

## MINISTRY OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WEST BLOCK BUILDING, $2^{ND}$ FL, Independence Hill, Belmopan City

Email: minister@ffsd.gov.bz/ceo@ffsd.gov.bz

Tel: 822-0810/0401

Facsimile: 822-2394/2396

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Mr. Simon Whitehouse Coordinator Ad-interim FCPF Secretariat c/o Carbon Finance Unit The World Bank 1818 H Street NW Washington, DC 20433 USA

## Ref.: Belize's interest in joining FCPF

As expressed earlier Belize wishes to reiterate its sustained interest in joining the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility group of REDD+ countries with full financial support.

FMT Note 2012-3 from March, 2012 laid out strategic considerations for the reopening of the Facility. Since then, Belize has been working systematically on its draft R-PP, based on the template version 6. Early dissemination and outreach to relevant stakeholder groups have started with very good results. A REDD+ Technical Expert Working Group has been established with experts from various fields, aimed at developing and promoting REDD+ in the country.

We intend to present a first draft of the R-PP, in case our request for inclusion is accepted, at PC 15 in June, 2013, with an approximate date of submitting the draft for TAP review at some point of time in April, 2013.

During the entire process of getting ready for REDD+, Belize has had the continuous support from the German Technical Cooperation GIZ through the Regional REDD+ Support program which provided necessary resources for activities such as the establishment of the REDD+Coordination Unit and Technical Expert Group, drafting of the RPP, development of a consultation plan and legal review of carbon rights, among others. This strategic partner will continue its support over the next 6 years.

We haven't pronounced ourselves yet about our preference for a Delivery Partner for FCPF in the eventual R-PP implementation. Belize has an active portfolio with World Bank and wishes to work with World Bank as the Delivery Partner. The Protected Areas Conservation Trust in Belize is accredited with the World Bank and can also serve as the National Implementing Entity

Please do not hesitate to request further information as needed.

With best regards,

Lisel Alamilla

Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and Sustainable Development

CC. Dr. Wendel Parham, CEO – Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries & Sustainable Development

FCPF Participants Committee at its 14th Meeting

Dr.Laszlo Pancel, CCAD/GIZ REDD+ Program

Mr. Wilber Sabido, Chief Forest Officer, Forest Department