Dear Partners,

As one of the Co-Chairs of the REDD+ Partnership, I circulate the Draft Work Program.

I have to admit that although the Co-Chairs have communicated really closely over this most important set of documents since the 2nd week of the last Bonn AWG, aiming at proposing one draft from the Co-Chairs, but even now we find difficulties and problems to narrow the gap between two Co-Chairs. It comes from the differences on how we should understand the Work Program in the context of the REDD+ Partnership document adopted in Oslo. As time is running out, Japan proposed to Papua New Guinea to make a decision and to separately circulate its own draft to all the Partners. Japan believes that Papua New Guinea, our counterpart colleague, also shares the same view that the Partners should prepare for the discussion in the coming Brazil meeting with more than one draft rather than starting the examination without anything.

I am committed that, as one of the Co-Chairs, Japan, fully recognizing the role and the nature of the Chairs, tried the best to follow the provisions of the Partnership document, especially the measures listed in Appendix II. It also carefully read all the comments provided by Partners and reflected them into the draft as much as possible, while it took into consideration the restriction of time and feasibility, which many Partners reminded through the comments.

Japan regards that one of the main goals of the Brazil meeting is exactly to finalize the Work Program for the year of 2010 so that the REDD+ Partnership can actually give an instruction to FCPF/UN-REDD to make a budget estimation. Last but not least, the Co-Chairs always hope to contribute to the Partners by facilitating a meaningful discussion in Brazil.

Looking forward to seeing you soon. Best regards, Yoshiko Kijima Senior Negotiator for Climate Change Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan