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Environmental Protection Agency

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Our Ref. GD 65/229/01

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The Executive Secretary
UNFCCC Secretariat,
P. O. Box 260 124,
53153 Bonn
Germany
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Dear Sir,

GHANA'S NATIONAL DEFINITION OF FOREST

Recognizing the potential contribution of afforestation/reforestation Clean Development Mechanism project activities to the Ghana's sustainable development, the Government of Ghana; under the auspices of the Forestry Commission of the Ministry of Lands, Forestry and Mines; called for a stakeholders' meeting to re-assess and re-define the national definition of forest which had been submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat.

The meeting sought to assess the **applicability** of the submitted national forest definition in the light of the **varied agro-ecological zones** in the country and potential the submitted definition has to reduce CDM eligible land areas, as well as, and the potential for communities to benefit from and the private sector entities and government to be engaged in CDM A/R projects across the country.

At this stakeholders' meeting a **new national definition** of forest was agreed upon, which as the UNFCCC Focal Point and Designated National Authority for CDM, I am pleased to submit to the UNFCCC Secretariat to **replace** the forest definition previously communicated to the Secretariat.

The current Ghana definition of forest is:

"A piece of land with a minimum area of 0.1 hectares, with a minimum tree crown cover of 15% or with existing tree species having the potential of attaining more than 15% crown cover, with trees which have the potential or have reached a minimum height of 2.0 meters at maturity in situ".

I will appreciate if all records of the Secretariat could be amended to reflect the current national definition for forest as stated above.

Please accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

William Kojo Agyemang-Bonsu
UNFCCC Focal Point/CDM-DNA