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MINISTRY OF TOURISM, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

**FORESTRY DEPARTMENT**

**UN REDD STAKEHOLDERS’ CONSULTATIVE MEETING REPORT**

Tecla Lodge, 17th March 2009

Forestry Department

Kwacha House Annex

P.O. Box 50042

LUSAKA **18th March 2009**

# INTRODUCTION

Proposals have recently been made to include reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (commonly known as REDD) in the potential scope of the post 2012 Kyoto Protocol climate change regime. An eventual post 2012 mechanism for REDD would most likely involve compensation for countries that reduce deforestation rates below historical national baselines.

Zambia is one of the 9 countries in the world that will be piloting the United Nations Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (UN REDD) Programme. The pilot projects will be implemented in the following countries: **Africa;** Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tanzania, Zambia; **Asia and Pacific:** Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam; **Latin America and Caribbean:** Bolivia, Panama, Paraguay. The aim of the programme is to ensure that countries participating are ready for the post 2012 climate change regime. This will be achieved by development and testing of standards, methods and guidelines for assessment, monitoring, accounting, reporting and verifying reduction in deforestation and forest degradation.

In order to prepare for the Quick start activities under the UN REDD Programme, a second stakeholder meeting was held at Tecla Lodge in Lusaka on 17th March 2009. The meeting was called for the core government institutions to discuss matter related to:

1. Issues (priorities) that need to be addressed under REDD, which concern the core institutions
2. The context under which REDD should be implemented in Zambia
3. Institutional framework and structure
4. Potential policy choices

# DISCUSSIONS

The meeting deliberated on a number of issues focusing on the areas on the agenda as stated above.

## *Issues Considered as Priority*

Participants noted that REDD priority should focus on the following:

1. Establishing the baseline for carbon emissions for the nation in the area of deforestation and forest degradation.
2. Estimating emissions levels from deforestation and forest degradation. It was explained that the Integrated Landuse Assessment (ILUA) data/information provides the basic starting point for the process of estimating emissions and carbon levels.
3. Identification of pilot sites in order to test various requirements under the REDD programme.
4. Sensitization for stakeholders was required

## *Context for REDD Implementation*

The participants discussed the context in which REDD should be implemented in Zambia. The observations and recommendations were as follow:

1. REDD should be piloted based on Ecosystems and considering community setup as well (urban, peri-urban and rural) as these offer own challenges
2. Zambia should pilot REDD at two levels, based on national level and project level as both approaches have own advantages.
3. There was need to define areas and potential ideal size for piloting REDD

## *Potential Policy Considerations*

It was recognized that for REDD to provide adequate benefits, appropriate policy directions needed to be put in place. The recommended areas for policy considerations were as follows:

1. The participants emphasized that Zambia was a developing country and the implementation of REDD should not inhibit initiatives aimed at developing the nation. But rather REDD should supplement development initiatives.
2. It was recognized that land tenure issues related to long term implementation of REDD need to be considered and appropriate implementation arrangement put in place.
3. Appropriate support to small scale farmers, as an incentive, especially those that would enhance productivity and sustainable management of land and forest resource needed to be put in place.
4. Integrated approach and landuse planning as tools for sustainable resource use needed to be promoted.
5. The participants observed that once the Nation develops the Climate Change Strategy, it was expected that the National REDD strategy will be within the National Climate Change Strategy.
6. There was need to broaden the protected areas system to take into account the various initiatives that would be initiated especially by local communities.

## *Institutional Framework*

The participant recognized the important role that various institutions would play in the implementation of REDD. They discussed and recommended an institutional set up that would ensure that the objectives of the programme are achieved.

