

May 18, 2017

**[Approval by mail] Request for Extension - Investment Plan for Cameroon (FIP)
Approval Notification**

Dear FIP Sub-Committee members:

We are writing regarding the request from the Government of Cameroon to extend the two-year period for submitting their Investment Plan to the FIP Sub-Committee for endorsement.

The time period provided for submission of comments and any objection to the decision has now expired. No objections were received. We are, therefore, pleased to inform you that the following decision is approved.

The FIP Sub-Committee reviewed the request from the Government of Cameroon to extend the two-year period for submitting their Investment Plan to the FIP Sub-Committee for endorsement.

The Sub-Committee approves the extension, up to the FIP Sub-Committee meeting in December 2017, for submitting the Investment Plan to the Sub-Committee for endorsement.

Sincerely,

Mafalda Duarte
Program Manager
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May 2, 2017

[Approval by mail] Request for Extension - Investment Plan for Cameroon (FIP)

Dear FIP Sub-Committee members:

You will recall that in January 2017 the FIP Sub-Committee approved the document entitled, FIP/SC.17/5/Rev.1, *Pipeline Management policy (FIP)*, for effectively managing the pipeline under the Forest Investment Program.

The document notes that new pilot countries accepted into the FIP should submit their investment plans for endorsement within a 24-month (2-year) timeframe from the date of acceptance into the SCF, or as directed by the Sub-Committee. It further states that should any of the pilot countries be unable to submit their Investment Plan (IP) for endorsement within the two-year period, these countries may request an extension, to be presented to the Sub-Committee, who will then determine if an extension can be granted and if so, for what timeframe.

We are writing to notify you that the Government of Cameroon is requesting an extension to the two-year period for submitting its Investment Plan to the FIP Sub-Committee for endorsement.

Please find attached the request for an extension and a letter from the Ministry of Environment supporting the extension, for your review and approval.

The FIP Sub-Committee is requested to approve the following decision:

The FIP Sub-Committee reviewed the request from the Government of Cameroon to extend the two-year period for submitting their Investment Plan to the FIP Sub-Committee for endorsement.

The Sub-Committee approves the extension, up to the FIP Sub-Committee meeting in December 2017, for submitting the Investment Plan to the Sub-Committee for endorsement.

If we do not receive an objection to the proposed decision by close of business on *May 16, 2017*, the decision will be approved.

Sincerely,

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Program Manager
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**CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES LEADING TO THE SUBMISSION OF THE FOREST INVESTMENT
PLAN TO THE FIP SUB-COMMITTEE**

TIMELINE	ACTIVITIES	OBSERVATIONS
30 April 2017	Production of the First Draft of the Investment Plan	The first draft is expected to be ready following the conduct of four regional workshops that were used to enrich the 3 preliminary programmes that were proposed
15-26 May 2017	Organisation of the Second FIP Joint mission to Cameroon	The FIP joint mission should coincide with the production of the of the First Draft to enable adequate appraisal of the proposed investment plan for Cameroon
6-7 June 2017	Presentation of the Draft to the inter-ministerial working group	For technical inputs
18-19 July 2017	Organisation of the National Validation workshop to validate the Investment Plan	-The Investment Plan shall be finalised with the inclusion of the recommendations of the validation workshop -The members of the REDD+ Steering Committee shall be important stakeholders during this workshop
26-27 July 2017	Endorsement of the Investment Plan by the REDD+ steering committee	This is to ensure that the investment plan adequately anchored at the political level
August-September 2017	Translation of the Investment Plan into English	The document has been produced using the French language, as majority of the stakeholders speak French
October 2017	Submission of the Investment Plan to the FIP Sub-Committee	The FIP Sub-Committee is expected to hold during November/December 2017

Template A - Request for an Extension of IP/SPCR Endorsement Date			
1. Country Name Republic of Cameroon			
2. Source of Funding	FIP X	PPCR	SREP
3. Lead MDB World Bank		4. Name of Lead MDB Focal Point: Emeran Serge Menang Evouna	
5. Partner MDBs African Development Bank			
6. Country Focal Point Dr Haman Unusa			
7. Date of Country Acceptance in the SCF Program May 29, 2015			
8. Date of IPPG Approval			
9. Date of Scoping Mission September 21-25, 2015		10. Date of Joint Missions <i>First: October 2-7, 2016(completed)</i> <i>Second: May 15- 26, 2017 (planned)</i>	
11. Date of IP/SPCR Approval	Original: June 2017	Proposed: November 2017	
Current Status of IP/SPCR Preparation <i>(describe in details activities and consultations conducted during the SPCR preparation process and other relevant information related to finalizing the IP/SPCR)</i> <p>After the notification by the FIP-Sub Committee in May 2015, the scoping mission by the Multilateral Banks was organized in September 2015. In October 2015, the Government selected the World Bank as lead MDBs. The Grant Agreement was signed in November 2016 and the first disbursement arrived only in March 2017. Despite these delays, Cameroon has made important strides in the preparation process of its Investment Plan among other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – realisation of the first joint mission of the Multilateral Banks in early October 2016; – recruitment of a consultant in November 2016 to accompany Cameroon in the preparation of the Investment Plan; – production of the preliminary report on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, strategic options as well as proposition of investment programmes; – organisation of a workshop in February 2017 in Mbalmayo to validate the proposed investment options; – organisation of four regional consultation workshops in April 2017 to consolidate the proposed investment programmes for Cameroon. <p>The government of Cameroon also secured complementary preparatory funding from the Central Africa Forest Initiative (CAFI) to finance this consultancy, as well as additional comprehensive consultations. The signature of the corresponding grant agreement has been delayed and is expected to be done in May 2017.</p>			
Next Steps to Justify Request for an Extension and Ensure Approval by the Proposed Target Date <i>(describe all activities to be completed during the extension)</i>			

