**Concept Note for UN-REDD Programme COP 18 CEB Side Event**

**Doha, Qatar**

**Title**: UN-REDD Programme: Meeting Country Needs for Concrete Progress through REDD+ Readiness

UN-REDD Programme: Meeting Country Needs for REDD+ Readiness and Beyond

**Date:** Wednesday 5 December 2012

**Time:** 13:15-14:45

**Location:** Side Event Room 1, QNCC

**Description:**

As countries are making progress through REDD+ readiness, the UN-REDD Programme is working with donors and REDD+ countries to find innovative means of support to meet the needs of advancing REDD+ implementation.

~~Norway and Viet Nam will strike the opening of this event with the reaffirmation of their continued cooperation to the advancement of REDD+, and of a successful partnership with the UN-REDD Programme. The countries will sign a joint declaration—the first ever REDD+ Phase II agreement supported by the Programme, within~~ *~~Tier 2~~*~~—a new modality of support recently approved by Programme. This initial agreement for support from Norway is in the amount of USD$ 30 million, with subsequent funding to follow.~~

This side event will also demonstrate how the UN-REDD Programme is evolving and innovating to support countries to complete their readiness phase, designing its activities to better support emerging country needs from progress in implementation. The value of the UN-REDD Programme’s collaborative country-driven approach will be illustrated with a presentation of the Programme’s work on governance and safeguards, followed by country presentations on innovative approaches and achievements on safeguards and legal preparedness, two areas where demands by many countries are increasing.

Norway and Viet Nam will close the event by reaffirming their continued cooperation in the form of a financing agreement for USD$ 30 million to support a second phase of the UN-REDD Programme in Viet Nam. A broader Joint Declaration on REDD+ cooperation will also be signed, to support policies and measures to enable participatory forest monitoring, address the drivers of deforestation and regional displacement of emissions

**Side Event Programme:**

**Chair/Moderator:** Charles McNeill - tbc

**13:15** Welcome and introductions – Mette Loyche Wilkie, Acting Head of the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

* Introductions
* Key results and progress of countries moving to phase II

**13:20** Country Needs Assessment—Thais Linhares-Juvenal Senior Officer, UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

* Presentation of UN-REDD Programme’s work on safeguards and governance responding to country needs

**13:30** Country Presentations:

Legal Preparedness - Jose Carlos Fernández, Head, Unit of International Affairs, National Forest Commission (CONAFOR), Government of Mexico

Safeguards - Salisu M. Dahiru, National Coordinator REDD+, Government of Nigeria

**13:50** Remarks from H.E. René Castro Salazar, Minister of Environment, Energy and Telecommunications, Government of Costa Rica

**13:55** Discussion/Q&A

**14:15** Viet Nam and Norway Signing Ceremony of Joint Declaration and Financing Agreement

- H.E Dr. Cao Duc Phat, MARD, Government of Viet Nam and H.E. Mr. Bård Vegar Solhjell, Minister for the Environment, Government of Norway

SAA - Deputy Director Aslak Brun, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will sign financing agreement with Bisrat Aklilu, Executive Coordinator, UNDP MPTF Office

* Signing ceremony of Viet Nam’s phase II agreement with Norway
* Remarks by Ministers

**14:40** Closing Remarks