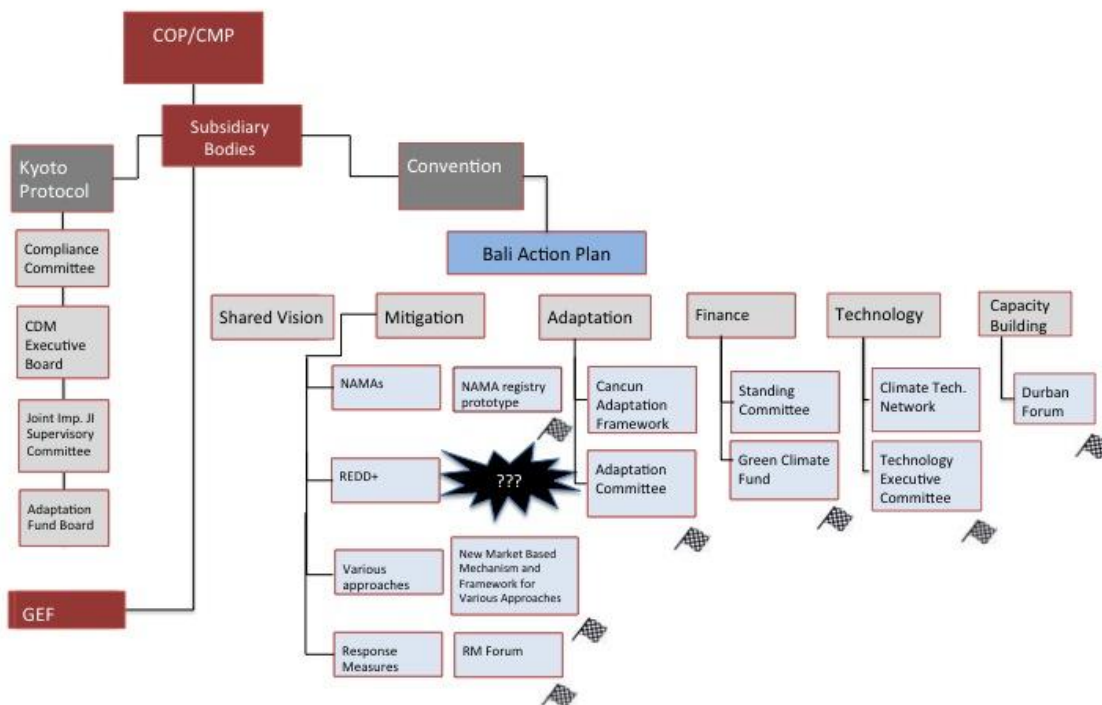
Precedent: There is strong precedent for a [REDD+ Committee] given Parties have already agreed on many institutional arrangements and governance structures for most other elements within the Bali Action Plan and beyond such as those listed below, inter alia:

- **Global Environmental Facility** (11-12-13-14/CP.2) http://unfccc.int/cooperation_support/financial_mechanism/guidance/items/3655.php
- **Green Climate Fund** (1/CP.16, GCF governing instrument decision 3/CP.17) http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/green_climate_fund/items/5869.php
 - Transitional Committee (for the design of the GCF) (Annex III to decision 1/CP.16) http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/green_climate_fund/items/6902.php
 - Standing Committee (1/CP.16, 5/CP.18, full report Doha) http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/standing_committee/items/6877.php
- **NAMAs**
 - NAMA Registry Prototype (1/CP.16, 2/CP.17)
- **Adaptation**
 - Adaptation Fund (1/CMP.3) http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/adaptation_fund/items/3659.php
 - Cancun Adaptation Framework (1/CP.16) http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/items/5852.php
 - Adaptation Committee (2/CP.17, revised ROP March 2013) http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/adaptation_committee/items/6053.php

- **Technology**
 - Technology Executive Committee (1/CP.16, 4/CP.17) <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/jsp/TEC.jsp>
 - Climate Technology Centre and Network (1/CP.16, 2/CP.17) <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/jsp/CTCN.jsp>
- **Capacity Building** (1/CP.16, Durban Forum on CB 2/CP.17) http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/capacity_building/items/3022.php
- **Forum on Response Measures** (1/CP.16, 2/CP.17) http://unfccc.int/cooperation_support/response_measures/items/4908.php
- **CDM EB** (dec 17/CP.7 and 3-4/CMP.1) <http://cdm.unfccc.int/EB/index.html>

In contrast, REDD+ is a founding and interlinked element of the Bali Action Plan that effectively ended in Doha at COP-18 along with the conclusion of the AWG-LCA *without an adequate institutional structure and governance framework to carry forward under the UNFCCC*, as highlighted in the chart below.

Convention and KP governance structure



Coordination: Further, a [REDD+ Committee] should seek to facilitate better coordination and a clearer division of tasks among the subsidiary bodies, other existing governance arrangements within the UNFCCC, multilateral bodies, and bilateral cooperation to scale up and improve the effectiveness of implementing REDD+ activities.

Cross-Cutting: REDD+ issues are integrated within many UNFCCC decisions covering cross-cutting issues, such as ambition, finance, adaptation, technology, NAMAs, the GCF, etc . However, the delegations of developing country Parties are too small to ensure adequate coverage across this diverse set of UNFCCC sessions, which are often overlapping. The [REDD+ Committee] is needed to address these structural governance constraints as they clearly compromise the effective decision making and implementation of REDD+ activities.

