



MIN -8000-2-01875
Bogotá D.C., August 14, 2020

Director Mary Grady
ART Secretariat at Winrock International
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Dear ART Secretariat,

In December 2019 a Joint Declaration of Intent (JDI) was signed between the Governments of the Republic of Colombia, the Kingdom of Norway, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Cooperation on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) and on promoting sustainable development in Colombia. The partnership is structured on the basis of two modalities of cooperation which may in some cases operate simultaneously: Modality 1: Contributions for policy objectives and implementation, and Modality 2: Contributions for verified emission reductions at the national level. According to the JDI, "Colombia and Norway will intend to apply the Architecture for REDD+ Transactions and its TREES standard to Norway's modality 2 payments (...)".

The aim of this letter is to express the intention of the Government of Colombia to initiate the evaluation procedure of the accreditation process. For this purpose, we will continue with these roundtables constructive discussion that we began this year.

This enlistment phase is the first step of the mentioned accreditation process. Colombia's TREES concept will be submitted to the ART Secretariat during the course of 2020 or 2021, depending the advance of this the evaluation of the Architecture for REDD+ Transactions (ART) under its REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard (TREES) as is mentioned on the JDI 2019.

The formal decision of Colombia to participate in ART will, however, be based on an ongoing evaluation of the national benefit to Colombia and the positive results of the commentaries that Colombia submit the last November 2019.

Yours sincerely,

RICARDO JOSÉ LOZANO PICÓN
Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development

Projected: David Olarte, Head International Affairs Office

F-E-SIG-23 Versión 4 Vigencia 18/12/2018