



JOINT STATEMENT

for

the Launch of the 2025-2035 Partnership between Cameroon and CAFI

by

**His Excellency the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Land-Use Planning of the
Republic of Cameroon**

Mr. Alamine Ousmane Mey

and

**the Federal Minister of Economic and Development Cooperation of the Federal
Republic of Germany,**

Mrs. Svenja Schulze,

on behalf of the Executive Board of the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI)

We, the signatories of the present Statement gathered here on October 7, 2024, at the Hamburg Sustainability Conference in Germany,

Recognising:

- The Paris Agreement signed on December 12, 2015 by the Parties to the UNFCCC;
- The Kunming Declaration adopted at the High-Level Segment of the United Nations Conference on Biodiversity in October 2021;
- The COMIFAC Declaration of August 26, 2021 for a Fair Deal for the Forests of the Congo Basin;
- Resolution UNEP/EA.4/RES.16 on the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Peatlands of March 15, 2019;
- The Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use of November 2, 2021;
- The participation of the Republic of Cameroon in the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People;
- The seriousness of the challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity;
- The central role played by the tropical forests of the Congo Basin, and more specifically the forests of the Republic of Cameroon, in terms of ecosystem services, carbon storage and regulation of rainfall for agriculture at national and regional levels;
- The orientations of Vision 2035, the National Development Strategy 2020-2030 and the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of the Republic of Cameroon;
- The magnitude of the challenges that the Republic of Cameroon faces as it strives to become an emerging economy;

- The importance of strengthening land use policies and the sustainable management of natural resources to contribute to the country's development efforts;

Welcome the launch of a long-term partnership between the Republic of Cameroon and the Central African Forest Initiative over 2025-2035 as agreed in the present Statement signed by the Parties and the Letter of Intent annexed hereto, to promote green development and a transition from conventional agriculture and other economic sectors in general towards environmentally friendly, deforestation-free production models.

Affirm our joint commitment, agreed today October 7, 2024, to work collectively between now and 2035 on the basis of substantial, additional, new and predictable funding to fulfil ambitious and concrete objectives, namely:

Firstly, to:

- halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation in line with the Glasgow Declaration, and, in the next two years, work to stabilize the loss of forest cover and then reduce it substantially and progressively by 2029 to meet the objectives of the Glasgow Declaration, taking as a reference the historical average of deforestation estimated at 110,000 ha per year over the period 2016-2022, and the reference level to be submitted by the Government of Cameroon to the UNFCCC in 2025; as well as on the basis of the effective mobilisation of resources, including from international sources, for the fulfilment of the said objective in accordance with the “principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances” as per the UNFCCC;
- compensate for residual loss of forest cover through natural regeneration, afforestation/reforestation and agroforestry;
- preserve the functioning of wetlands and peatlands by managing them sustainably, preserving them wherever possible and restoring drained areas;
- while ensuring and promoting the development of sustainable, competitive, inclusive and job-creating agricultural, forestry and mining value chains that enable Cameroon's emergence by 2035;

and, secondly, to:

- make joint and concerted efforts for the progressive mobilization of resources by 2035, in addition to the 60 million dollars already approved by CAFI over the 2025-2027 period, and in accordance with the COMIFAC Declaration for a Fair Deal for the Forests of the Congo Basin signed on August 26, 2021, of a projected amount of 2.5 billion US dollars broken down as follows:
 - US\$500 million in grants, in accordance with the modalities defined in the Letter of Intent, a significant portion of which will support the structuring of sustainability-linked loans and/or other innovative, performance-based funding, creating financial leverage;
 - US\$500 million in sustainability-linked loans from international financial institutions;

- US\$1.5 billion from the private sector.

The present Statement and annexed Letter of Intent will serve as instruments for setting respective commitments and mobilizing additional funding, both public and private, domestic, bilateral and multilateral, to enable the Republic of Cameroon to achieve its green development ambitions along its growth and development objectives as defined by the SND30 and Vision 2035.

We welcome the good collaboration between the technical teams of the Government of Cameroon and CAFI and encourage them to continue and finalise the modalities for launching the projects selected for the 2025-2027 period in collaboration with the selected implementing agencies.

We hope our partnership will serve as an inspiration and example of success to others.

Signed in Hamburg on 7 October 2024.

For the Ministry of Economy, Planning and
Land-Use Planning of the Republic of
Cameroon

For the Federal Ministry of Economic and
Development Cooperation

On behalf of the Executive Board of the
Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI)

Alamine Ousmane Mey
Minister

Svenja Schulze
Federal Minister