

September 8 2009

**Dr. Nazareno Castillo Marín**  
**Director de Cambio Climático**

**Subsecretaría de Promoción del Desarrollo Sustentable**

Reconquista 555 entrepiso - Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires – Argentina

Dear Dr. Castillo Marin:

**REQUEST TO JOIN THE UN-REDD PROGRAMME**

Thank you for your letter enquiring about the possibility of Argentina to join the UN-REDD Programme. We have been able to review your request together with others that we have received.

We would like to inform you that funds for Quick start activities have been fully committed to the nine participating countries. Accordingly, it will not be possible for the Programme to expand the number of countries participating in this phase of the readiness process unless we are able to raise new and additional funding.

In view of the above we are proposing that Argentina be offered the following:

1. Permanent observer status to the Policy Board. Regrettably, due to funding constraints you would be requested to pay for your participation in the Policy Board Meetings.
2. Full access to the workspace as a knowledge platform
3. Receive sponsorship to attend regional workshops organised by the UN-REDD Programme
4. Receive documents and be placed on the mailing list

The Secretariat will be recommending to the Policy Board that Argentina be granted permanent observer status and receive the above benefits.

Finally we would like to draw your attention to the fact that the UN-REDD is finalizing a strategy paper that is designed to expand the Programme by introducing a set of products as follows:

- National monitoring systems for monitoring, reporting and verification

- Support for the Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and other stakeholders in National Readiness Processes
- Obtaining multiple benefits from REDD
- Country-led Governance Assessments & Support Services

The above products are being launched with a clear understanding that the process is country driven and responsive to the country context. The UN-REDD Programme will engage in a manner that can offer value addition to the requesting countries.

Funding is yet to be secured and the details of participation in the above are being finalized. Once launched, we believe Argentina could be eligible to be an early player in this next phase of our Programme given the progress you have made thus far under the FCPF.

Kindly let us know if the above proposal is acceptable so that we approach the Policy Board to endorse our recommendation.

Regards,

Yemi Katerere