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**Travel Authorization #:**

**Approved Mission Itinerary:**

Tina Hageberg: Oslo-Quito-Oslo  
Pierre-Yves Guedez: Panama-Quito-Panama

**List of Annexes:**

- Agendas: exploratory workshop on a possible PGA in Ecuador (both in English and Spanish)
- Participants list from the workshop

**Inclusive Travel Date**

14-20 November 2011

**Key counterparts in location:**

- Ecuadorian Ministry of Environment, Resident Coordinator's Office, UNDP Country Office, the UN-REDD Programme team in Quito, as well as civil society actors in *Mesa de Seguimiento* and *National Standards Committee* (see attached participants list for the workshop)

**Purpose/Objective of Mission:**

1) Present the concept of PGA in detail to the GoE and a selected set of actors, to ensure a common understanding of the approach itself, its objectives and main components; 2) Present to the GoE and a selected set of actors the Concept Note for the PGA, its format and content, and the most important information it should detail, 3) Initiate discussion on how to identify relevant stakeholders and participants that should be involved during the preparation of the Concept Note, taking into account the existing platforms of dialogue at the national and sub-national levels. 4) Discuss how to integrate the PGA and the REDD+ SES, SEPC and NFMA work on data collection 5) Agree on the immediate next steps in the preparation of the Concept Note for the PGA for REDD+

**Brief Summary of Mission Findings:**

- The Ministry of Environment (MAE) is still highly committed to the PGA process. So are the UN Res. Coordinator and UN-REDD team (Quito, regional , HQ)The PGA is seen as both relevant (in particular to NPD outcome 2 on inclusive participation) and timely in regards to the inception of the NP, the efforts of the GoE to define a possible governance model for REDD+ issues, an all the other REDD+ readiness initiatives in Ecuador
- It was perceived as very positive by the civil society stakeholders to be included from the very onset, and a number of constructive inputs and recommendations were received through group discussions in the workshop – as well as agreements reached on a possible roadmap for the elaboration of the concept note and the progressive engagement with key stakeholders.
- The participants present in the workshop (from the *Mesa de Seguimiento* and the *National Standards Committee*) are stakeholder platforms already existing which it was agreed it makes sense to use for this early phase. It was agreed further, however, that these platforms will be built upon to enhance participation and ensure relevant stakeholders are identified outside these platforms as well. Continuity of participating individuals will be crucial – and commitments to participate should be sought (also the designation of one alternate should be explored to limit the “turn-over”)
- Although there were critical questions the first day of the workshop – the second day proved useful by clarifying the approach, establishing the relevance and purpose of the PGA, as well as resulting in agreed next steps and a timeline for the further work
- Possible links with other initiatives are explored, but the main focus in the near future will be on the PGA process. Once concrete activities and the scope for the PGA are identified, possible synergies with other similar initiatives should become clearer than at present.
- The need for information material in Spanish was recognized
- Interest was expressed for a South-South exchange by bringing experience from the Indonesia

**Key next steps identified in the workshop/ meetings in Quito:**

- MAE will draft the work plan leading up to a Concept Note in April, including training/ workshops to “socialize” the PGA approach, and further identification of key stakeholders, to ensure appropriate input by all relevant stakeholders (civil society, decentralized autonomous authorities, private actors) in the final version of the Concept Note
- The input, recommendations and agreements from the workshop will be documented and shared by MAE for further use in the PGA process
- Relevant stakeholders within GoE were identified beyond MAE (Secretariat of Transparency, Secretariat of Peoples, Ministry of Agriculture and SENPLADES) will be approached by MAE/ UN-REDD
- Translation of key information material to Spanish by UN-REDD (Tina)

**Distribution:**

**UN-REDD:** will be shared on UN-REDD workspace and a link will sent to FAO counterparts on PGA, UN-REDD/ UNDP team (HQ) as well as UNDP Ecuador.

- Check the possibility for Indonesian counterparts for knowledge sharing in the national workshop planned for March (Tina)
- Recruitment of the consultant in charge of the elaboration of the concept note (financed by regional program; TOR to be prepared by UNDP + GoE)
- Engage with governance specialists at the regional/global level to be ready for the national workshop on governance (Tina, Pierre)

**OGC** all staff