

UNDP Remarks to the FCPF PA6, Monday 16th December 2013

Thank you co-chairs and the FMT for giving us the opportunity to make some short remarks to the Participants Assembly.

Congratulations to Elly for her appointment as the FCPF Coordinator. As a Delivery Partner, we look forward to working closely with Elly and her team. The success of PC16 is a great indication of Elly's capacity to hit the ground running and maintain the high standards of the FMT. We also appreciate the work Simon has done.

Since PC15 in Lombok UNDP has made some significant progress as a Delivery Partner. We received a first transfer of funds from the Readiness Fund trustee in August for the R-PPs of Cambodia, Honduras and Suriname. Internal fund management arrangements within UNDP were then completed. We are now actively supporting these 3 countries in the preparation of R-PP Project Documents (equivalent to the Grant Agreement).

For Cambodia, we have completed the R-PP Assessment Note and the Project Document has passed through UNDP's appraisal and clearance steps. I had hoped to be able to announce to you today that the Project Document has been signed, but it has been slightly delayed as our office in Phnom Penh clarifies their capacity needs for applying the dispute resolution process. We expect the Project Document to be signed this week.

The project preparation processes are well under way in both Suriname and Honduras and we anticipate both Project Documents being signed by March 2014. A number of preparatory support missions have already been undertaken to both countries.

In September UNDP's Executive Board approved a new UNDP Strategic Plan for 2014-2017, with a new vision for UNDP's work which sets new benchmarks for organizational effectiveness. As part of this, UNDP is developing new corporate policies for social and environmental standards and dispute resolution. The FCPF is contributing to these corporate processes and UNDP's FCPF projects are piloting the application of draft policies.

Cambodia, Honduras and Suriname have also benefited from missions from grievance experts and have also started to think through their REDD+ national grievance mechanisms, building on the joint guidance developed by UNDP and the FCPF.

I am also happy to report that discussions continue with Panama and PNG on UNDP's role as Delivery Partner. We very much appreciate the efforts of ANAM in Panama to work with COONAPIP in resolving the concerns that had been raised. For those of you that also participated in the UN-REDD Policy Board meeting last week, you would have heard COONAPIP and ANAM jointly presenting their conclusions. As a result, UNDP is now able to continue our due diligence and we are commencing the R-PP Assessment Note this month. In PNG, we are close to being able to confirm Delivery Partner arrangements with the Govt – OCCD.

Finally, just to note the significant amount of unseen collaboration that is going on between UNDP's REDD+ Team and FCPF countries. We were involved in supporting 3 countries prepare their R-PPs for presentation at this PC meeting and were satisfied to see they were all assessed very highly and were accepted. Congratulations to those countries. Thank you.