

Submission to annotated agenda of the 85th CDM Board meeting 20-24 July 2015, Germany

12 July 2015

Carbon Market Watch welcomes the opportunity to provide input to the CDM Board on issues included in the annotated agenda of the 85th meeting, particularly on the following agenda items:

1. Agenda item 2.2. Strategic planning and direction
 - Action 4: online platform for voluntary cancellation
2. Agenda item 2.3. Performance management
 - Action 8: messages to CMP through annual report
3. Agenda item 5. Relations with forums and other stakeholders
 - Action 48: External input to the annotated agenda

1. Agenda item 2.2. Strategic planning and direction

Action 4: online platform for voluntary cancellation

Carbon Market Watch would like to provide input to Annex 2 of the annotated agenda, namely the concept note on the online platform for voluntary cancellation of CERs- system design and capabilities.¹

Regarding the functionalities for sellers, and especially under the provision to use the online platform to provide information about project co-benefits², sellers should be encouraged to make use of the voluntary reporting tool to highlight sustainable development co-benefits (SD tool)³.

As for the functionalities for buyers⁴, additional standards should apply for the list of searchable filters for suitable projects. These should include, for example, project size (small and large scale) as well as supplementary quality criteria that ensure high likelihood of sustainable development co-benefits, such as no harm standards.

Additionally, a review should be included to provide for experience sharing with the online platform as well as a comment section for external stakeholders to enable input on the quality and sustainable development co-benefit assessment for the respective CDM projects.

¹ CDM-EB85-A02

² CDM-EB85-A02, para. 10 (e)

³ CDM-EB82-A14

⁴ CDM-EB85-A02, para. 11 (a)

2. Agenda item 2.3. Performance management

Action 8: messages to CMP through annual report

Carbon Market Watch would like to recommend the inclusion of an analysis of the communication received from stakeholders during the year 2015 in your annual report to the CMP. This may also comprise a summary of communication on problematic projects as well as means of communication that do not fall within the scope of a dedicated process procedure.

To ensure further improvement of the CDM as well as to safeguard a future role of this mechanism, it is beneficiary to compare accountability standards of other institutions and mechanisms. An incorporation of a comparison of current accountability standards in the annual report alongside respective recommendations is thereby an essential tool.

3. Agenda item 5. Relations with forums and other stakeholders

Action 48: External input to annotated agenda

We welcome the amended rules on direct communication with stakeholders⁵, namely that “calls for input shall be directed to the public at large, using a dedicated alerting system and establishing mailing lists as appropriate”⁶. However, to our information, recent public calls for input, including the call to provide comments on the “issues included in the annotated agenda of the eighty-fifth meeting of the CDM Executive Board” was only announced on the UNFCCC CDM website. To operationalise this decision, we would recommend to provide further clarity on the type of alerting system that is envisaged to be used for public calls for input and how interested stakeholders can subscribe.

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⁵ CDM-EB82-A09

⁶ CDM-EB82-A09, para.29.