3) Functions

The [*REDD+ Committee*] shall be the overall advisory body to the Conference of the Parties on REDD+ and should promote the implementation of REDD+ activities in a coherent manner under the Convention, inter alia, through the following functions:

- Improve the coordination of support for the implementation of the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, and to provide adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support, to developing country Parties for implementation of those activities;
- Facilitate the mobilization of finance, technical support and guidance to the Parties, respecting the country-driven approach, with a view to scaling up the implementation of REDD+ activities;
- Provide advice, recommendations, and coordinate linkages through the COP with cross cutting finance related work programmes, bodies and institutions under the Convention including the Green Climate Fund, various approaches and the new market based mechanism, nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties and the corresponding registry (NAMA registry prototype) and the private sector, as appropriate;
- Address technical and capacity building needs and requests for related support by developing country Parties;
- Request guidance from the COP, the Subsidiary Bodies or other relevant institutions under the Convention;
- Provide guidance to the multilateral and bilateral initiatives outside the Convention, such as FCPF, UN-REDD, FIP, REDD+ Partnership, etc., that are focused on implementing REDD+ activities;

- Strengthen, consolidate and enhance the sharing of relevant information, knowledge, experience and good practices, at the local, national, regional and international levels, taking into account, as appropriate, traditional knowledge and practices.

4) Modalities:

The [REDD+ Committee] should make use of the following modalities in exercising its functions:

- Meetings;
- Expert groups;
- Workshops;
- Compilation, review, synthesis, analysis reports of information, knowledge, experience and good practice;
- Channels for sharing information, knowledge and expertise;
- Advice, recommendations, coordination and linkages with and to all relevant bodies, programmes, institutions and networks, within and outside the Convention.

5) Indicative list of activities for the [REDD+ Committee]

- Consider means to improve the coordination of support for the implementation of the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, and to provide adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support, to developing country Parties for implementation of those activities;
- Identify the process for and scope of overview and other periodic reports on REDD+ issues relevant to the work of the REDD+ Committee;
- Prepare periodic overview reports synthesizing information and knowledge relating to, inter alia, the implementation of REDD+ actions and good REDD+ practices, observed trends, lessons learned, gaps and needs, including in the provision of support, and areas requiring further attention, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, drawing on information from Parties and on other relevant reports and documents, including those of other bodies under the Convention. Upon request, considering technical support and guidance to the Parties as they develop national REDD+ plans;

- Exchange information with relevant Convention bodies and others, including the Standing Committee and the Technology Executive Committee, on means to incentivize the implementation of REDD+ actions, including finance, technology, and capacity-building, with a view to identifying opportunities and further actions for consideration by the Conference of the Parties;
- Upon the request of the Parties, provide advice on REDD+ matters to relevant Convention bodies, including to the operating entities of the financial mechanism, as appropriate;
- Compile a roster of experts on REDD+ issues, building on the existing UNFCCC rosters.

6) Conclusions

The 19th Session of the Conference of the Parties should establish the [REDD+ Committee], identify relevant functions, modalities and activities that are consistent with the request to improve the coordination of support for the implementation of the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, and to provide adequate and predictable support, including financial resources and technical and technological support, to developing country Parties for implementation of those activities.

Annex

Questions which highlight the need for a [REDD+ Committee]

Cross-cutting Issues: Under which forum are links between different tracks resolved, such as REDD+ and NAMAs, New Market Mechanism, the GCF, Adaptation, etc?

- Finance: Where do we decide how REDD+ finance works for Phase 1 and Phase 2, and Phase 3? SBSTA cannot do it. Must REDD+ rely on the GCF Standing Committee? They do not have the expertise and REDD+ experts have no role there.
- NAMAs: How should REDD+ work with the NAMA Registry for Phase 1 and Phase 2?
- Markets: Where do we discuss how REDD+ may work with a New Market Mechanism or existing market mechanisms? SBSTA is not structured to integrate issues effectively.
- Adaptation: Should REDD+ Parties be required to make individual presentations to the Adaptation Committee and then wait for the Adaptation negotiators to tell REDD+ representatives what to do in overlap areas?
- Capacity: What about implementing capacity building for REDD+? Should REDD+ be required to wait for the Durban Capacity Forum before REDD+ capacity issues are addressed?

Overlaps between the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol:

- COP vs CMP: Where are discussions to be held for overlap between the Convention and the KP, such as the subject of REDD+ on a national scale within the KP?
- NMM: Where should REDD+ be taken up to consider KP Parties seeking to participate in REDD+ under the New Market Mechanism?

Policy Overlaps:

- MRV: While Measurement and Reporting may be addressed within SBSTA, where do we decide policy issues such as the Verification for REDD+ MRV?
- Endless Special Tracks: Must we develop special tracks under the Convention like we did in Doha for each policy issue under REDD+, such as verification for REDD+ results?

Process Overlaps:

- Endless Contact Group Conflicts: If several of these cross-cutting issues are ongoing at the same time, [GCF, NAMAs, NMM, Adaptation, Capacity, etc.], how will it be possible for REDD+

negotiators to simultaneously represent REDD+ issues in a coherent way while simultaneously ensuring that REDD+ is effective and efficient?