

VIEWS OF BRAZIL ON METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES RELATED TO NON-CARBON BENEFITS RESULTING FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTIVITIES REFERRED TO IN DECISION 1/CP.16

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The Government of Brazil welcomes the opportunity to submit views on methodological guidance related to non-carbon benefits resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities, referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, in response to paragraph 48 of document FCCC/SBSTA/2013/3.

2. Brazil highlights the importance of incentivizing non-carbon benefits for the long-term sustainability of the implementation of REDD+ activities, as recognized in decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 22. Brazil underlines the close relationship between non-carbon benefits and the safeguards referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I.

3. It is important to note, however, that "benefits" should not be mistaken for "results". Any approach that would create additional layers of requirements for obtaining results-based payments may hinder the implementation of REDD+ activities. Likewise, an approach that would attribute different values to mitigation results depending on non-carbon benefits should be avoided, as it would change the nature of the incentives provided to developing countries through REDD+, further increasing difficulties to implement REDD+ activities and obtain results-based payments.

4. Furthermore, several types of non-carbon benefits fall outside the scope and mandate of the UNFCCC. Discussions regarding non-carbon benefits should be fully consistent with the respective mandates of each international regime, while preserving the primacy of UNFCCC over REDD+.

5. Brazil is of the view that particular national or local circumstances determine which types of non-carbon benefit arise from the implementation of REDD+ activities in any specific area. According to such particularities and national development priorities, some types of non-carbon benefits may be prioritized over others. Such a diversity of cases and scenarios does not favor the consideration of methodologies at the international or multilateral level for non-carbon benefits. It is instead more appropriate to consider ways to incentivize non-carbon benefits at the national level, through national benefit-sharing arrangements of the resources obtained from results-based payments.

6. It is important to emphasize that REDD+ countries that receive payments for results, expressed in tonnes of CO₂eq, may choose at their discretion to invest these

resources in initiatives that contribute to the enhancement of non-carbon benefits. Brazil has been already doing so through the Amazon Fund, for instance, by investing resources obtained through results-based payments in conservation projects and initiatives that foster the livelihoods of indigenous peoples. As a consequence, non-carbon benefits are incentivized at the local level in a manner that is fully consistent with particular national or local circumstances, as well as national development priorities, without the need of further requirements at the international level to implement REDD+ activities.