### *Implementation Arrangements and Coordination*

1. It was recognized that the Forestry Department has a critical role to play in the Implementation of UN REDD aimed at developing a National REDD strategy and piloting activities to reduce deforestation and forest degradation.
2. The participants appreciated that there has been Coordination among government departments in implementing integrated programmes like the Integrated Landuse Assessment (ILUA) which a number of stakeholders participated in the implementation. However, it was felt that there was need to work on improving how these collaborative programmes can be enhanced
3. The Forestry Department will be responsible for the day to day administration of the Programme
4. There was need to put in place a Technical Committee to provide technical support to the UN REDD Programme with Forestry Department as a lead agent. This will ensure that core stakeholders in REDD activities provide the required technical support. It was further agreed that the Technical Committee should have a smaller number of members.
5. In order to ensure policy guidance and advice in the implementation of REDD, a Steering Committee should be constituted with a broader composition.
6. The Technical Committee was expected to make recommendations that the Steering Committee would endorse especially those dealing with policy.
7. It was further agreed that there should be very few levels of decision making in the implementation of the REDD programme in order to ensure quick decisions and actions

#### Composition of the REDD Technical Committee

The participants proposed the following composition of the Technical Committee:

1. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
2. Ministry of Lands
3. Ministry of Energy and Water Development (Department of Energy)
4. Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry ( Trade)
5. Ministry of Community Development
6. Ministry of Transport and Communication (Department of Meteorological)
7. NGO
8. Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources ( Forestry, Planning and Information, Environment and natural Resource Management, Zambia Wildlife Authority, Environmental Council of Zambia)
9. Food and agriculture Organization (FAO)
10. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

It was further agreed that Ministry of Local Government and Housing should sit on the Steering committee. It was suggested that the steering Committee should have a broader composition.

#### Implementation Structure

The participants observed that the day to day administration of the programme would be led by the Forestry Department. However, the internal structure was administrative which the Department and the Ministry would handle. However the participants suggested two options:

1. To be administered within the structure of the Forestry Department but have staff attached specifically to the programme to ensure that project objectives are achieved.
2. If funds permit, a project office could be constituted with full time staff employed for the purpose of implementing UN REDD.

### *Field level Activities*

The participants emphasized the need of putting in place appropriate mechanisms for the participation of various stakeholders. It was also recognized that the implementation of UN REDD should follow a process approach in which a well designed consultation, planning and implementation of field activities would be done. Issues raised and recommended were as follows:

1. In order to enhance linkages of communities to private sector and other service providers, it was recognized that NGOs would play an important role in local community mobilization and capacity development, while government institutions would provide technical support and policy guidance.
2. The role of various institutions would be identified and be engaged according to their areas of expertise
3. There was need to recognize the role of chiefs and local communities in the implementation of REDD and the need to strengthen Community participation and benefit sharing mechanisms. Lessons from the mechanisms currently been implemented under the Forestry Department (Joint Forestry Management) and Zambia Wildlife Authority need to be explored further and find an appropriate approach to benefit stakeholders.
4. Need to promote intensive agriculture with emphasis on providing support to small scale farmers. The Farmers require support especially in improving production as well as agricultural inputs. Appropriate farming methods like conservation farming should be encouraged which promotes sustainable land management and forest resource management. Migration among local communities should be discouraged.
5. Local communities surrounding forests need to be assisted in production in order to reduce pressure on the forests and other type of land.
6. There was need to promotion sustainable use of energy and other initiatives to enhance conservation.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS TO THE REDD CORE STAKEHOLDER MEETING**

**TECLA LODGE, MASSMEDIA, LUSAKA**

**17th March 2009**

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| **NAME** | **ORGABISATION** |
| Boston Katongo | Environmental Council of Zambia |
| Deuteronomy Kasaro | Forestry Department |
| Carina Kejlstad | United Nations Development Programme |
| Mwepya Shitima | Environment and Natural Resource Management Department |
| Likukela Simasiku | Zambia Wildlife Authority |
| Waziya Chirwa Kampyongo (Mrs) | Ministry of Lands |
| Rhoda Habweele | Planning and Information Department-MTENR |
| Davies Kashole  | Forestry Department  |
| Sitwala Wamunyima | Forestry Department |
| Eric Chipeta | Food and Agriculture Organisation |
| Martin N. Sishekanu | Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives |
| *Charles Masange*  | *CBNRM/TPAZ* |
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