

Proceedings of Awareness Raising Conference on the new Forest Proclamation

Conducted at:

- ◆ Mekele Planet Hotel
- ◆ Dessie Wello Amba Cultural Hall
- ◆ Bishoftu Bin International Hotel
- ◆ Jimma Degitu Hotel

Organized in cooperation with Fana Broadcasting Corporate

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Mekele

Introduction

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change after rigorous effort recently came up with new forest proclamation. It is proclamation 1065/2018, which was declared by the Ethiopian parliament following series and painstaking discussions. The ministry hopes that the proclamation will address the multifaceted problems that endangered the forest countrywide. Although various proclamations were declared by previous regimes to protect forest, no proclamation could help to stop deforestation. The Ethiopian forest has continued to be destroyed over a long period now. The new proclamation however differs by far from the former ones, because it has involved numerous experts from the ministry including stakeholders during its formulation. It is therefore expected to bridge the gaps created by the previous federal and regional proclamations.

Thus, the ministry decided to mobilize law enforcement bodies nationwide by conducting awareness raising conferences at eight major cities in Ethiopia. Then, the conference took place successfully in less than a month. Nine conference took place in eight cities and they were led by His Excellency the minister and the forest sector state minister. Besides, various senior experts have presented papers on REDD+ Ethiopia, the challenges met in the former proclamations, and the new proclamation. Moreover, the discussions that were held in every conference were thorough and effective. The participants were regions, zones and districts' court presidents, chief Judges, and chief lawyers. Also police Commanders and different sectors' heads from region up to district level have taken part in the conferences.

Over five thousand participants have attended the conferences and each conference was held for two days. What is more, the conferences were organized by MEFCC, Regions' bureaus, and Fana Broadcasting Corporate. The proceedings encompass welcoming and opening remarks, presentations, views, comments, questions, and responses.

Welcoming Remarks

Dear Ato Kebede Yimam State Minister of Ministry of Forest, Environment and Climate Change,

Dear participants of the conference

I welcome you and thank you all for coming to partake on the conference prepared to discuss the new forest proclamation and Ethiopia's natural

wealth.

As you all know, unless we protect our natural wealth and make use of it, it is not possible for us meet the objective of our development strategy. The farmers of Tigray have been relentlessly making effort to protect their natural wealth since the beginning of the struggle for freedom.

Because of the gap shown in the law that was supposed to protect our natural wealth, the new proclamation No. 1065/2010E.C. has been declared. Therefore, it is my utmost wish that this gathering will make a thorough discussion on the declared forest proclamation and pave the way to design effective regulation.



Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as well as the federal and regional REDD+ office deserve our appreciation and wholehearted thanks for arranging this platform.

The former forest law has failed to protect our natural wealth. If the current defor-

estation and forest degradation rate persists, it is inevitable for the region to change to a desert. Communities of the low land areas and north-west areas of the region in particular should learn this new proclamation in order to address the existing problems. The citizenry, especially you

responsible persons in the region have great accountability to keep the region's natural wealth safe.

Eventually, I invite His Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam, State Minister of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to officially open the conference.

Opening Remarks

Honorable Ato Getachew Ferede, Head of Tigray Regional Government Agriculture and Rural Development Bureau,
Honorable Ato Aregay G/ Egziabher Deputy Head of Bureau of Justice,
Experts and Honorable Participants
Firstly I would like to

thank you all for coming together to discuss on the matter that is a cornerstone to our country's sustainable development i.e. the proclamation of law.
Our country, Ethiopia is striving to address the current day global problem that is Climate Change by designing Climate Resilient

Green Economy Strategy in the year 2011 and introducing it to the world. In order to execute the mission, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change was established based on proclamation no. 803/2005 and yet based on proclamation 916/2008 our strategy was included in the second growth transfor-



mation plan. Moreover, authorities have been vested in the Ministry to execute various duties regarding Environment, Forest and Climate issues and to state the overall overview:
◆ To coordinate activities to be able to make sure

environment security objectives that are affirmed in the constitution and the basic principles that are stated in the country's policy have achieved their goal.

- ◆ To coordinate the country's Climate Resilient Green Economy discourse preparation and timely dissemination.
- ◆ To raise fund from development stakeholders and make use of it in order to undertake cli-

mate resilient green economy in each and every sector and region.

