

Asunción, 13 June 2022

Sir:

Independent Redress Mechanism
Green Climate Fund – GCF
Songdo International Business District
175 Art center-daero
Yeonsu-gu, Incheon 22004
Republic of Korea

I have the honor to address you in the framework of "REDD+ Results-based payments in Paraguay for the period 2015-2017" where the implementation of the project is carried out through the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in its capacity as an Accredited Entity by the Green Climate Fund. The governance of the project is carried out by the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADES, according to its acronym in Spanish), the National Forestry Institute (INFONA, according to its acronym in Spanish), the Technical Secretariat for Economic and Social Development Planning (STP, according to its acronym in Spanish) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG, according to its acronym in Spanish) as a sector entity and representative of the indigenous peoples.

In this context, the Paraguayan Indigenous Institute, in its capacity as the governing body and articulator of the public and private policies of the indigenous peoples of Paraguay, has requested to the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADES) that they be part of the Board of Directors of the Project "REDD+ Results-based payments in Paraguay for the period 2015-2017". The Paraguayan Indigenous Institute obtained as a response that the Project is currently in the process of selecting the Representative of the Indigenous Communities, to be part of the Board of Directors, in accordance with the protocol established by Decree No. 1039 "BY WHICH THE PROTOCOL FOR THE PROCESS OF FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSULTATION WITH THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE LIVING IN PARAGUAY IS APPROVED" which is why the Board of Directors cannot be convened until the said process is completed.

In this regard, the institutional concern is expressed regarding the process carried out, considering that the aforementioned project contemplates a Plan for Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage, which must be linked to the National Plan for Indigenous Peoples (PNPI, according to its acronym in Spanish) approved by Decree No. 5897/21. This also requires an intercultural approach with a rights approach at all stages of the project to comply with the Decree (1039-2018) Free, Prior and Informed Consultation and Consent Process with the indigenous peoples of Paraguay (CCLPI, according to its acronym in Spanish).

INDI is directly responsible for ensuring the faithful compliance with any initiative of public and/or private projects. In this specific sense, the selection of the representatives of the Indigenous Communities for the formation of the Board of Directors is being carried out without involving the INDI in the identification and monitoring process, which could affect representativeness in terms of the selection of the leaders representing the indigenous peoples, as they do not have the support of the governing institution in the selection of said representatives.

For all the above, we request intermediation so that the Paraguayan Indigenous Institute (INDI) forms part of the PROJECT'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS and actively participates in all decision-making related

to work with indigenous peoples of Paraguay, to advise and/or join from a political strategic instance to everything that is required for and with the indigenous peoples.

Hoping to have your important attention to what was requested, I take the opportunity to greet you cordially.

[Signed by]
Omar Alexander Pico Insfran
President