

## **Achieving Consensus**

The Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Forum is a consensus process that is in its closing phase. Closure is recognised as a major challenge, with important lessons learned from the World Commission on Dams. With the WCD, closure was achieved, but opportunities for dialogue and interaction on the final documents was highly constrained resulting in a lack of endorsement from important sectors.

With the HSAF, two years has been invested into building strong relationships amongst the Forum members and their organisations, and it is firmly believed that closure can be reached. A decision-making procedure was introduced specifically for Forum Meeting 9 to test proximity to consensus on key issues, and the level of significance placed on each issue by Forum members holding a minority view (i.e. is this a barrier to adoption or endorsement?). Meeting papers prepared for this meeting have carefully isolated and framed the key issues and the decision points.

At the time of writing of this Forum Meeting Paper, it remains to be tested whether the Forum will be able to close its deliberations at Forum Meeting 9 and table a consensus recommendation on the Protocol following this meeting. Meeting 9 will test the ability to reach a consensus end product, or whether key members will feel a need to indicate their withdrawal as candidates for Protocol adoption/endorsement in which case the dialogue will be around how divergent views are recorded.

## **Scenarios for Forum Closure**

Given the very high degree of convergence that has been realised on many critical issues, the following scenarios assume that a final Protocol that is a strong candidate for adoption by IHA and endorsement by a number of Forum organisations will be achieved. The scenarios are around the length of time required to fully close.

Three scenarios are examined in this respect, and are shown in Table 1. Built into all these scenarios is a strong message from the IHA Reference Group that they need a period of time to properly review and discuss the outcomes of Forum Meeting 9, and to form views on the suitability of the resultant document to be put to a resolution for IHA adoption. Other Forum members are similarly emphasising the need for proper review, digestion and analysis of critical documents at this late stage.

In summary:

1. Closure at Forum Meeting 9 → IHA Special Resolution at HydroVision Conference (27-31 July 2010) → Protocol launch after 1 October 2010 (maybe Delhi IREC, 27-31 Oct)
2. Close to closure at Forum Meeting 9, with final Forum webinars → IHA Special Resolution at BM53 (Montreal, 15 Sep 2010) → Protocol launch after 15 December 2010
3. Several outstanding issues requiring a Forum Meeting 10 → IHA Special Resolution at BM53 (Montreal, 15 Sep 2010) → Protocol launch after 15 December 2010

<b>Scenario 1 – Closure at Forum Mtg 9</b>	<b>Scenario 2 – Closure with HSAF Webinars</b>	<b>Scenario 3 – Closure with Forum Mtg 10</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> May 2010 – Target date for Draft2 Final to be agreed by the Forum members as reflecting the outputs of their discussions at Forum Mtg 9, and circulated to reference groups	21 <sup>st</sup> May 2010 – Target date for Draft2 Final to be agreed by the Forum members as reflecting the outputs of their discussions at Forum Mtg 9, and circulated to reference groups	21 <sup>st</sup> May 2010 – Target date for Draft2 Final to be agreed by the Forum members as reflecting the outputs of their discussions at Forum Mtg 9, and circulated to reference groups
12 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2010 – 4-day meeting of the IHA Reference Group to review the Draft2 Final; other reference groups also reviewing at this time.	12 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2010 – 4-day meeting of the IHA Reference Group to review the Draft2 Final; other reference groups also reviewing at this time.	12 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2010 – 4-day meeting of the IHA Reference Group to review the Draft2 Final; other reference groups also reviewing at this time.
No recommended changes.	23 June 2010 - changes proposed by IHA Reference Group and/or others are circulated.	23 June 2010 - changes proposed by IHA Reference Group and/or others are circulated.
IHA Board proposes Resolution for adoption of the Protocol by IHA members based on the Draft2 Final. The Board would make this recommendation out of session over the course of July 2010.	05 July – Forum Webinar 5 to review the feedback from IHA and other reference groups, and reach agreements on how to incorporate them in a Draft3 Final.	05 July – Forum Webinar 5 to review the feedback from IHA and other reference groups, and reach agreements on how to incorporate them in a Draft3 Final.
8 weeks for Resolution process.	21 July – Recommendations are consolidated by the Forum Coordinator and circulated as a Draft3 Final, with decision points clearly isolated and defined.	21 July – Recommendations are consolidated by the Forum Coordinator and circulated as a Draft3 Final, with decision points clearly isolated and defined.
Forum Launch anytime after 1 October 2010 – opportunity at Delhi International Renewable Energy Conference, India (27-19 Oct 2010).	4 August - Forum Webinar 6 to discuss Draft3 Final. The outcome of the webinar is Forum agreements on the Final Protocol.	End of July (possibly around Hydrovision) / early August (possibly in Beijing) – Forum Meeting 10. Outcome of the meeting is Forum agreements on the Final Protocol.
	IHA Board meeting 53 in Montreal (15 Sep 2010) proposes Resolution on the basis of Final Protocol.	IHA Board meeting 53 in Montreal (15 Sep 2010) proposes Resolution on the basis of Final Protocol.
	12 weeks for adoption / endorsement process	12 weeks for adoption / endorsement process
	Forum Launch anytime after 15 December 2010	Forum Launch anytime after 15 December 2010

