

Decision 16/CMP.1

Land use, land-use change and forestry

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol,

Affirming that the implementation of land use, land-use change and forestry activities included under the provisions of the Kyoto Protocol shall be consistent with the objectives and principles of, and any decisions taken under, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol,

Having considered decision 11/CP.7 adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session,

1. *Affirms* that the following principles govern the treatment of land use, land-use change and forestry activities:

- (a) That the treatment of these activities be based on sound science
- (b) That consistent methodologies be used over time for the estimation and reporting of these activities
- (c) That the aim stated in Article 3, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol not be changed by accounting for land use, land-use change and forestry activities
- (d) That the mere presence of carbon stocks be excluded from accounting
- (e) That the implementation of land use, land-use change and forestry activities contributes to the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources
- (f) That accounting for land use, land-use change and forestry does not imply a transfer of commitments to a future commitment period
- (g) That reversal of any removal due to land use, land-use change and forestry activities be accounted for at the appropriate point in time
- (h) That accounting excludes removals resulting from: (i) elevated carbon dioxide concentrations above their pre-industrial level; (ii) indirect nitrogen deposition; and (iii) the dynamic effects of age structure resulting from activities and practices before the reference year;

2. *Decides* that good practice guidance, and methods to estimate, measure, monitor and report changes in carbon stocks and anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks resulting from land use, land-use change and forestry activities, as developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, shall be applied by Parties, if decided in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;

3. *Decides* that anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks shall be accounted for in accordance with the annex to the present decision and reported in annual inventories and reviewed in accordance with relevant decisions relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, and in accordance with the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, any future elaboration of these guidelines, or parts of them, and any good practice guidance

on land-use change and forestry in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;

4. *Adopts* the definitions, modalities, rules and guidelines relating to land use, land-use change and forestry activities under Articles 3, 6 and 12 of the Kyoto Protocol contained in the attached annex for application in the first commitment period.

ANNEX

Definitions, modalities, rules and guidelines relating to land use, land-use change and forestry activities under the Kyoto Protocol**A. Definitions**

1. For land use, land-use change and forestry activities under Article 3,¹ paragraphs 3 and 4, the following definitions shall apply:
 - (a) “Forest” is a minimum area of land of 0.05–1.0 hectare with tree crown cover (or equivalent stocking level) of more than 10–30 per cent with trees with the potential to reach a minimum height of 2–5 metres at maturity in situ. A forest may consist either of closed forest formations where trees of various storeys and undergrowth cover a high proportion of the ground or open forest. Young natural stands and all plantations which have yet to reach a crown density of 10–30 per cent or tree height of 2–5 metres are included under forest, as are areas normally forming part of the forest area which are temporarily unstocked as a result of human intervention such as harvesting or natural causes but which are expected to revert to forest
 - (b) “Afforestation” is the direct human-induced conversion of land that has not been forested for a period of at least 50 years to forested land through planting, seeding and/or the human-induced promotion of natural seed sources
 - (c) “Reforestation” is the direct human-induced conversion of non-forested land to forested land through planting, seeding and/or the human-induced promotion of natural seed sources, on land that was forested but that has been converted to non-forested land. For the first commitment period, reforestation activities will be limited to reforestation occurring on those lands that did not contain forest on 31 December 1989
 - (d) “Deforestation” is the direct human-induced conversion of forested land to non-forested land
 - (e) “Revegetation” is a direct human-induced activity to increase carbon stocks on sites through the establishment of vegetation that covers a minimum area of 0.05 hectares and does not meet the definitions of afforestation and reforestation contained here
 - (f) “Forest management” is a system of practices for stewardship and use of forest land aimed at fulfilling relevant ecological (including biological diversity), economic and social functions of the forest in a sustainable manner
 - (g) “Cropland management” is the system of practices on land on which agricultural crops are grown and on land that is set aside or temporarily not being used for crop production
 - (h) “Grazing land management” is the system of practices on land used for livestock production aimed at manipulating the amount and type of vegetation and livestock produced.