- ◆ To protect the country from deforestation, land degradation, desertification and greenhouse gasses. Also to participate in continental and international conventions and bargains on environment and at times propose certain agreements to get approved.
- ◆ To design policy, strategy, regulation and action plan in order to implement conventions that our country agreed to.
- ◆ To protect the country's forest and as long as it is required to let it be used over a long time.
- ◆ To establish system that enables degraded lands to become fertile and also their economic significance to get improved yet to expand forest development throughout river basins.

The ministry has been authorized to make sure all the above said activities are underway and it is making great effort to carry out all its responsibilities.

Dear Ladies and Gentle Men,

Although the country has feasible condition to forest development, it couldn't get the required economic, social, and natural benefits from the sector due to its backward forest wealth development and usage. Among the things that caused such problem, population explosion, increased demand of firewood, increased demand of wood for construction, expansion of agriculture are the major once and these have endangered our biodiversity and the forest wealth. Accordingly, the Ministry has been taking measures so far to address the problems. For example:

- ◆ In collaboration with FAO, the country's

forest registration task has been accomplished and we now have countrywide and region wide data at hand. The country's forest cover at the moment is 15.5%. Meanwhile, lots of lessons were learned in the process.

- ◆ Also Ethiopia is the first country from Africa to study emissions of greenhouse gasses caused by expansion of agriculture in every region, to collect data, and to report to United Nations' Climate Change Secretariat. Currently, the Ministry has attained the capacity to execute Monitoring, Reporting and Verification. Yet it is making an effort so that to build the capacity of four regions with the same capacity.
- ◆ The direct contribution of the forest sector to the country's GDP is

6% and the indirect is 7.1%. This is according to the study made together with UNEP.

- ◆ It was made possible in collaboration with World Resource Institute to distinguish improving methods that enable to improve the desolated lands of Ethiopia.
- ◆ An effort has been made in order to upgrade the capacity of the society and to change the traditional and ineffective forest development to modern that is supported with education and research.
- ◆ REDD+ strategy and 10 year forest sector development program has been prepared and an effort is being underway to reduce deforestation and encourage afforestation and reforestation.
- ◆ Among REDD+ program members, Ethiopia has been is one of the countries who have been granted approval to proceed the

next investment phase.

- ◆ In order to protect the forest we have and reforest the desolated areas, we have managed to collect fund amounting 155 million US dollars and 16.5 million euros from our stakeholders and also bestowed the funds to regions so that they be able to undertake development activities.

Dear Ladies and Gentle Men,

The desire to express some of the accomplishments of the Ministry is just for you to understand that your cooperation is very important for our success. The role of your assistance plays to the ministry is irreplaceable. Successful law enforcement means to increase our forest wealth and build the economy by increasing its positive influence over other sectors. The goal of forest development means the end of poverty.

Thus, this platform has been arranged so that the forest proclamation, which is believed to have immense benefit to the forest development to be discussed. This discussion is believed to have significant role to encourage collaboration in order to protect the forest which is common wealth. It also helps us to engage in the development jointly and sustainably use from it. This proclamation was thoroughly discussed at the draft level. Today's discussion focuses on sharing views together and to facilitate its implementation.

Therefore, during our stay we will discuss comprehensively and also will take responsibility together to work for the successful implementation of the new forest proclamation. Meanwhile, we will never pass debt to the coming generation, but work responsibly. Eventually, I would

Dr. Yitebitu's Presentation

- ◆ He began his presentation by enlightening that only joint effort of different sectors can bring about meaningful change in forest development. Ethiopia and forest are two sides of the same coin.

Multiple things are found from forest: water, wild life, income, power, irrigation, honey, timber, etc.

- ◆ He explained how keeping forest safe becomes blessing to mankind, if not how it becomes a

curse. The former thought of people was that forest brings water. Such thinking today has grown to thinking of forest benefits in multi dimension.

- ◆ Forest in one country



protects other countries weather. For example, the forests in Congo Basins help the Ethiopian highlands to get rain.

- ◆ There are greenhouse gasses that create heat and cause global warming. These gasses are: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide. These gasses remain around ozone lay-

er and hold the hot temperature there and cause earth to have high temperature.

- ◆ After Paris agreement Ethiopia was able to measure the level of emissions reduction has been measured. The data shows that Agriculture and forest are the major sectors that help to reduce carbon emissions.

