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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE  
MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL**

**First session**

**Montreal, 28 November to 9 December 2005**

**Agenda item 18**

**Other matters**

## **Forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol**

### **Submission from a Party**

1. The Government of Italy, by its communication to the secretariat dated 7 June 2005, requested the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol to reconsider the numerical value for forest management under Article 3, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol inscribed for Italy in the appendix to the annex to decision -/CMP.1 (*Land use, land-use change and forestry*).
2. This document contains a submission from the Government of Italy on this matter. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, this submission is reproduced\* in the language in which it was received and without formal editing.

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**FCCC/KP/CMP/2005/MISC.2**

GE.05-71102

## SUBMISSION FROM ITALY

### **Forest management activities under Article 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol: request for reconsideration of the numerical value inscribed for Italy.**

#### **Introduction**

1. Appendix to paragraph 11 of Annex to draft decision -/CMP.1 (*Land use, land-use change and forestry*) attached to the Decision 11/CP.7 specifies limits (caps) on additions to and subtractions from the assigned amount of a Party resulting from forest management activity that Parties can elect under the provisions of Art. 3.4 of the Kyoto Protocol.

2. The amount currently specified in the Appendix for Italy is 0.18 MtC/yr. This figure is an average of the value derived from country specific activities that Italy submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat for the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2000 submission, as set out in FCCC/SBSTA/2000/9/Add.1 (corresponding to about 0.166 MtC/yr after the 85% discounting applied by the capping formula set out in footnote 5 to paragraph 11 of the Annex to the draft decision attached to decision 11/CP.7, referred to as “paragraph 11” below), and the value similarly derived from the data for Italy in FAO TBFRA2000<sup>1</sup> (corresponding to about 0.194 MtC/yr). We note that:

- although listed as an Art. 3.4 activity, the data provided by Italy (Table 4 (a) in FCCC/SBSTA/2000/9/Add.1) in fact refer mainly to “*conversion of grazing land to forest*” (afforestation), therefore should really be considered to as an Article 3.3 activity, and not as an Article 3.4 activity;
- although managed forest lands in Italy account for 100% of total forest lands, as explained in FAO TBFRA2000 (page. 129)<sup>2</sup>, the data used from the TBFRA to derive the figure of 0.194 MtC/yr, mentioned in the paragraph above, refer to only a small portion of managed forest land<sup>3</sup>.

#### **Action**

3. Paragraph 12 (referred to as “paragraph 12” below) of the Annex to draft decision -/CMP.1 (*Land use, land-use change and forestry*) attached to Decision 11/CP.7 allows for the reconsideration of the numerical values contained in the Appendix to paragraph 11. In particular, such a reconsideration shall be based upon country-specific data and the elements of guidance and consideration in footnote 5 to paragraph 11.

4. Italy commenced the reconsideration of its numerical value contained in the Appendix to paragraph 11 by sending a letter, on June 7<sup>th</sup> 2005, to the UNFCCC Secretariat.

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<sup>1</sup> TBFRA2000 is the “Forest Resources of Europe, CIS, North America, Australia, Japan and New Zealand (*industrialized temperate/boreal countries*). It is the UN-ECE/FAO contribution to the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2000.

<sup>2</sup> Notes and comments relating to chapter II in pag 129 of FAO TBFRA2000 says: “*These data on the managed areas of forests in tables 9 to 17 refer only to forest managed with specific plans. Nevertheless, all other Italian forests are submitted to general silvicultural prescription (Prescrizioni di massima e di polizia forestale). These prescriptions are adopted at Provincial level and determine the practical forms of management to be applied*”.

<sup>3</sup> In FAO TBFRA2000, Italy shows:

- in Annex 3B.3, pag. 169, a “Rate of changes in the C store of woody biomass” of 6.95 Tg C/yr;
- in Table 16, pag. 114, column 6, a figure of 18.6%.

5. Italy would like the reconsideration to be based on the following items of country specific data:

- a. the latest FAO data (i.e. GFRA 2005, data available on FAO website);
- b. the latest data on managed forests, reported in the Italian GHGs Inventory submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat, since Italy did not provide for forest management activity in the August 2000 submission.

These two sets of information will be provided to the UNFCCC Secretariat by the end of this year in accordance with paragraph 12. Such information will be used for reconsideration of the numerical value inscribed for Italy, according to the rules contained in the footnote 5 to paragraph 11 of annex to decision 11CP.7.

6. Italy envisages that COP/MOP1 will record that the reconsideration of numerical value for forest management inscribed for Italy has been commenced. Italy believes that the reconsideration-process should be finalized by the twenty-fourth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 24), with a view to recommending a decision for adoption at COP/MOP2, not later than 31 December 2006. This is to give to Party adequate time<sup>4</sup> for providing in the report, requested in paragraph 6 of draft decision -/CMP.1 (*modalities for the accounting of assigned amounts under Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol*) attached to Decision 19/CP.7, information on identification of its election of activities under Article 3, paragraph 4<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> Paragraph 2 of draft decision -/CMP.1 (*modalities for the accounting of assigned amounts under Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol*) attached to Decision 19/CP.7 states that the report shall be submitted to the Secretariat prior to 1 January 2007.

<sup>5</sup> See paragraph 8(c) of Annex to draft decision -/CMP.1 (*modalities for the accounting of assigned amounts under Article 7, paragraph 4, of the Kyoto Protocol*) attached to Decision 19/CP.7.