

**Minutes of Meeting on
1st National Consultation Workshop on Domestic Measurement, Reporting,
Verification System at National Level**

I. Objective of the Meeting

- To introduce MONRE's legalization plan for developing a legal document for Domestic Measurement, Reporting, Verification System at National Level
- To present findings of local consultancy works to supplement consultations for legal document development and proposed structure of MRV modality
- To initiate stakeholder dialogue and invite views on the proposed structure of MRV modality and how to best approach to legal document development guided by framing questions

II. Date and Venue

Date: 7th April 2016

Time: 8:30 – 12:00am

Venue: Hanoi Club Conference Room

III. Participating Agencies

The consultation workshop hosted more than 50 participants across different ministries, agencies and international partners listed below.

- Ministries: MONRE (DMHCC, Dept. of Legal Affairs, Dept. of Science and Technology), MOIT (ISEA, GDE), MOT (DoE), MOC (DoSTE), MPI (GSO)
- Relevant Agencies: IMHEN, ISPONRE, VN-FOREST
- Organization: Vietnam Steel Association,
- International Partners: ADB, GIZ, UNDP

IV. Contents of Discussion

1. Introduction and Presentations

The first national consultation workshop on Domestic Measurement, Reporting, and Verification System was commenced by the opening remarks by Mr. Nguyen Van Tue, Director General of MONRE/DMHCC, and also by Mr. Naoki Kakioka, Senior Representative of JICA Vietnam Office.

In his opening remark, Mr. Tue informed the participants that developing policy framework for national MRV is a key task of MONRE, and invited comments and suggestions for the findings of studies on MRV framework which to be introduced during the workshop. He also appreciated JICA's support for MONRE/DMHCC in the work on MRV system development and would like to have continuous

support in the future regarding MRV system and its operationalization.

Following Mr. Tue's opening remark, Mr. Naoki Kakioka, a Senior Representative of JICA Vietnam Office, also welcomed participants for the consultation, and stressed that 1) MRV system should be based on existing systems and practices so that GHG impact can be captured in a systematic manner, 2) MRV has its progressive nature that required time to improve the system, and 3) benefits of MRV system is not only to capture GHG impact but also to facilitate evident-based decision making process, and 4) linkage with national GHG inventory.

Following the opening remarks, Mr. Luong Quang Huy, Head of Division of GHG Emission Monitoring and Low Carbon Economy, DMHCC/MONRE, introduced the agenda of the meeting. A group photo session was organized at the margin of presentations.

Five Presentations were presented by MONRE/DMHCC and JICA SPI-NAMA in accordance with the agenda.

- **Mr. Luong Quang Huy (Head, MONRE/DMHCC)**
Orientation for Developing National MRV system
- **Mr. Koji Fukuda (CTA, JICA SPI-NAMA Project)**
Essential Elements for Designing National MRV in Vietnam
- **Mr. Akihiro Tamai (Sub-chief –SPI-NAMA/JICA)**
Synergies with National GHG Inventory, and Design of Registry System
- **Mr. Nguyen Tung Lam (ISPONRE /MONRE)**
Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) in Practice
- **Mr. Nguyen Van Minh (MONRE/DMHCC)**
Proposing Basis for National and Sectoral MRV for NAMA in Vietnam

On top of the above presentations, Mr. Tran Mai Kien, representing GIZ-NAMA project, was also invited to share GIZ perspectives on linking NAMA, INDC and national MRV framework for Vietnam.

Summary of Consultation Session

Following the presentations, the discussion was chaired by Mr. Nguyen Van Tue, DG of DMHCCC. The consultation was guided by a set of framing questions provided as part of the presentation made by JICA SPI-NAMA.

Guiding Questions

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| Existing Practice & Simplification | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● To what extent can you utilize your EXISTING domestic reporting procedures/criteria/format and monitoring for mitigation-related activities to align with national MRV?● How could the suggested steps and procedures be further simplified? |
| Coherence with Sectoral MRV | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● What specific legal guidance is deemed useful to best facilitate on-going effort for sectoral MRV development by LMs? (e.g. baseline, sectoral aggregation/compilation of actions, monitoring scheme etc.) |
| Defining Institutional Roles | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Which elements and institutional roles require 1) further details, 2) demarcation, 3) inter-agency collaboration, and 4) possible outsourcing?● Which aspects of national MRV needs to be elaborated in the upcoming consultations? |

The below summarizes the comments, inputs and clarifications provided and queried by participants.

- On the **COVERAGE and OBJECTIVE** of national MRV, some suggested aligning the scope of MRV with the Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement that encompasses mitigation, adaptation and support. Others pointed out prioritizing MRV for mitigation first, and to gradually expand the scope of transparency beyond mitigation would be more realistic, given the different level of maturity for undertaking MRV across different themes. Others also argued MRV system should be for INDC/mitigation.
- On **APPROACH**, some viewed national-level MRV system should be top-down, whereas sectoral MRV be bottom-up, in order to enable monitoring for the progress of implementation of allocated targets by line ministries.
- On **potential LEGAL FORM** of the envisaged national MRV system, MONRE shared its view that MRV could be anchored into two sets of legal forms - a decree to define administrative procedures whereas a ministry circular to define technical guidance and instructions. Others voiced a decree would be the right legal basis for requesting data from line ministries to companies working on sectoral NAMA.
- Some also supported the idea of national MRV system to **DRAW ON EXISTING SYSTEM and PRACTICES** in general, but others insisted how to best utilize the existing system while reflecting lessons and addressing on-going challenges remains critical in operationalizing national MRV. In this regard, some shared on-going practical challenges for national MRV structure to take into account, including the following:

- Data sources and quality (accuracy, up-to-date), target aggregation and common reporting basis (e.g. definition of indicators);
 - System of verification;
 - Insufficient capacity of local-level entities 1) to assume its role as verification/approval agency – they could rather serve as cooperating agency to facilitate information flow, and 2) of the Focal Point Department at local level to manage cross-sectorial coordination across Line Departments;
- On **INSTITUTIONAL ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES** for national MRV, some raised a question on the MONRE's proposed structure and wondered if it's NCCC's task to approve every project-level NAMA. Given the high-level advisory nature of the NCCC and its function as the decision-making body, he suggested creating a working group under NCCC to secure a space for national technical discussions and required works, including technical screening/endorsement and gauging performance of proposed mitigation activities.

Some also raised question if the proposed MRV structure should be uniformly applied to mitigation sectors despite different structure and circumstances. For instance, some pointed out the proposed step for an approval of methodologies at local level for Cement sector is not applicable, and called for a tailored approach to accommodate different sectoral circumstances.

The discussion also tapped on **SECTORAL MRV**, and participants shared current status and observed challenges.

- Horizontal inconsistency - spontaneous undertakings of mitigation activities across sectors/sub-sectors in absence of common standard which also causes discrepancy in data provided across different ministries in charge;
- Weak vertical integration - some sectors (e.g. Cement production) are directly controlled by the central government and there is few involvement of local authority.

For ways forward, some suggested to elaborate findings of the studies presented in the workshop by synthesizing pros and cons as well as key lessons drawn from international experiences of MRV for Vietnam to adopt, as well as to secure some space to share lessons learnt from projects and agencies on MRV by line ministries and other stakeholders.

MONRE and Mr.Fukuda of SPI-NAMA both clarified this is the initial round of

consultation, and a number of consultations will follow in the coming days to discuss the key design issues at stake to consolidate legal documents for national MRV, and appreciated the wide range of inputs and views shared by participants.

The consultation ended with a closing remark by Mr. Tue of MONRE/ DMHCC.