- ◆ Ethiopia annually loses 72 thousand hectare forest; the reforestation and afforestation activities ought to be strengthened until the deforestation rate reaches zero.

- ◆ Unless Ethiopia distinctively delineates land for forest, agriculture, and grazing, the forest development plan cannot succeed.

Presentation of Head of Justice Bureau Tigray National & Regional Government

- ◆ He explained that development of Industry without forest development is not possible. According to him, people in Kunama use forest for medicine.
- ◆ The major causes of deforestation in Tigray

region are fire, charcoal, construction, agricultural investments, gold mining, and road construction. One example is that land given to the youth for agriculture; the youth who are bestowed land de-

- ◆ stroy the forest in order to use the land they owned for agriculture.
- ◆ The rate of deforestation in Tigray is greater than the rest of the regions. The main cause for this is corruption within government institutions.



**Presentation by Ato Birhane Bezabih
and Ato Abberu Tenna**

- ◆ Studies show that the Ethiopian landscape is feasible to forest development.
- ◆ The major problem of the increasing global warming to developing countries is that it is bringing back poverty. Therefore, it is imperative for countries to have proclamation that protects forest, which is one of the causes of emissions.
- ◆ In order to meet Growth Transformation Plan II objectives as well as

CRGE objectives, it is important to have improved the forest proclamation.

- ◆ The old proclamation use to protect government forests. But, the new proclamation protects all forests around the country.
- ◆ Definition of forest in the new proclamation elaborates some of the words in the former proclamation, which were difficult to understand.
- ◆ The new proclamation has divided into four parts,

but the former one divides forest into two parts only. The new proclamation again elaborates on forest ownership procedures and the possibility of transferring own forest to other party. Yet it elaborates compensation procedures.

- ◆ The proclamation elaborates about species which are endangered. It also elaborates about investment licenses that endanger forest.



Views of the Attendees

- ◆ We have to see our forest more than the benefit we get from carbon. Besides, Agriculture and Industry are dependent on rain, yet forest matters to guarantee the rainfall. Thus, the forest proclamation is very important in order to protect forests and to

create an environment that is conducive to both Agriculture and Industry.

- ◆ The presentations have elucidated the significance of the new forest proclamation. So, this conference should not end here. It is imperative to make the gen-

eral public aware of the new forest proclamation.

- ◆ The new proclamation is a good start because it has solved problem of forest ownership; it has also answered the penalty problem of the previous proclamation that



used to let Judges pass on unfair judgments. We are really encouraged by the new proclamation.

- ◆ We have understood clearly that forest is everything and without forest man cannot survive. Hence, awareness raising activity ought to be done extensively; we ought to involve stakeholders and

the general public.

- ◆ Proclamation 14/94 was so shallow that could not help regions to strengthen their effort. We are glad so far we have the new forest proclamation.
- ◆ The awareness activity should continue to take place at the lower structures too. Even it

is necessary to conduct awareness raising conference at school level.

- ◆ Please translate the proclamation In Tigrigna language in order for the society to understand it clearly.
- ◆ We want the regulation and the directives to be prepared as soon as

possible to be able to implement the proclamation sooner.

- ◆ The previous proclamation used to let judges to pass unfair judgments on the guilty ones. The new proclamation doesn't give room for judges to pass unfair judgments.
- ◆ Benshangul and West Tig-

ray's problem is fire. Yet forest degradation is underway. Let us come together and restore the forest.

- ◆ One major question in the region is "who is destroying forest?" In my opinion, it is the riches that have the capacity to bribe authorities and do whatever they planned to

do. Thus, we have to work hard on awareness in order to avoid the problem.

- ◆ There must be commitment and dedication also patriotism in order to protect forest.
- ◆ It is now clear to us that climate change has no border and never chooses places or



people, but harms everywhere and everyone. Therefore, we have to come up in unison to deliver our best to reverse the situation.

- ◆ The forest sector is the source of wealth to all sectors and the backbone of country's future economy.
- ◆ The region's problem related to forest is huge;

it has border with Eritrea and the most of country's army is settled here. The situation has negative impact on the forest.

- ◆ Migration in the meantime is another problem in the region that has negative impact on the region's forest.
- ◆ The Walidiba's forest case is also another se-

rious problem that needs support of the federal government.

