Paper for the SPG from the CPM Bureau Chair

The Process for Adopting CPM Recommendations

**Background**

Discussions at CPM-8 indicated a wish to reconsider the process formerly agreed for adopting CPM Recommendations. Canada has prepared a paper under this agenda item which sets out the history of CPM Recommendations; this paper raises three specific issues for discussion:

* What issues trigger the development of a CPM Recommendation and what, if any, are the current prioritization mechanisms?
* For consistency, the identification of a central point of contact within the Secretariat could be considered to coordinate the overall process of CPM Recommendations.
* Could the process for the development and adoption of CPM Recommendations be further clarified, in particular to provide a predictable consultation period, and associated Contracting Party notification process within the CPM recommendation procedure?

The CPM Bureau had discussed the issue of timing of consultation and agreement of recommendations in its June 2013 meeting and proposed the following:

1. Draft recommendations to be circulated for comment by 1st June, with a closing date for comments of 1st September
2. Secretariat to revise drafts on basis of comments received, then to submit the draft to SPG (assuming these continue in mid-October)
3. SPG to discuss and then Secretariat to redraft recommendation by end-December
4. “final” draft to be submitted to CPM for adoption

SPG will wish to consider this timetable and process and if appropriate recommend it to CPM-9. The other two issues in the Canadian paper, reproduced above, can also be discussed in SPG.