¹ “Article” in this annex refers to an Article of the Kyoto Protocol, unless otherwise specified.

B. Article 3, paragraph 3

2. For the purposes of Article 3, paragraph 3, eligible activities are those direct human-induced afforestation, reforestation and/or deforestation activities that meet the requirements set forth in this annex and that started on or after 1 January 1990 and before 31 December of the last year of the commitment period.
3. For the purposes of determining the area of deforestation to come into the accounting system under Article 3, paragraph 3, each Party shall determine the forest area using the same spatial assessment unit as is used for the determination of afforestation and reforestation, but not larger than 1 hectare.
4. For the first commitment period, debits² resulting from harvesting during the first commitment period following afforestation and reforestation since 1990 shall not be greater than credits³ accounted for on that unit of land.
5. Each Party included in Annex I shall report, in accordance with Article 7, on how harvesting or forest disturbance that is followed by the re-establishment of a forest is distinguished from deforestation. This information will be subject to review in accordance with Article 8.

C. Article 3, paragraph 4

6. A Party included in Annex I may choose to account for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks resulting from any or all of the following human-induced activities, other than afforestation, reforestation and deforestation, under Article 3, paragraph 4, in the first commitment period: revegetation, forest management, cropland management and grazing land management.
7. A Party included in Annex I wishing to account for activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, shall identify, in its report to enable the establishment of its assigned amount pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7 and 8, the activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, which it elects to include in its accounting for the first commitment period. Upon election, a decision by a Party will be fixed for the first commitment period.
8. During the first commitment period, a Party included in Annex I that selects any or all of the activities mentioned in paragraph 6 above shall demonstrate that such activities have occurred since 1990 and are human-induced. A Party included in Annex I shall not account for emissions by sources and removals by sinks resulting from activities under Article 3, paragraph 4, if these are already accounted for under Article 3, paragraph 3.
9. For the first commitment period, accountable anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks resulting from cropland management, grazing land management and revegetation under Article 3, paragraph 4, shall be equal to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks in the commitment period, less five times the anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks resulting from these eligible activities in the base year of that Party, while avoiding double accounting.
10. For the first commitment period, a Party included in Annex I that incurs a net source of emissions under the provisions of Article 3, paragraph 3, may account for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks in areas under forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, up to a level that is equal to the net source of emissions under the provisions of Article 3, paragraph 3, but not greater than 9.0 megatonnes of carbon times five, if the total anthropogenic

² "Debits": where emissions are larger than removals on a unit of land.

³ "Credits": where removals are larger than emissions on a unit of land.

greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks in the managed forest since 1990 is equal to, or larger than, the net source of emissions incurred under Article 3, paragraph 3.

11. For the first commitment period only, additions to and subtractions from the assigned amount of a Party⁴ resulting from forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, after the application of paragraph 10 above and resulting from forest management project activities undertaken under Article 6, shall not exceed the value inscribed in the appendix⁵ below, times five.

12. A Party may request the Conference of the Parties to reconsider its numerical values as contained in paragraph 10 and in the appendix as mentioned in paragraph 11, with a view to the Conference of the Parties recommending a decision for adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, no later than two years prior to the beginning of the first commitment period. Such a reconsideration shall be based upon country-specific data and the elements of guidance and consideration in footnote 5 to paragraph 11. These shall be submitted and reviewed in accordance with relevant decisions relating to Articles 5, 7 and 8 of the Kyoto Protocol, and in accordance with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, any future elaboration of these guidelines, or parts of them, and any good practice guidance on land use, land-use change and forestry in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties.

D. Article 12

13. The eligibility of land use, land-use change and forestry project activities under Article 12 is limited to afforestation and reforestation.

14. For the first commitment period, the total of additions to a Party's assigned amount resulting from eligible land use, land-use change and forestry project activities under Article 12 shall not exceed one per cent of base year emissions of that Party, times five.