- ◆ It is imperative to view other laws when designing the regulation.
- ◆ It is imperative for forests to have demarcated boundary in order to control any kind of intrusion.

Comments of attendees

- ◆ It is difficult to implement article 17 when the institutional arrangement is not well set. Therefore, the forthcoming regulations and directives should clarify ambiguities in regard to the institutional arrangement.
- ◆ The declaration ought to come first at the draft level for discussion rather

than discussing it after it has been declared.

- ◆ The proclamation does not give room to werdas to act on wrong decisions. The sugar factory at Wol-kayit for instance is planning to destroy 40 thousand hectare forest for its sugar production.
- ◆ This proclamation showed up late when we were

longing for it for years. My fear is the following regulations and directives could take yet long time to be designed.

- ◆ CRGE cannot succeed in writing; it should be translated to actual activity and result. The ministry has so far delayed many things. But, it is time for the



ministry to get things right and show relentless effort in the future endeavors.

- ◆ We are striving to restore the destroyed forest whereas we are indifferent to protect the existing forest.
- ◆ The huge budget allotted to protect Waldiba's forest did not bring result; we should either

use the budget for the intended goal or shift it for other purpose.

- ◆ All extinct species elsewhere are found in Kafta Shiraro National Park. So, unless we keep those trees there standing, we will end up losing much.
- ◆ I don't see in the presentations any subject in regard to alternative energy except criticism

about using forest for firewood or charcoal.

- ◆ There is a big size of forests in agriculture fields countrywide. But these forests don't have guarantee for their existence because the land is yet owned by those who don't belong the forest.

Questions asked by the Attendees

- ◆ How is possible to transfer ownership and what is the process?
- ◆ What kind of measure will be taken if forest land is found used for other purpose?
- ◆ What level is the right level that enables one to

- get license?
- ◆ What kind of result wins reinforcement?
- ◆ What are the criteria that enable one to get land for forest development?
- ◆ What kind of measure will be taken if the

- forest protector himself found guilty of destroying forest?
- ◆ Is there room for regions to produce their own regulations?
- ◆ Are we working to the level that takes us to our goals?



- ◆ How are we going to replace the forest we are destroying while constructing roads.
- ◆ It was said that those who live in forest could use forest. How does this concept coincide with forest protection rhetoric?
- ◆ The word “Government” has been repeatedly stated in the proclamation. Is it the federal or the regional?

- ◆ The proclamation obligates people to report when forest is caught by fire. What will happen if not reported?
- ◆ Why do you prohibit us to carry cutting tools such as Axe when it is obvious we often carry Axe?
- ◆ It is traditional heritage to produce honey in forest; why now you ask

- permission to put beehive on a tree?
- ◆ What is the government doing to reduce emissions caused by agriculture?
- ◆ The farmer sometimes uses the forest to support his livelihood. This is considered trespass the law. How are we going to judge such actions?

Responses and further reflections of responsible bodies

◆ In regard to land use issue, the government is striving to come up with certain regulation. Thus, we have to contribute the best of our experience to make the land use change effectual. “One map initiative” of Indonesian ex-

perience should be shared.

◆ In regard to reinforcement, there will be additional elaboration on the forthcoming regulations and directives.

◆ In regard to the justified book, it doesn't take time to get one and

anyone can easily collect them from the authorized body.

◆ Placing beehive and other activities only need permission from the authorized body to perform. The restrictions in the proclamation are there just to protect the forest not



to prohibit anyone to benefit from forest related activities.

◆ Important ideas that seem not included in the proclamation will in some way will be stated in the regulation as long as they are subjects that help to implement the proclamation.

◆ The problem of lack of integration is region's

own problem that has to be resolved by the region itself.

◆ In regard to question raised about those who grow forest for economic purpose and how they transport their timber to a market without permission, it is already obvious that anyone can take his or her own commodities to a market. The

same is true for privately owned timber.

◆ In regard to question why the proclamation creates bureaucracy on honey production, the proclamation requires one to have permission to use forest to put on beehives is just to encourage people to work responsibly and to particularly protect the forest from fire.

- ◆ When collecting product of honey, the process is usually conducting through using fire. This is obviously dangerous to the forest unless serious attention is given while undertaking the task. He reason the proclamation requires permission before placing beehives on trees is just with intention to avoid problem.

- ◆ It is not only because of collecting honey, but for other purposes too people use fire in the forest. Such action is dangerous without a doubt. Therefore, concerned bodies ought to raise awareness of the general public especially through mass media.
- ◆ In regard to the endangered species, hopefully

the regulations and directives will incorporate points that will make sure the safety of the endangered species.

- ◆ Regulations and directives must not contrast with the proclamation itself.
- ◆ It was repeatedly said that the ideas missed in the proclamation will be incorporated in the reg-



ulations and directives. This doesn't mean that the things that cannot be achieved from the proclamation can be achieved from in the regulation. Such an assumption is wrong assumption.

- ◆ The proclamation ought to include a statement that obligate people who see forest caught by fire to extinguish the fire by

any means available by waking people living around.

- ◆ The purpose that the proclamation to have been declared is to speed up forest development. Therefore, the federal government will make relentless effort to make sure the proclamation gets implemented.
- ◆ How this proclamation

gets implemented ought to be done by regions' themselves.

- ◆ It is imperative to know that the proclamation can be well implemented through raising awareness not necessarily through penalty.
- ◆ Zones responsible bodies should be ready to create awareness on the new proclamation.

Conclusion and way forward

I am very thankful to you all for your keen participation in the discussion. I believe we have collected very useful ideas that will enrich the upcoming regulation as well as directives. This conference I hope will not end here. It is imperative that regions, zones, and weredas will continue raising awareness of the general public.

You have huge responsibilities to keep the country's forest safe. Also to encourage reforestation and afforestation activities. The new proclamation hopefully will play a great role in the efforts that will be made to protect forest.

I finally thank you again and announce that the conference is concluded.



Appendices

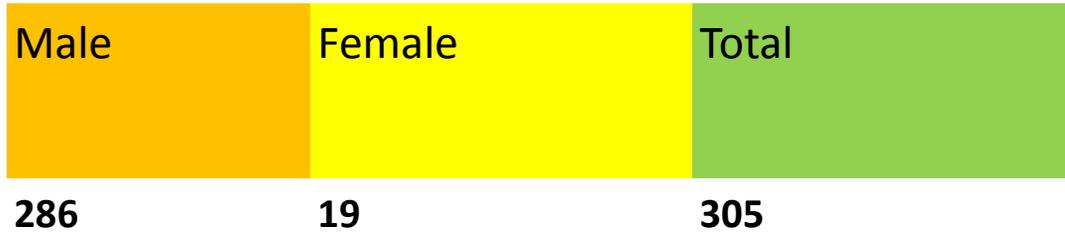
Appendix 1

Program of Conference on Forest Law Proclamation, REDD+ Strategy & Ethiopian Forestry Vision Mekele PlanetHotel, Tigray Regional State; From April 26 to April 27, 2018

No	Activities	Time Allocated	Date	Responsible	Moderator	Remark
1	Program Introduction	8:30 – 8:45 a.m.	26/04/2018	FBC	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
2	Welcoming Remarks	8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	26/04/2018	Dr.Atinkut Mezgebu TBoARD head	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
3	Introductory remarks	9:00 a.m-9:15 a.m	26/04/2018	Dr. Yitebitu Moges	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
4	Opening Remarks	9:15 a.m-9:30 a.m	26/04/2018	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
5	Presentations on Implementation gaps of forest Legal Frame Work in Tigray Region	9:30 – 10:00 a.m.	26/04/2018	Ato Kiros Hailu	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
6	Presentations on Ethiopia's Forest Proclamation	10:00 a.m.– 10:30a.m.	26/04/2018	Ato Birhane Bezabih & Ato AberuTena	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
7	Coffee Break	10:30 – 10:45a.m.	26/04/2018	MEFCC	--	
	Presentations on Ethiopia's Forest Proclamation continues	10:45 – 12:00a.m.	26/04/2018	Ato Birhane Bezabih & Ato AberuTena	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
8	Presentations on Ethiopia's Forest Proclamation and forest fund proclamation	12:00a.m. – 12:15p.m.	26/04/2018	Ato Birhane Bezabih	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
9	Presentation on REDD+ Strategy and Ethiopian Forestry Vision	12:15 p.m.– 1:15 p.m.	26/04/2018	Dr. YitebituMoges	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
7	Lunch Break	1:15p.m. – 2:30p.m.	26/04/2018	MEFCC	--	
8	Discussion on presentations	2:30 – 4:00p.m.	26/04/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
9	Coffee Break	4:00 – 4:15p.m.	26/04/2018	MEFCC	--	
10	Discussion on presentations continues	4 :15 – 5 :30p.m.	26/04/2018	Participants	H.E. AtoKebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
11	Discussion on presentations continues	8:30 – 10 :30a.m.	27/04/2018	Participants	H.E. AtoKebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
12	Coffee Break	10:30 – 10:50a.m.	27/04/2018	MEFCC	--	
13	Discussion on presentations continues	10:50 – 12:30p.m.	27/04/2018	Participants	H.E. AtoKebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
14	Lunch Break	12:30 – 1:30p.m.	27/04/2018	MEFCC	--	
15	Discussion on presentations continues	1:30 – 3:30p.m.	27/04/2018	Participants	H.E. AtoKebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
16	Coffee Break	3:30 – 3:50p.m.	27/04/2018	MEFCC	--	
17	Discussion on presentations continues	3:50 – 5:00p.m.	27/04/2018	Participants	H.E. AtoKebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
18	Way Forward & Closing Remark	5:00 – 5:30p.m.	27/04/2018	H.E. AtoKebede	AtoDaniel Amare FBC	

