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The UNFCCC Secretariat and the Standing Committee on Finance

### **Standing Committee on Finance 2015 Forum**

CIFOR would like to express our willingness to work with the UNFCCC and the Standing Committee on Finance in organising the 2015 Forum.

CIFOR has a successful history of arranging large events in connection with the UNFCCC through the series of Forests Days and more recently the Global Landscapes Forum. We have also held highly successful regional events such as Forests Asia earlier this year. Our events have attracted participation of Heads of State, Ministers, academics, indigenous peoples, civil society and a broad range of policy makers. CIFOR has significant convening power and is renowned for its high quality event organisation, communications and outreach.

The Standing Committee on Finance Forum in 2015 comes at an opportune time in relation to mitigation and adaptation related to the forest sector. We are at a turning point, which is evident through such outcomes as countries reaching the point of REDD+ implementation and more recently the New York Declaration on Forests.

The recent technical expert meeting on land use held in Bonn in June identified that near term high mitigation potential exists within the forest sector. This is also recognized by the recent IPCC AR5 Report. We are also now seeing new developments emerging within the Green Climate Fund to prioritise REDD+ funding with significant work underway and important decisions to be reached in Barbados in coming weeks.

As the finance discussion evolves we must however recognise that we need to look beyond mitigation and beyond markets. This is increasingly recognised within the negotiations concerning both REDD+ and the ADP where multiple sources of finance, both markets and non-markets and alternative policy approaches are considered to form a part of the solution. To achieve these objectives we consider it of high importance to consider the interface that exists between forests and agriculture as a major driver of deforestation and for finance for sustainable landscapes to be approached in a more holistic way.



## Center for International Forestry Research

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We would recommend that an event of this nature occur at a time and in a location that will ensure maximum engagement with REDD+, agriculture, ADP and finance negotiators and a broad range of stakeholders including indigenous peoples, non governmental organisations and the private sector. We would recommend engagement with the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), The GCF and the Adaptation Fund.

We look forward to receiving further information from the Secretariat and the Committee as to timing, duration and other arrangements following the 8th meeting of the SCF to be held this week.

Kind regards,

Dr. Peter Holmgren  
Director General



A member of the CGIAR Consortium