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9th July, 2012

Mr. Peter Holmgren,

Director, Climate, Energy and tenure Division,

Department of Natural Resources,

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Rome, Italy

Dear Sir,

Request for UN-REDD Global Programme Support to Kenya's REDD+ Readiness Activities

This is in reference to communication from the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat to Policy Board members on 19 December 2011, and materials communicated to Policy Board members at the occasion of its 8th meeting in Asuncion, Paraguay in March 2012. I am writing in my capacity as the national REDD+ Focal Point, Kenya, to request assistance to FAO under the Global Programme Targeted Support to develop a comprehensive gap analysis of the forest related legal framework relevant to REDD+, including assistance for drafting REDD+ provisions related to forest, land and carbon rights as well as benefit sharing mechanisms.

The overall objective is to contribute to the development of effective approaches to the governance of REDD+ in Kenya and to encourage foreign investments in REDD+ at country level. This will be realized by ensuring that the Kenya's REDD+ readiness process incorporates a strong legal framework that promotes investments while ensuring effective REDD+ benefit sharing arrangements.

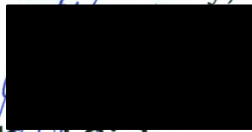
Pending legislation on land reforms and the revision of the Forests Act in light of the new Constitution (2010) may impact on forest governance and REDD+ implementation. In particular the new Constitution will have important implications on the management of trust lands where significant forest resources are located. In addition, we need to generate responses to the current

gaps in land ownership rights, and the lack of appropriate benefit-sharing arrangements to underpin REDD+ activities of public and private actors.

Understanding how to define forest carbon rights, including carbon rights generated by trees, and how the benefits related to forest carbon sequestration activities are equitably distributed to relevant stakeholders and communities depending on forests, is a key challenge for REDD+ in Kenya.

These activities seek to support and complement Kenya's REDD+ RPP implementation under the FCPF, whose preparation grant is under consideration. We understand that this request is aligned with the UN-REDD Programme's objectives, under Outcome three (3) of its Global Programme.

Yours, Faithfully,



Alfred Gichu
National REDD+ Focal point
Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife,
Kenya