Appendix 2

Number of participants



Dessie

Welcoming Remarks



Your Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam, State Minister of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

Honorable Ato Yeneneh Simegn President of Supreme Court of the Amhara National & Regional Government

Honorable Ato Firdie Cheru Head of the Amhara National & Regional Government Justice bureau

Ladies and Gentle Men

First and foremost, I would like to welcome you to the beautiful and historical city of Desie and congratulate you on behalf of my office and on my behalf for coming together to take part in the conference prepared

by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in collaboration with Fana Broadcasting Corporate & Environment, Forest & Wildlife Protection & Development Authority of the Amhara National & Regional Government.

In keeping with the Federal structure, the Environment, Forest & Wildlife Protection & Development Authority of the Amhara National & Regional Government was established Based on the proclamation no. 232/2008. Meanwhile, it decided its objective to be that development activities to work for the wellbeing of man-

kind and also to produce policies, laws and strategies that bring about sustainable environment security. Besides, make an effort to bring about result by leading the undertakings. In addition, keep the government forests in the region safe and create conducive atmosphere so that the forests contribute to the region's economy.

The authority today is working relentlessly in collaboration with the Ministry and stakeholders by managing the previous and the new development projects in harmony with the environment. Meanwhile, the

authority is working hard to protect the region's forest, which being degraded. In addition, it is working in collaboration with Bureau of Agriculture to address the problem related with manmade forest products usage and its trafficking.

The Ministry is also supporting the authority by allocating budget, offering training such as this and by making important equipment t available.

In regard to the efforts of

the region, we have established 10 national parks and society's protected areas and the by increasing region's archetypal ecosystem size from 412 to 4,573.65sq. Km., it was possible to uplift the size by 2.97%. Accordingly, the home of endangered wildlife such as red fox also the water tower Mountains in South Wello, North Wello, North Shewa, and South Gondar zones have been able to be rescued.

Thus, I believe the im-

provement of the former forest proclamation will uplift the capacity of the region's capacity. I also would like to thank Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for coming up with this result so far.

Finally, wishing our stay to be pleasing, I invite His Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam State Minister of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change to officially open the conference.

Thank You

Opening Remarks

His Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam officially opening the conference



Dr. Yitebitu Moges Presenting



Ato Sintayehu Derese Presenting



Ato Birhane Bezabih Presenting



Ato Abberu Tenna Presenting



Views of the Attendees

◆ Article 22 No. 1 reads that unless it is from own forest, anyone who is found moving timber product... If the accused argues that the timber product is from his or her own forest, the accuser will be subjected to produce evidence that ensures the product is not the accused property. This invites further burden on the accuser during argument. Thus, the upcoming

regulations and directives ought to consider the matter.

- ◆ In order to meet the CRGE strategy objectives, we must have strong institutions.
- ◆ I think it is not only the regulations and directives that bring about success, but also the completion of each and every plan mentioned in the proclamation.

