

Date: 11 December, 2009

Hour: 16:30 - 18:00

Venue: Victor Borg

CONTEXT

Central African countries regrouped under the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) are actively engaged in the international negotiations for the elaboration of a future post-Kyoto regime 2012. This commitment started in 2005 when the role of tropical forests to combat global climate change was adopted (COP11 Montreal). As such, COMIFAC/CEEAC countries have prepared and submitted their position (views) on the subjects under negotiation in particular avoided deforestation. In accordance with the Bali action plan, pilot projects and initiatives to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) have been initiated in the sub-region with support from development partners. The Conference of Parties in Copenhagen offers the opportunity to show ongoing efforts in the Congo basin region to find answers on methodological questions related to REDD.

It is in that context that COMIFAC has organized the current Side Event, with the support of GAF-AG, GTZ, KfW, ESA and facilitated by the CBFP. The Side Event has the objective to share experiences of the current REDD pilot initiatives in the sub-region, and present the opportunities and challenges of implementing the REDD policy process in the Congo Basin.



TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Welcome and key note addresses

- Welcome and Introduction on the Regional Vision on REDD and Climate Working Group of the COMIFAC/ECCAS area (COMIFAC President)
- Introductory Remarks on Central Africa positions during Copenhagen conference (ECCAS Secretary General)
- Introductory Remarks by the German Minister of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ)

2. REDD initiatives in the Congo Basin

- Preliminary results and perspectives of the REDD Pilot Project (GAF-AG/MINEP) in Cameroon (**Joseph Amougou, Cameroon Climate Focal Point/Thomas Haeusler, GAF**)
- Current status of UN-REDD Pilot Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (**Vincent Kasulu, DRC Climate Focal Point/ Ibrahim Thiaw, UNEP**)
- Preliminary results and perspectives of the regional study on the modelling of future deforestation tendencies in the Congo Basin and the associated greenhouse gas emissions (**Michael Obersteiner – IIASA**)
- ESA REDD Extension Project: Republics of Congo and Gabon (**Congo and Gabon Climate Focal Points; GAF Germany**)

3. Panel Discussion:

- Debate on opportunities and challenges on REDD for all the COMIFAC / ECCAS member states. **Concluding comments – by Ministers José BONONGE ENDUNDO and Henri DJOMBO**, in charge of the Environment of DRC and the Republic of Congo respectively.

Moderator: Dr. Hans SCHIPULLE, CBFP Facilitator

Reception afterwards: You are all welcome

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