*Table 1 – Scenarios to Forum Closure*

## **HSAF BUDGET AND IMPLICATIONS**

This section on the Forum budget covers three items:

- HSAF revenue and expenditure in Financial Year 2009-10 (up to 31 March 2010)
- Budget for the period April – June 2010 (to be covered from remaining funds in the HSAF budget)
- Estimates on costs for the Scenarios for Forum closure

### **HSAF Revenue and Expenditure 01 April 2009 – 31 March 2010**

Table 2 summarises HSAF revenue and expenditure in FY 2009-10 (in GBP).

<b>Project Revenue</b>	
Government funding	157,505.20
NGO funding	12,780.40
Banks funding	21,663.78
<b>Total Project Funding Income</b>	<b>191,949.38</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Salaries, travel & subsistence	94,596.50
<b>Total Staff Costs</b>	<b>94,596.50</b>
Direct project purchases	1,800.72
IHA office administration expenses recharged	16,743.79
<b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>18,544.51</b>
Site visit and tour costs	425.85
Venue hire and catering	3,611.97
Participant support costs	13,624.51
Reference group support costs	12,406.92
Project reports	0.00
Honoraria (Forum chair)	10,000.00
<b>Other Project Costs</b>	<b>40,069.25</b>
Consultancy fees	5,400.00
Consultation	0.00
Trialling	0.00
Project specific auditing	1,730.00
Legal and professional fees recharged (e.g. accounting, audit preparation)	7,090.90
<b>Total Legal and Professional Expenses</b>	<b>14,220.90</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>167,583.78</b>
<b>Net surplus 01 April 2009 – 31 March 2010</b>	<b>24,365.60</b>

*Table 2 HSAF revenue and expenditure in FY 2009-10 (in GBP)*

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**HSAF budget update April-June 2010**

As previously communicated, the operation of the Forum in the quarter April – June 2010 is proposed to be funded by remaining funds of the project, and an additional IHA contribution of GBP 15,000. It has to be recognised that Hydro Tasmania is making a similar additional contribution by funding 50% of the costs of the Forum coordinator for the January to June 2010 period.

Carry over from FY 2008-09	8,000
Carry over from FY 2009-10	24,500
Proposed additional contribution from IHA	15,000
<b>Total funds available 01.04.2010</b>	<b>47,500</b>
Coordination from April to June 2010 (50% subsidised by Hydro Tasmania)	6,000
Coordinator travel April to June 2010	5,000
IHA staff & admin: April to June 2010	8,000
NGO Reference Group	7,500
Forum meeting: Chair	2,000
Forum meeting: Venue	3,000
Forum meeting: Participant support	8,000
Project reports / dissemination	0
Consultancy	0
Project specific auditing	3,000
Contingency	5,000
<b>Expenditure total</b>	<b>47,500</b>

*Table 3 HSAF budget April – June 2010 (in GBP)*

No funding is available for design, printing and distribution of final reports and the publication of the Protocol. This identified need is addressed in the next section on budgetary requirements towards Forum closure.

**Cost estimates for scenarios to Forum closure**

Table 1 above presents three scenarios to Forum closure, with differences in timing of project completion and whether an additional meeting will be necessary. Budget implications are:

- Scenario 1 – Closure at Forum meeting 9. In this case, Forum closure would be achieved within the April-June quarter. No additional meeting would be necessary. Additional funding would however be necessary to produce the Protocol as a published document. Costs for launching the Protocol and different application pathways are not included in this modelling.
- Scenario 2 – Closure with HSAF webinars. In this case, Forum coordinator employment would have to be extended by at least three months (July – September 2010). Publication funding would be necessary as in Scenario 2.
- Scenario 3 – Closure with Forum meeting 10. In addition to the costs of Scenario 2, funding for an additional Forum meeting would be necessary.

Table 4 compares additional funding needs of the three scenarios to Forum closure.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Scenario 1</b>	<b>Scenario 2</b>	<b>Scenario 3</b>
Coordinator costs (July – September)	0	15,000	15,000
Coordinator travel to Forum meeting 10	0	0	3,000
Forum meeting: Chair	0	0	2,000
Forum meeting: Venue	0	0	7,000*
Forum meeting: Participant support	0	0	7,000
Protocol publication	10,000	10,000	10,000
Contingency	1,000	2,000	5,000
<b>Expenditure total</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>49,000</b>

\*these costs might be reduced if the meeting is hosted

*Table 4: Additional funding needs to Forum closure (in GBP)*

No funding is available for any of these projected costs. IHA is not in a position to make further contributions beyond the GBP 15,000 that will already be necessary to cover the costs up to June 2010 (see above).