SUBJECT: Refusal to El Salvador R-PP approval and demand for withdrawal by the Government

Mr.
Benoît Bosquet
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)
Coordinator
Environmental Department
World Bank
Washington D.C., US

Dear Mr. Bosquet,

The below signatories social organizations of El Salvador, would like to express our more profound concern and refusal to the eventual approval of the document Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), submitted by El Salvador government through the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), to the FCPF of the World Bank (WB), on April 23^d this year. At the same time we request you to interpose your endeavors in order for the FCPF Participants Committee (PC) not to approve such R-PP proposal.

Our demand is based on the review, in-depth analysis and specific observations to the referred R-PP (document attached to this letter). The R-PP has serious conceptual and methodological deficiencies, and if it were approved by the FCPF, it would imply adverse consequences for the Salvadoran society, increasing vulnerability and disasters frequency, and postponing the accomplishment of urgent national and international commitments related to climate change. Also, we are requesting the Minister of Environment of Natural Resources to withdraw the R-PP from the official FCPF process, and the Regional Coordinator of the REDD-GIZ Program, to suspend the co-financing

We demand that any consultation process in regard to REDD has to be organized and promoted on the basis of transparency, information, true participation, the best scientific knowledge available and the international commitments adopted; in order to define the pertinency and role of REDD+ in mitigating climate change appropriately under the framework of a National Climate Change Strategy and Plan and the commitments adopted in Cancun and Durban, considering different national approaches and proposals, including those of indigenous people.

Our organizations disagree and refuse the approach referred to as "Mitigation based on Adaptation" (MbA), in the way it has been conceived by MARN in the R-PP. We consider that such approach lacks a robust conceptual basis and generates a series of incoherencies, inconsistencies and gaps that would be reflected in every relevant result of the Readiness Phase. The MbA approach does not recognize neither rely on the adaptation knowledge produced by the scientific community, and it overlooks the climate change science findings, about which there exists a broad global consensus articulated in the IPCC technical and scientific reports.

As well, we express our high concern and discontent because of the restricted, poorly consulted and transparency-lacking process conducted by MARN minister during the R-PP formulation and elaboration process, particularly in the MbA approach. Such a process has not consulted relevant stakeholders and sectors, some of which had already proposed climate change policies and measures. It has also been driven with secretiveness and hastiness, separated from the multilateral climate change process, and overlooking governmental current commitments related to the definition and implementation of climate change policy frameworks, particularly national climate change strategies and plans, adaptation national plans, national appropriate mitigation actions, education, public awareness and social participation to face climate change effectively.

Based on previous argumentation, the criteria exposed in the analytical document attached and the current WB guidelines on indigenous people; we reiterate our refusal to the R-PP and the process under which it was conceived and officialized by MARN. We consider that the R-PP lacks scientific and technical basis, as well as social legitimacy, as to guarantee the political viability that is required for its successful internalization and implementation by all relevant stakeholders; particularly the most vulnerable populations to climate change and related variability, such as indigenous people, farmers, forest communities, disadvantaged women and marginalized rural and urban populations.

We rely on your concern as for the success of FCPF operations, which are evaluated in terms of their effective contribution to the accomplishment of decisions adopted by governments under the UNFCCC multilateral process. We also rely on your effective endeavors to operationalize recommendations given by such decisions in order for multilateral and bilateral organizations to adopt the "best practices" in the processes of definition, management and assessment of their programs.

We will be expecting for your favorable response to our inquiry.

Respectfully yours,

Cc:

- Facility Management Team of the FCPF (FMT)
- Joëlle Chassard, WB Carbon Financing Unity Manager
- Gerardo Segura, Agriculture and Development Team, LCA Region, WB Environmental Department
- Alberto Leyton, WB Representative El Salvador Office
- Ken Andrasko, Rajesh Koirala, Peter Saile, Stephanie Tam, Raju Koirala, Ken Andrasko, Pierre-Yves Guedez y Leonel Iglesias del BM
- Laszlo Pancel, REDD-GIZ Regional Program Coordinator
- Herman Rosa, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of El Salvador
- Chris Lang, REDD-Monitor director

SIGNATORIES SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS OF EL SALVADOR

(to be continued in page 3 out of 3)

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Confederación Salvadora na da Cooparativas Offenitto CONSALCOOP / ALSACOOP José Ofilio Cochillas Judith Del Cormen Herwander

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