Indigenous Peoples Observers' Remarks to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) on the 28th Participants Committee Meeting and the 12th Participants Assembly 12 November 2019, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

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Thank you, Co-Chairs, for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples observers. We fully value our significant inclusion in these FCPF processes over the years, and this has been a continuing and successful partnership and opportunity for us to articulate our priority concerns to the FCPF Participants Committee and Participants Assembly.

For now, as already mentioned yesterday by Joseph, may we again briefly report on the recently concluded Global Dialogue of Indigenous Peoples, Forest Dependent Communities and southern Civil Society Organizations on the FCPF-CBP which was held last week, on November 7-9, 2019 in Washington. This was a culminating dialogue informed by the achievements, lessons learned, and recommendations from the Regional Dialogues conducted in Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean regions. Collectively, these dialogues were attended by more than 300 representatives of IPs, forest dependent communities, and southern CSOs, including most of the direct recipients or sub-grantees of the FCPF-Capacity Building Program from the Phases 1 and 2. May we then have this opportunity to reiterate a few recommendations from the Regional and Global Dialogues, as affirmed and adopted.

In relation to the update report of the FMT yesterday, we very much appreciate and fully acknowledge the current allocation of \$5million to be fully disbursed for the CBP by June 2020. However, for the additional allocation of \$5million as an extension of the FCPF capacity building program from 2020 to 2022, we request that this should be increased, at least to \$8million, in order to accommodate the new proposed activities that were identified in the regional and global dialogues and taking into account that this will cover a 3-years program period.

In addition, we sincerely appreciate the Federal Government of Germany in its leadership with the contribution of €20 million to support indigenous peoples and forest dependent communities, and southern CSOs, as a continuing contribution to the success of REDD+ and sustainable forest protection. We believe this will further support IPs and forest dependent communities as active partners in the implementation of the Readiness Phase and the ERP under FCPF and other related sustainable development programs. While the FCPF plans to open a new multi-donor trust fund to support indigenous people and local communities with Germany's contribution as the initial contribution, we sincerely appeal to all other donors to contribute to this trust fund for FCPF to sustain a programmatic support to indigenous peoples, local communities, including women and youth, beyond the term of the Readiness Fund, at least up to the end of the Carbon Fund by December 2025.

However, we want to emphasize to ensure ownership and social inclusion in the development of the program concept framework and design of the next program phase of the CBP until 2025, the Regional and Global Dialogues reiterated that this should undergo a process of robust consultation of IPs and CSOs both in content, form and delivery structure of the CBP, to include the priority activities to be undertaken as agreed in the regional and global dialogues. The new phase should consider additional components on emerging priority issues such as land and forest tenure rights and security, benefit-sharing models and livelihood support, participatory community-based monitoring and safeguard information systems, support for women and youth development, and grievance redress mechanism, with respect to the indigenous systems of resolving grievance and conflict resolutions. The regional and global dialogues had also reiterated the allocation of dedicated funding streams for women and youth capacity building, leadership development and effective engagement in REDD+ processes, including the implementation of gender action plans to ensure women and youth participation in Readiness and in ERPs.

Additionally, with the acknowledgement and the sincere intent to sustain successes already experienced and facilitated by the existing FCPF-CBP regional intermediaries for IPs and southern CSOs, the regional and global dialogues also affirmed their continued confidence, trust and mandate for these regional intermediaries to continue providing support and guidance for this new program phase. All of these regional intermediaries had already undergone a challenging process of almost 2 to 3 years of due diligence and compliance of fiduciary standards and requirements of the World Bank. It would again take so much time or additional years for compliance, if the Bank will be considering other modalities for the implementation of this new program phase.

More details were recommended by the three regions and affirmed by the participants to the Global Dialogue on specific priority concerns on capacity building, inclusion and partnership, non-carbon benefits and livelihood support, monitoring and safeguards, and funding support under the Readiness and ERP implementation which we will be submitting separately to the FCPF PC/PA through the FMT.

Thanks so much for your kind attention and consideration on these recommendations, as we move forward to a more productive partnership towards building capacities of IPs, forest dependent communities and southern CSOs in REDD+, in line with our contribution in achieving the twin goals of the World Bank and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