- Production of the First Draft of the Investment Plan- April 30, 2017
- Organisation of the Second FIP Joint mission to Cameroon- May 15-26, 2017
- Presentation of the Draft to the inter-ministerial working group-June 6-7, 2017
- Organisation of the National Validation workshop to validate the Investment Plan- July 18-19, 2017
- Endorsement of the Investment Plan by the REDD+ steering committee- July 26-27, 2017
- Translation of the Investment Plan into English- August-September 2017
- Submission of the Investment Plan to the FIP Sub-Committee by October 2017

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT,
DE LA PROTECTION DE LA NATURE
ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

DIRECTION DE LA CONSERVATION
ET DE LA GESTION DES RESSOURCES
NATURELLES

00502

N° _____ /L/MINEPDED/SG/DCGR/PE-PIE

REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
PROTECTION OF NATURE AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT

12 0 AVR 2017

Yaoundé, the _____

THE MINISTER

To

MAFALDA DUARTE
Program Manager
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Administrative Unit 1818 H Street NW
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Subject : Request for the extension of the deadline for the examination of Cameroon's Investment Plan by the Sub-committee of the Forest Investment Programme (FIP)

Madam,

Following the admission of Cameroun during the Forest Investment Programme (FIP) Sub-committee session of May 2015 as one of the FIP Pilot Countries to benefit \$US 250.000 for the elaboration of an Investment Plan;

I have the honour to inform you that Cameroon has made important strides in the preparation process of its Investment Plan. The accomplishments made so far include the:

- conduct of the scoping mission by the Multilateral Banks, notably; the World Bank and the African Development Bank in September 2015;
- realisation of the first joint mission of the Multilateral Banks in early October 2016;
- recruitment of a consultant in November 2016 to accompany Cameroon in the preparation of the Investment Plan;
- production of the preliminary report on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, strategic options as well as proposition of investment programmes;
- organisation of a workshop in February 2017 in Mbalmayo to validate the proposed investment options;

- organisation of four regional consultation workshops in April 2017 to consolidate the proposed investment programmes for Cameroon.

Other concrete achievements of the REDD+ process include, the validation of the Mid-Term Review report and the acquisition of an additional funding of \$US 5 million dollars as well as the signature of the Letter of Intent (LoI) with the World Bank to prepare the ER-Programme.

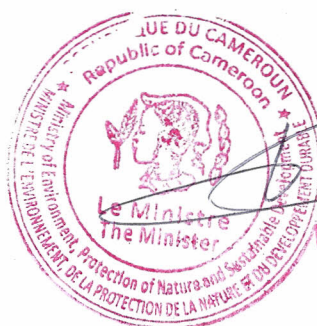
In spite of these efforts, Cameroon is still to accomplish other major activities that shall lead to the validation of the Investment Plan. However, the delay in the process has been as a result of multiple hurdles, including:

- late signature of the Grant Agreement between the Government of Cameroon and the World Bank. The Grant Agreement was signed in November 2016, and there was a delay in disbursement arrangements due to procedural issues. Concrete activities actually kicked off in February 2017 with the holding of the Mbalmayo workshop on strategic options;
- delay in the recruitment process of the consultant to accompany Cameroon;
- non-signature of the complementary Grant Agreement with CAFI (Central African Forest Initiative);
- the need to align the Investment Plan and the REDD+ national strategy whose second draft is expected by May 2017.

As a result of these hurdles, Cameroon would not be able to submit its Investment Plan as previewed in April 2017 for review by the FIP Sub-committee in its June 2017 session. In this light, I would like to transmit to you the new calendar of activities that would enable Cameroon submit its Investment Plan by October 2017 for your kind approval.

While expressing my sincere appreciation for the fruitful collaboration existing between your institution and Cameroon, do accept Madam, the assurance of my distinguished considerations.

Attached file:
-New calendar



HELE Pierre