



**Request for Policy Board Inter-Sessional Decision to invite Colombia to submit a National Programme
19 July 2012**

Recalling, that the co-Chairs of the Policy Board for 2012 are provided by Paraguay and UNEP. UNEP designated Ibrahim Thiaw as the UN co-Chair and Paraguay designated Rodrigo Mussi as the country co-Chair.

Noting, that following the eighth Policy Board meeting, Mr. Mussi resigned from the Ministry of Environment, and more recently there has been a change of government in Paraguay. The UN-REDD Programme Secretariat consulted with the new Minister of Environment, Mr. Heriberto Osnaghi, for the designation of a new focal point to co-Chair to replace Mr. Mussi as co-Chair for the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board. If, for any reason Paraguay is unable to meet this request, the Secretariat proposed to consult other partner countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) for another country to designate a country co-Chair to assume this role.

Also noting, in the interim, in order to ensure the smooth operation of the Programme, including inter-sessional decision making, and preparation for the ninth Policy Board meeting, the Secretariat sought the Board's guidance and agreement to allow the Programme to operate with one co-Chair while efforts under way to formalize the appointment of a new country co-Chair had concluded, and in doing so the UN co-Chair would sign official documents on behalf of the Policy Board and report back to the ninth Policy Board meeting.

Given the above, Policy Board members are hereby requested to approve, on a no objection basis, by the 19 July 2012, the following:

- 1. The UN co-Chair be designated the sole signatory on documents on behalf of the Policy Board and to report to the ninth Policy Board meeting on such activities;***
- 2. Should Paraguay be unable to designate someone in time for the ninth Policy Board meeting, to authorize the Secretariat to consult other LAC countries on the selection of a new country co-Chair.***