

Annex H

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Technical Advisory Committee of the Working Group on Criteria and Indicators for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Temperate and Boreal Forests (Montreal Process)

21st Montréal Process Working Group Meeting

1-4 June 2010

Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry

Hilo, Hawaii

Background

At the eighth meeting of the Montreal Process, an ad hoc and informal Technical Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as "TAC") was created. The TAC was designed to be task-oriented and worked to reach agreement on definitions of terms and approaches to data collection. At the ninth meeting of the Montreal Process, held in July 1997 in Seoul, Republic of Korea, it was decided that the TAC should be maintained in an on-going role in support of the Montreal Process.

Role of the Technical Advisory Committee

The TAC activities are directed by, and reported back to, the Montreal Process Working Group (hereinafter referred to as "the MPWG") through the TAC Convenor¹

The TAC provides recommendations and advice to the MPWG on scientific and technical issues related to the measurement, monitoring, and reporting on sustainable forest management under the C&I framework.

The TAC is task-oriented, informal and technical in nature and works between MPWG meetings to address both MPWG-assigned tasks and technical issues of common interest to the MPWG.

The recommendations and advice provided to the MPWG by the TAC shall cover;

- definition of terms and rationales for indicators;
- addressing data collection, measurement and technical reporting issues;
- addressing technical implementation issues relating to criteria and indicators;
- acting in a technical liaison function with other criteria and indicators processes, with the Interagency Task Force on Forests and with other relevant organizations or processes as necessary;
- assisting the Liaison Office in maintaining the integrity over time of the published reference material relating to the Montreal Process; and
- providing technical support in capacity building in member countries as needed.

Membership of the TAC and Participation at TAC Meetings

- The membership of the TAC will include one representative from each member country
- Depending on the issue the TAC Convenor may invite representatives from other organisations, such as IUFRO, non government organisations and science organisations, to participate in meetings.

Meeting Frequency, Time-lines and Assignments

¹ TAC Convenor Terms of Reference is available at <http://www.rinya.maff.go.jp/mpci/meetings/20an-3.pdf>

- The TAC meets at the request of the MPWG to work on tasks documented in the Aide-Memoire and the MPWG Strategic Plan and Implementation Schedule.
- The time-lines and deadlines for specific assignments are documented in the Aide-Memoire and MPWG Strategic Plan and Implementation Schedule

Funding

Participants and member countries will bear the participation and organizational costs associated with TAC meetings.

Any additional support required for the TAC to meet its assigned tasks will be addressed by the MPWG during discussion of the TAC implementation plan presented by the TAC Convenor, in accordance with the TAC Convenor TOR.

Working Methods

To the extent possible, the TAC will use electronic means of communication and minimize the need for meetings.

Reporting

Reports of the TAC will be distributed to member countries and other interested parties for comment through the Liaison Office and will be submitted to the MPWG for review and approval.