



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

Office of the Honourable Minister

Headquarters Mabushi, Abuja.

☎: 09-6702721

22nd October, 2009

Benoit Bosquet,
Partnership Coordinator
World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)
The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW
Washington DC, 20433, USA

Your Excellency,

Request for Nigeria to join the World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)

Nigeria has some unique forests with endemic species found nowhere else on earth. However, 90% of our rainforests have been lost and the rest remains under threat from clearance for farming as well as illegal timber extraction. It is estimated that the rate of deforestation in Nigeria is over 2% per annum - one of the highest rates in the world.

2. In spite of this, we are determined to conserve what remains of our forests. We believe that conservation and sustainable management of our forests must be a key part of our nations overall strategy for addressing climate change.

3. We believe that carbon credits through the emerging REDD (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) mechanisms could be instrumental in helping us to manage our forests as part of our climate change strategy. However our participation in a REDD mechanism will be almost impossible without access to additional financing and capacity building for forest management stakeholders at all levels in Nigeria.

4. Already there are several initiatives at the state level in various parts of the country (including Cross River State, Ogun State, Ondo State and others) that wish to explore the opportunities offered by REDD but we understand that these will not be able to progress without a national policy and institutional framework for REDD for Nigeria as a whole.

5. We would like to formally request for Nigeria's admission into the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility so that Nigeria can be supported to ultimately be able to effectively participate in the implementation of the REDD mechanism to our forests nationwide.

6. Please let us know what further steps are required for our request to be given serious consideration. We look forward to your favorable response.



John Odey
Honourable Minister