



Partnership between the Republic
of Congo and CAFI

Adopted by email, March 23, 2018

EB.2018.02

Considering

- a. [Decision EB.2017.04](#) on the no-cost extension of the Republic of Congo NIF development grant;
- b. [Decision EB.2017.17](#) on the National Investment Framework (NIF) of the Republic of Congo;
- c. The submission of the NIF by the Government of the Republic of Congo to the CAFI Executive Board on October 2, 2017;
- d. The comments of the CAFI Executive Board on the NIF sent to the Government of the Republic of Congo on November 20, 2017;
- e. The draft proposal for new institutional arrangements for REDD+ presented in a revised version of the National Investment Framework (NIF) of the Republic of Congo from January 2018;

The CAFI Executive Board

- Congratulates the Government of the Republic of Congo and particularly the FIP/CAFI Coordination under the leadership of the Minister of Forest Economy for the endorsement of the NIF by the FIP Sub-Committee on December 13, 2017;
- Commends the Government of the Republic of Congo for their diligence in revising the NIF i) to ensure its comprehensiveness building on the policy priorities for the main land use sectors, ii) to present a sound theory of change based on the historical and future drivers of deforestation including the governance of the forestry sector and the risks associated with land use conversion for agricultural activities, and iii) to include all funding streams;

- Underlines the need to ensure the alignment of the NIF to the policy priorities for the main land use sectors (agriculture, forestry, land planning, land tenure, etc.) and a strong ownership of the NIF objectives by the Authorities in charge of these sectors;
- Agrees to the no-cost extension of the preparatory grant for the Republic of Congo until December 31, 2018, considering that the finalization of the NIF and the subsequent negotiation of a letter of intent might take longer than the current end of the program (June 30, 2018);
- Recalls the statement of the **CAFI Declaration**: *“Due to the cross-sectorial character of such investments, a high-level inter-ministerial task force under the lead of a cross-sectorial ministry or government body in charge of finance coordination and reforms will oversee the implementation of the programs”*;
- Welcomes the Government of ROC’s proposal to establish a task force under the authority of the Prime Minister to guide and oversee the implementation of the NIF;
- Will transmit to the Government of RoC some comments and questions on the draft proposal for renewed institutional arrangements for REDD+, encourages the Government of RoC to work with the CAFI Secretariat and the World Bank to answer the latter and invites the representatives of CAFI members in the Republic of Congo to support the CAFI Secretariat in sharing these comments with the national counterparts;
- Proposes to organize a CAFI mission under the leadership of the Ministry of Forest Economy on April 5-6 to further discuss the points raised in this decision and to meet with the Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Land Use Planning and Large Infrastructure, the Minister of Environment, the Office of the President and the Prime Minister.