

## **Comments during General Discussion Session on 30 January 2004**

**Yurika Ayukawa**

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Thank you chair for your kind introduction.

Thank you very much for allowing me to talk shortly on what WWF thinks about this LULUCF CDM issues.

First, I would like to stress that we believe that emissions should be reduced at the source and not by sinks. WWF has focused its efforts on the energy side of the CDM to try to maximize the potential of the CDM to use it as a tool to enhance energy efficiency and renewables. For this purpose, we have developed the Gold Standard for good CDM projects in the energy sector.

However, we welcome the outcomes of the COP9 that the rules for sinks CDM have been agreed. Now we can fully implement the Kyoto Protocol.

We are happy that in the agreed rules, the permanence issue has been dealt with properly and all the credits have to be replaced in the end. We are also pleased that the environmental and social standards will be dealt with in the PDD. However we do have concerns in the additionality language that could not rule out large scale industrial plantations and the weak language on ruling out GMOs and alien species.

WWF is working on a pilot project on Carbon Knowledge to see what sort of sinks projects would be better for conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development objectives. Carbon knowledge projects are applied forest landscape restoration (FLR) research projects carried out in the field by the WWF network. WWF considers that the agreed definitions for forest, afforestation, and reforestation allow for FLR activities. WWF feels that FLR is the best approach to promote projects with biodiversity, livelihood, and carbon co-benefits.

FLR is defined as “a planned process that aims to regain ecological integrity and enhance human well-being in threatened, deforested or degraded forest landscapes”. As pursued by WWF, FLR should: focus on restoring forest functions and improving ecological processes at a landscape level; address socio-economic and environmental dimensions; address root causes of degradation such as land tenure; increase forest resilience through enhanced connectivity and species diversity; and encompass a mixture of locally appropriate approaches such as ecological corridors, agroforestry, on-farm trees, secondary forest regeneration, and diverse plantations.

In order to proceed with carbon knowledge pilots, a series of tools such as Principles and criteria were developed to raise awareness of WWF’s concern about carbon sequestration, drawn from our experience with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

The principles of FLR are as follows:

FLR should increase forest quality at a landscape scale from the perspectives of both ecological integrity and human wellbeing.

Authenticity such as naturalness or ecological integrity of forests should increase at a landscape

scale.

Environmental benefits should at least remain stable at a site scale and should increase at a landscape scale.

And lastly, livelihoods should be secured at a landscape scale.

I do hope that with such projects, the CDM will contribute to the sustainable development objectives and at the same time contribute to the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thank you very much.