



Warsaw, November 18, 2013

To the Co-chairs of the COP Work-programme on results based finance for REDD+,

The below signed organisations and groups would like to present our views on results based financing for REDD+.

Arrangements for results based financing must maintain environmental integrity, as well as raising adequate and predictable support. This cannot be achieved if results based financing for REDD+ is used to offset mitigation commitments elsewhere. Due to problems of additionality, accounting uncertainties and risk of reversals, treating emissions from forest loss as equivalent with emissions from fossil fuel undermines global reductions at a time when urgent and steep emission reductions are needed.

In this context, we would like to draw your attention to the 16 September 2013 statement from the 16th BASIC Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change, which represented Brazil, China, South Africa and India, and was attended by Argentina, Fiji (as Chair of the G-77 & China), Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela. In paragraph 12 of this statement, “Ministers underlined the imperative that REDD+ ensures environmental integrity and, in this regard, stressed that results-based payments shall not be used to offset mitigation commitments by Annex I countries.”¹

We would also like to note that the concept of ‘net mitigation benefits’ achieved through conservative accounting (such as the use of ‘incentive levels’) does not in reality move countries beyond offsetting, as noted by the UNFCCC Secretariat in its NMM Technical Paper from August 2012 (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2012/tp/04.pdf>).

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https://www.environment.gov.za/mediarelease/16thbasic_ministerialmeeting_climatechange

We urge the co-chairs to ensure that the REDD+ finance decision represents a balanced reflection of views expressed from Parties and observers, ensuring environmental integrity in results based payments by excluding the use of offsetting, or the consideration of 'net mitigation benefits.'

Sincerely,

Centro de Planificación y Estudios Sociales, Ecuador (CEPLAES)

Climate Justice Programme

Federation of Community Forestry Users, Nepal (FECOFUN)

Forests of the World

Friends of the Earth Flanders and Brussels

Friends of the Earth Norway

Friends of the Earth US

Green Development Advocates (GDA), Cameroon

Greenpeace International

HuMa

IBIS – Education for Development

NGO Coalition for Environment, Nigeria (NGOCE)

POINT, Burma

ProNatura – Friends of the Earth Switzerland

Rainforest Foundation Norway

Third World Network (TWN)