Endorsement of Guyana’s Readiness Package

Whereas:

1. The Participants Committee (PC), through Resolution PC/12/2012/1, defined the purpose, scope, assessment process, and endorsement process for the Readiness Package (R-Package);

2. The PC, through Resolution PC/14/2013/1, adopted the R-Package Assessment Framework;

3. Guyana has: (i) prepared an R-Package, (ii) carried out a national multi-stakeholder self-assessment process, using the R-Package Assessment Framework; and (iii) provided the information for each of the nine subcomponents of the R-Package Assessment Framework, in accordance with Resolution PC/14/2013/1;

4. A Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) expert and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) reviewed the national multi-stakeholder self-assessment process carried out by Guyana and the information submitted by Guyana;

5. The PC acknowledges the extensive efforts made by Guyana and Guyana’s readiness progress achieved to date;

6. Section 6.02 of the Rules of Procedure of the PC authorizes the FCPF Facility Management Team (FMT) to determine that certain action required or permitted to be taken at a PC Meeting may be taken without a meeting through electronic means on a no-objection basis in accordance with the procedures set forth in Sections 6.03 through 6.05 of the Rules of Procedure of the PC (No Objection Process); and

7. The FMT has determined that the decision to endorse Guyana’s R-Package shall be considered without a meeting following the No Objection Process.

The Participants Committee,

1. Decides to endorse Guyana’s R-Package;

2. Encourages Guyana to continue with its readiness process, including implementing its work program, and to take into account issues raised by the TAP expert and the IDB (as listed in the Annex to this Resolution); and

3. Requests Guyana to report to the PC on its continued readiness process and progress, including the implementation of its work program, in accordance with Section 6.3(b) of the Charter and the periodic reporting under the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. Where applicable, Guyana is requested to include information on how it has taken into account the issues referenced in paragraph 2 above in this regular reporting.
ANNEX

List of Issues

- The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) congratulates the Government of Guyana on developing its Readiness Package and will support the country in the programming of this thematic area.

- The R-package is fully aligned to the IDB Group’s Strategy for Guyana (2017 - 2021), specifically with the cross-cutting themes of climate change and gender and diversity.

- The IDB Group agrees with the opinions arising from the self-assessment and TAP Review report on the Readiness Package submitted by Guyana. Specifically, the country has made significant progress in REDD+ Readiness, has achieved important milestones as the Reference Emissions Level and Forest Monitoring System, Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards, REDD+ Strategy Options, and advanced in the REDD+ Strategy Options, the SESA, and ESMF.

- IDB encourages the government to address existing constraints related to (i) inter-institutional coordination of REDD+ activities, (ii) communication with stakeholders, especially indigenous communities, (iii) stakeholder awareness and understating of REDD+ and its progress, and (iv) the need to strengthen monitoring, reporting and information sharing, Institutional arrangements, and local capacities. REDD+ should continue to be an integral part of the vision for the development of Guyana, where a national inter-sectoral land use planning system will govern the use of forested areas, services, and products.

- As the Government of Guyana implements its REDD+ work plan, strong emphasis should be placed on developing a robust communications program to disseminate information related to REDD+ and its benefits and improve the general understanding among the population of complex REDD+ concepts, principles, and measures. Currently, a platform is in place that can be built on, especially given the work done in translating REDD+ material into local languages. It is suggested that this platform should be expanded in the future.

- In preparing to deploy the REDD+ project-based activities, implementing agencies and decision-makers in Guyana should strengthen existing governance frameworks. The effective implementation of critical aspects of the REDD+ Strategy, such as the benefit-sharing mechanisms/plan, natural resource rights, and inclusive participation, relies on robust policy, institutional and regulatory conditions. Any gaps that have been identified in these conditions, e.g., the creation of the Multi-stakeholder seller’s entity (MSE), should be addressed as soon as possible.