UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Submission by the Russian Federation

on the agenda item 3 of Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement

Moscow, 27 October 2016

The submission is prepared in accordance to the decision of Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement on the agenda item 3.

Regarding the agenda item 3 of Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement «Further guidance in relation to the mitigation section of decision 1/CP.21 on:

a) **Features of nationally determined contributions**, as specified in paragraph 26»:

Given the need to achieve the goal of the Paris agreement referred to in article 2, all countries should endeavor to formulate their nationally determined contributions in absolute terms. The scope of affected sectors in the framework of the national goals should increase over time. Accordingly, during the development of guidance on the features of nationally determined contributions it is worth to consider the possibility of setting deadlines for developing Parties to formulate their nationally determined contributions in absolute terms. These deadlines developing country Parties could provide by themselves together with their submission of the following nationally determined contributions until 2020.

In the same time in the guidance the fundamental principle must be ensured – an independent choice of the Parties of the absolute reduction target in greenhouse gas emissions as well as those measures that the Party is going to take in order to achieve this goal at the national level.

Regarding item «b) **Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of nationally determined contributions,** as specified in paragraph 28»:

To promote clarity and transparency, as well as to ensure the opportunities to undertake a global stocktake and assessment of the global conformity to the objectives of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris agreement, the information on the national determined contributions from all of the Parties shall contain the similar information. It should be noted that most

aspects of the necessary supporting information is already listed in the paragraph 27 of decision 1/CP.21, and includes information on the origin, dates and/or periods for implementation, scope and coverage, planning processes, assumptions and methodological approaches for the estimation and accounting of anthropogenic emissions and, as appropriate, removals. As well as the information about why the Party believes that its nationally determined contribution is fair and ambitious, in light of its national circumstances, and how it contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention set out in article 2.

The Russian Federation is in view that the wording on the scale, scope and coverage of national determined contributions should match the names of the sectors and source categories of emissions and sinks in accordance with the methodological recommendations of the IPCC.

In order to describe the methodological approaches used in the national determined contributions it would be advisable to give a reference to the respective document that details this methodology, for example, the national inventory report.

We believe it is appropriate to suggest that the information provided in the national determined contributions of those Parties that define their targets in relative terms, also included the projected amount of greenhouse gas emissions to the expiration of this contribution in absolute terms.

Regarding item «c) **Accounting for Parties' nationally determined contributions,** as specified in paragraph 31»:

The item (c) relates not only to the reporting, but to the accounting rules of the achieved emission reduction and enhanced sinks in the nationally determined contributions.

Given that the main principles of the Paris agreements are a voluntary and independent choice of the country, in order to develop the accounting rules for anthropogenic emissions and sinks it is necessary to provide a flexible approach to establish a baseline. Baseline or so-called "reference point" must be determined independently by countries for each sector or category of sources and sinks at any time of the update of their nationally determined contributions.

The Russian Federation supports the proposal to conduct negotiations on this agenda item as a single group, without isolation of groups by different sectors. However such single group should consider the issues specific to the land sector, including forests. Using the experience of previous years, we believe that the possibility to maintain previously developed provisions for extreme natural disturbances is essential. We assume it is appropriate to use these provisions (paragraphs 33 to 36 of decision 2/CMP.7) as a single unit for accounting rules in the framework of the Paris agreement.

Similarly, the accounting rules for the harvested wood products provided in paragraphs 26-32 of decisions 2/CMP.7, can be used in the framework of the Paris agreement as a ready-to-use block.