

ART Board Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2025

ART Board members: W. Bumpers, C. Voigt, L. Ruiz, C. Nobre, R. Fosuah Adjei, P. Sherpa

Absent: P. Umunay, J. Verdieck

ART Secretariat: M. Grady, C. Magerkurth, F. Paniagua, J. Paltseva, J. Bloom, A. Budiman, I. Kadiri, M. Weisse

ART Board members held a virtual meeting in March 2025. The topics discussed included ART Secretariat updates, TREES 3.0 review process overview, Beyond Carbon benefits certification updates, and Board meeting schedule.

1. Welcome and Agenda

INFORMATION

In the absence of the ART Board Chair, W. Bumpers acted as Alternate Board Chair and welcomed the Board members and the Secretariat to the meeting. The Alternate Board Chair welcomed the new Secretariat staff.

2. ART Secretariat Updates

INFORMATION

The Secretariat answered questions from the Board on the status of various Participants and other workflows. Additional information and details will be provided in the April quarterly Board meeting.

DISCUSSION

- The Board noted that Brazil has recorded a 65% deforestation reduction from 2022 levels. The Board noted that fires and forest intrusions from organized crime remain issues in the region.

DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Action Item: None

3. TREES 3.0 Review Process

INFORMATION

The Secretariat presented a detailed overview of the TREES 3.0 review process, which entails: engagement in targeted dialogues with key stakeholders; identifying elements of TREES that may benefit from updates; iterating information and drafts based on Board inputs until Board approves a public comment version; publishing a Board-approved draft revised version of TREES for public comment; gathering feedback through a 60-day public comment period; working with the ART Board to modify the revised draft based on public comments received; and publishing TREES 3.0 as approved by the ART Board. The Secretariat highlighted areas of potential updates for TREES 3.0.

DISCUSSION

- The Board asked questions regarding and discussed
 - Timeline for finalizing TREES 3.0
 - Means for stakeholder inputs, including IPLC and supply governments, how these would be reviewed by the Board and how they are made publicly available
 - Role of the IPLC Advisory Board
 - The Board's role in the review and approval process
 - Initial feedback on potential areas to be updated

DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Action Item: None

4. Beyond Carbon Benefits Certification Update

INFORMATION

The Secretariat provided an overview of the Beyond Carbon Benefits Certification development process, which will be an optional Certification that enables Participants to transparently report and verify the other impacts (benefits) that REDD+ programs can provide, including biodiversity, forests benefits, social and cultural benefits.

DISCUSSION

- The Board noted many benefits that forests provide locally and globally.
- The Board recommended that the Secretariat ensure the level of effort to report against the indicators balances robustness with practicality.

DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Action Item: The Board will connect Secretariat staff with researchers at the Atlantic Council, who may be able to provide a unique perspective on measuring biodiversity co-benefits.

5. Closing

INFORMATION

The Secretariat discussed the need to schedule additional meetings over the coming months. The Alternate Board Chair concluded the meeting.

DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

Action Item: The Secretariat will send the Board scheduling options for future quarterly meetings, as well as TREES 3.0-specific consultations.