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30<sup>th</sup> August 2013

Dear Mr. Boccucci,

**Subject: Request for approval of No-Cost extension  
Zambia's UN-REDD National Programme to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014**

I would like to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Zambia has formally requested a no-cost extension for the UN-REDD Zambia National Programme to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014. The letter is hereby attached for your information.

As indicated in the letter from the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, REDD+ is a key priority for Zambia, to addressing deforestation. It has the potential to ensure sound management of forests and participation of communities, and other stakeholders, in the management of this natural resource.

The UN-REDD Zambia programme, which began on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2010, was envisaged to be completed on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013. The programme has undergone an independent and Strategic Review to assess the extent to which the Programme outputs and outcomes have been achieved in preparing Zambia for REDD+.

The strategic review process has now been concluded with seven recommendations provided to enhance programme implementation. The first of these is to extend the programme for 16 months until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 to enable Zambia to finalize the REDD+ readiness phase by concluding major outputs, including the REDD+ strategy and establishing the MRV system, and laying a solid foundation for the REDD+ implementation phase.

Mr. Mario Boccucci  
Head, UN-REDD Programme Secretariat

In line with the above-mentioned, the programme steering committee, which met on 30 August 2013 has assessed the strategic review and endorsed its recommendations, including the recommendation to Government to extend the programme to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.

Accordingly, we are requesting the approval by the UN-REDD Programme's Policy Board of a 16 months no-cost extension for the Programme, until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.

In this regard, we are enclosing the Review Report, the management response to the Review, an Action Plan and indicative schedule of activities for the extension period for your consideration.

We count on your support and look forward to receiving a response to our request, at your earliest convenience, to avoid minimum disruption to the programme.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Clemensson  
UN Resident Coordinator (a.i)

C.c: Mrs Daisy Nkhata Ng'ambi  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection

George Okech  
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