

Agenda item 5 d

Paragraph 84 of the annotated agenda

Translation of clean development mechanism's documents

CDM EB 60

Bangkok, Thailand, 11-15 April 2011



Background

- **Mandate at EB 59:**

The Board requested the secretariat to prepare a note on translations of CDM documentation into the six UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish) to comply with the decision from the CMP paragraph 17 of the decision 3/CMP.1 to make decisions from the Board available in all official languages of the UN.

Purpose

- **Decisions of the Board:**
 - Reports of meetings and their annexes
 - Electronic decision: covered in the written meeting report

- **Official UNFCCC documents:**
 - Documents to be considered by the COP, CMP and SBs (and AWG) are translated by UN translators at UNOG.

- To use this service a formal request by CMP with approval of the UN GA is required. Currently UNOG has no capacity for additional services.

Alternative translation services

- Non-UN translation services: translated documents are only a reference for the user and are **not UN official documents**
- Average value for translation varies depending on language, complexity of document and urgency
 - **COST:** Average 360 pages per meeting: **approximately USD 270,000 per meeting** (54,000 per language)
 - **TIMING:** average time to translate 100 pages into the other 5 languages: **around 2 months**



Recommendation

- Due to the costs, timing and type of translations, the Board may wish to consider the cost effectiveness of the translation of all decisions of the Board
- Purpose of translation of CDM documentation:
 - local CDM stakeholders to better understand the mechanism;
 - capacity building; and
 - possibly to enhance the promotion of the mechanism
- Assess which documents / products are to be translated to fulfil these three purposes

Recommendation - cost scenarios

- **Summaries of Board meeting reports**
 - Most cost-effective and fast to be implemented
 - Approximately USD 6,000 for 2011
- **Specific products prepared for CDM stakeholders (e.g. meth booklet)**
 - Assess on a case by case basis which documents are to be translated
 - Cost will depend on the product (Meth booklet approximately USD 70,000)
- **All decisions of the Board, including annexes**
 - High end proposal, follows the CMP request but not cost effectiveness
 - Approximately USD 1,080,000 for 2011

Secretariat recommends that key documents with a long-term life should be translated and to take stock during the year