15. The treatment of land use, land-use change and forestry project activities under Article 12 in future commitment periods shall be decided as part of the negotiations on the second commitment period.

E. General

16. Each Party included in Annex I shall, for the purposes of applying the definition of "forest" as contained in paragraph 1 (a) above, select a single minimum tree crown cover value between 10 and 30 per cent, a single minimum land area value between 0.05 and 1 hectare and a single minimum tree height value between 2 and 5 metres. The selection of a Party shall be fixed for the duration of the first commitment period. The selection shall be included as an integral part of its report to enable the calculation of its assigned amount pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7 and 8, in accordance with decision 19/CP.7, and shall include the values for tree crown cover, tree height and the minimum land area. Each Party shall justify in its reporting that such values are consistent with the information that has historically been reported to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations or other international bodies, and if they differ, explain why and how such values were chosen.

⁴ In accordance with decision 13/CMP.1.

⁵ In arriving at the values in the appendix below, the Conference of the Parties was guided by the application of an 85 per cent discount factor to account for the removals identified in paragraph 1 (h) of decision 16/CMP.1 and a 3 per cent cap on forest management, using a combination of data provided by Parties and by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Consideration was also given to national circumstances (including the degree of effort needed to meet Kyoto Protocol commitments and the forest management measures implemented). The accounting framework established in this paragraph shall not be construed as establishing any precedent for the second and subsequent commitment periods.

17. For the first commitment period, and subject to other provisions in this annex, the additions to and subtractions from the assigned amount of a Party pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 7 and 8, shall be equal to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks measured as verifiable changes in carbon stocks, and non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions during the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2012 resulting from afforestation, reforestation and deforestation under Article 3, paragraph 3, and forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, that have taken place since 1 January 1990. Where the result of this calculation is a net sink of greenhouse gases, this value shall be added to the assigned amount of that Party. Where the result of this calculation is a net source of greenhouse gas emissions, this value shall be subtracted from the assigned amount of that Party.

18. Accounting of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks resulting from land use, land-use change and forestry activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, shall begin with the onset of the activity or the beginning of the commitment period, whichever comes later.

19. Once land is accounted for under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, all anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources from, and removals by sinks on this land must be accounted for throughout subsequent and contiguous commitment periods.

20. National inventory systems under Article 5, paragraph 1, shall ensure that areas of land subject to land use, land-use change and forestry activities under Article 3, paragraphs 3 and 4, are identifiable, and information about these areas should be provided by each Party included in Annex I in their national inventories in accordance with Article 7. Such information will be reviewed in accordance with Article 8.

21. Each Party included in Annex I shall account for all changes in the following carbon pools: above-ground biomass, below-ground biomass, litter, dead wood, and soil organic carbon. A Party may choose not to account for a given pool in a commitment period if transparent and verifiable information is provided that the pool is not a source.

APPENDIX

Party^a	Mt C/yr
Australia	0.00
Austria	0.63
Belarus	
Belgium	0.03
Bulgaria	0.37
Canada	12.00
Croatia	0.265 ^b
Czech Republic	0.32
Denmark	0.05
Estonia	0.10
Finland	0.16
France	0.88
Germany	1.24
Greece	0.09
Hungary	0.29
Iceland	0.00
Ireland	0.05
Italy	0.18
Japan	13.00
Latvia	0.34
Liechtenstein	0.01
Lithuania	0.28
Luxembourg	0.01
Monaco	0.00
Netherlands	0.01
New Zealand	0.20
Norway	0.40
Poland	0.82
Portugal	0.22
Romania	1.10
Russian Federation	33.00 ^c
Slovakia	0.50
Slovenia	0.36
Spain	0.67
Sweden	0.58
Switzerland	0.50
Ukraine	1.11
United Kingdom	0.37

^a The list of countries in this table differs from that found in decision 5/CP.6 as a result of consultations undertaken during the session.

^b This figure has been added by decision 22/CP.9.

^c This figure is changed from 17.63 to 33.00 by decision 12/CP.7.