

March 7, 2014

**Comments from the United Kingdom—Approval by mail: FIP Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC): Improved Forested Landscape Management Project**

Dear Patricia

The UK is grateful for the detailed responses to our questions and is pleased to approve USD 36.9 million in FIP grant funding for the project proposal entitled, *DRC: Improved Forested Landscape Management*, submitted by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

This approval is provided on the understanding that the following points are taken forward:

1. This project clearly demonstrates the intended purpose of the FIP; to create a link between REDD+ readiness preparation and future performance-based payments for emission reductions. The overlap between one of the FIP implementation areas and the forthcoming Emissions Reduction Programme under the FCPF CF provides a valuable opportunity for lesson learning along the REDD+ continuum. It also presents some methodological challenges relating to how activities funded by the FIP might be included in the results based payments systems developed by other REDD+ mechanisms.

It is therefore important that further dialogue within the FIP Sub-Committee, and close coordination with other REDD+ funds, takes place to resolve these questions.

2. Given the potential risks associated with the private sector fund under component 2, we ask that guidelines to address the risks are drafted and that these, along with details of Bank oversight procedures for this fund are included within the Project Appraisal Document (PAD) when it goes for Bank Board approval.

The UK also takes note of and approves the final estimate of USD 1.275 million for project implementation and supervision services and approves USD 425,000 for the final tranche of funding for such costs.

Best wishes

Gaia

Gaia Allison  
Forests and Land Use Adviser  
Climate and Environment Department  
Abercrombie House  
Eaglesham Road  
East Kilbride  
Glasgow G75 8EA  
+44 (0) 1355 84 3903