

OPEN LETTER TO COP26 FACT DIALOGUE MINISTERS FOR DISCUSSION ON JOINT STATEMENT AT THE FRONT OF THE FACT ROADMAP - OCTOBER 6TH MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLES.

Dear FACT Dialogue Ministers,

As members of the Global Multistakeholder Taskforce supporting the Forest, Agriculture and Commodity Trade (FACT) Dialogue, we welcome the focus this Dialogue has provided, and continues to provide, to the protection and restoration of the world's forests and other precious ecosystems, whilst promoting sustainable development and trade.

We are grateful to the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Indonesia for convening and co-chairing the Dialogue and elevating these issues, their importance for wider climate mitigation and adaptation goals, and setting out a process to seek consensus on action and a clear path for implementation.

Solutions to these important issues lie beyond a single geography or single stakeholder – collective action and public-private partnership is critical to transform the current dynamics. The key value we currently see in the FACT Dialogue is the establishment of an ongoing exchange between producer and consumer countries. This could potentially lead to stronger collaboration and alignment, with clear actions and timelines, working in accordance with global objectives including the Paris Agreement, the SDGs and the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to be agreed at CBD COP15.

The FACT Multistakeholder Taskforce has been running in parallel to the government process drawing upon the expertise of supply chain companies, financial institutions, civil society, smallholders and other key stakeholders. We have a deep understanding of the complexities of the issues and tensions associated with food production, food security, rural livelihoods, forest loss and land use change. All these tensions have been accentuated by the COVID pandemic. We also have a good sense of the critical solutions needed, by both public and private sectors, to move beyond business as usual. We are united in our ambition.

We are pleased to see elements of the outputs generated by the Multistakeholder Taskforce and wider community reflected in the FACT Roadmap and the current Joint Chair's Statement. However, they are not sufficient to meet our stated objectives. We had hoped to see the direction of travel and advice drawn from the Multistakeholder community more strongly reflected in the Roadmap.

Whilst we welcome and support the FACT Dialogue, we are concerned that the ambition demonstrated in the FACT Roadmap and the Joint Statement falls short of what is needed to address the urgency and scale of the climate, food security, biodiversity and health crises the world is facing. FACT represents an opportunity to spearhead bold action that demonstrates how sustainable land use can contribute decisively to a green recovery and put us in the right path towards a sustainable and resilient future.

We urge Ministers to:

- **Raise the collective ambition of the Roadmap**. Recognising some countries will be able to move faster than others, generate conditions so a 'coalition of the willing' can continue discussions and efforts to reach a robust and ambitious Roadmap. This includes clarifying details on scope, action and implementation, integrating a gender and local community perspective throughout, as well as

committing to a clear timeline with clear milestones, monitoring mechanism for tracking progress in the crucial decade ahead.

- **Commit to the continuation of the dialogue beyond COP26.** Glasgow needs to serve as the first key milestone for the FACT process to galvanise and catalyse public and private solutions to advance the agenda. It is important to ensure shared responsibility across governments, bring clarity to the path forward and the inter-relationship with other key international processes to have credibility moving forward.
- **Build stronger bridges between public and private action.** The private sector and civil society have many examples of progress and success which the FACT process could leverage. We believe stronger and more formal multi-stakeholder representation and participation within any FACT operational structure post Glasgow will be necessary to effectively mobilize and connect multistakeholder efforts to government plans for action.

These recommendations will help build a strong foundation for transformative action in which sustainable production, ecosystem conservation, and commodity trade go hand in hand beyond Glasgow. It will also ensure stronger buy in and support from the broader community, including highly vulnerable populations.

Yours sincerely,



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Executive Director, Tropical Forest Alliance



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Coordinator, Coalition for Sustainable Production

On behalf of the Multistakeholder Taskforce members:

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Andre Guimaraes	Executive Director, IPAM
Pablo Montoya	Colombia TFA Alliance; Head of Sustainability, Grupo Exito
Agus Purnomo	TFA S.E. Asia Steering Committee; Managing Director for Sustainability, Golden Agri-Resources
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Samuel Avaala	TFA Africa Steering Committee; CEO, BOPP
Robert Yapo Assamoi	Coordinator, Cocoa Forest Initiative
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Fang Li	Country Representative, World Resource Institute, China
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My-Linh Ngo	Member Investor Policy Dialogue on Deforestation; Head of Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) Investment, BlueBay Asset Management

Sabine Miltner	Program Director, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
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Daan Wensing	CEO, IDH – the Sustainable Trade Initiative
Toby Gardner	Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute
Cris Close	Global Head Markets, WWF International
Sir Ian Cheshire	Chairman, Barclays Bank UK
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Chris McGrath	CGF Forest Positive Coalition Co-Chair; VP and Chief of Global Impact, Sustainability, and Well-being, Mondelez International
Bibi Gonzalez	Founder and Director, Come Mejor Wa'ik
Diane Holdorf	Managing Director, Food and Nature, World Business Council for Sustainable Development
Irene Suarez Perez	Lead of nature-based solutions and food systems, High-Level Champion COP26
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