



**ITS Global**

Consultants on Global Issues

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Ms AnnMarie O'Keeffe  
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Dear Ian and Ms O'Keeffe

**GIFC: Proposals by the PNG Forest Industries Association**

On behalf of the PNG Forest Industries Association, I have pleasure in attaching a paper with proposals the Australian Government may wish to consider under the Global Initiative on Forests and Climate.

PNG FIA welcomes this initiative. It offers the prospect of building on the evolution of policy and institutional arrangements in PNG towards the principles of sustainable forest management. While the rate of deforestation in PNG has been very low, it does not follow that the scope to achieve GIFC's carbon absorption and development objectives are any less in PNG than in other target countries. Growing conditions in PNG are very good. There is, for example, scope to improve the rate of carbon absorption in PNG's forest endowment by implementing changes in policy and institutional arrangements.

The PNG Government wants to maximise the development potential from the sustainable use of its forest endowment. It has been putting in place policy reforms and institutional arrangements to achieve that objective. The initiative is therefore timely.

In implementing the initiative in PNG, the Association looks forward to working cooperatively with the Australian Government.

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Cc

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