

**UN-REDD Programme Remarks to FCPF Participants Committee and Assembly meetings  
Berlin, 17 October 2011**

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1. As you are aware the UN-REDD Policy Board met in Berlin from 13 to 14 October and would like to share some highlights from that meeting.
2. The PB approved Nigeria's funding request for its full National programme. This brings to 14 the number of countries receiving funding from the Programme. I would like to congratulate Nigeria for an excellent National Programme document.
3. The Policy Board approved a process and timeframe to undertake a countries' needs assessment. A board working group will be established to work with the Secretariat to prepare ToR and a methodology. We understand that the FCPF also intends to undertake a similar exercise. This presents a unique opportunity for the two initiatives to explore collaboration.
4. The Policy Board also approved proposals by country members to rotate board member seats. The donors are also looking at options to rotate seats and will communicate their proposal before the end of the year.
5. Linked to the rotation of seats was a decision by the board to begin a process leading to a comprehensive review of the rules of procedure
6. With respect to thematic issues, the board's Independent Advisory Group (IAG) made an interesting presentation to the meeting on Rights based financing for REDD+. The presentation highlighted the importance of clarifying tenure. The issue of tenure is also linked to equitable benefit sharing systems. As these are also issues that the FCPF is looking at, the Board encouraged the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board to explore synergies with FCPF.
7. The UN-REDD Programme is currently undertaking an internally commissioned independent review of the Programme's management. Two independent consultants are working on the review and have already reached out to some members of the Participants Committee and Assembly.
8. The next Policy Board meeting will be held in Paraguay in March 2012. The Republic of Congo also offered to host the next Policy Board meeting that will be held in Africa.
9. Thank you and look forward to the discussions over the next 3 days.