- ◆ If protecting forest is really a matter of life, I think it would be better if we had invited Zone administrators and other important figures to this meeting.
- ◆ The end of this meeting should not be at this level. It should continue to wereda level so that local communities become aware of the new proclamation.

Comments of the Attendees

- ◆ In most cases, it is the poor who becomes guilty of abusing forest. Our experience shows that when we find the poor guilty, we try to convert the charge to the regular law. It is now becoming very serious. It is difficult to harmonize the penalty and their living standard.
- ◆ We see often that proclamations get declared and the practicality is often

uncertain. This is the forest issue, which is a matter of death and life. I am afraid it will also be subject to negligence.

- ◆ We appreciate the new proclamation; our doubt is its practicality. For example the CRGE has been launched since 2011. It has been cascaded up to wereda level. However, we hear people talking about climate resilient green

economy, yet there nothing visible accomplished.

- ◆ We have little copies of the proclamation; we couldn't even get from the ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change for every wereda. So, please try to make the copies available.
- ◆ The new law has hindered putting beehives without permission. However, it does not

tell how one could work in the field of honey production. I believe if someone is able to develop forest, he or she should be ought to be free to work on bee keeping.

- ◆ The forest law allows one to use own forest. In case of charcoal production, people who are acting in such business might say the charcoal is produced from their own forest. There is no way for the law enforcement group verifies whether the action was legal or illegal.
- ◆ There must be a regulation that corrects the charcoal production tradition.
- ◆ Rather than using the new law that attempts to penalize the public, it is better to make the public aware of the law and agree to keep the forest safe.
- ◆ The concept of carbon trade should be elucidat-

ed. The public must know what carbon trade is.

- ◆ The new law prohibits one to enter forest. However, the youth group currently has been offered license to benefit from forest land. The matter seems to contrast each other and needs elaboration.
- ◆ Certain enterprises in Amhara region produce charcoal from dead woods and export the charcoal; whereas charcoal too expensive to the natives.
- ◆ Forest Expert presently has been removed from Agriculture sector and assigned at land administration. The experts used to carry out great responsibility in their previous position. The forest sector as a result is lacking attention.
- ◆ The previous experiences show that the devotion to enforce laws and regulations is hardly evaluated. As a result, it

was difficult to protect the forest. So, we have to learn from the past and work relentlessly to implement the new proclamation.

- ◆ Most often reinforcement is given to people that willingly carried out important task. But the proclamation on the one hand says it is obligatory to expose an attack made on forest. On the other hand, it says anyone who exposes forest attacker gets incentive.
- ◆ There is no mention of penalty on people who ignore exposing forest attacker. I think it is important to state the penalty.
- ◆ Unless the structure at wereda level gets improved, the results we are expecting to achieve would only be a dream.
- ◆ Land use plan should be given attention in order to make the forest proclamation practical.



Questions asked by the Attendees

- ◆ Is the government taking appropriate measure on investment related problems?
- ◆ Article 24 No. 2 reflects on reinforcement issue. How will such process take place?
- ◆ Article 25 No. 3 reads that if it is endangered species the owner of the forest should take permission to cut the trees. Isn't this in opposition with the constitution for violating owners' right?
- ◆ Isn't it difficult to prohibit carrying cutter around forest where people usually carry cutter for good purposes?
- ◆ Isn't it difficult to prohibit the community to place beehives on trees

- where the matter is already a popular culture?
- ◆ Isn't the word "negligence" in article 26 No. 3 ambiguous? Doesn't it open a loophole for more negligence during the process of taking measures of correction?
 - ◆ It was said there will be checking points to control abuse of forest; how can you make it practical?
 - ◆ It was mentioned that cutting and using indigenous trees is prohibited. Which are those indigenous trees? Was it not possible to list them in the proclamation? Or are you going

to list them in the regulations and directives?

- ◆ How are we going to make the financial penalty practical? Is it not too much?
- ◆ Is it really possible to put a ten thousand birr penalty on a person who was found guilty of making charcoal?
- ◆ We were working on Basins' committee since 2011. What will be the fate of this committee in the future?
- ◆ The forest sector belongingness at wereda level is still confusing. Who is the leading it?
- ◆ Where does the money collected from penalty go? Does it serve the purpose of forest development?

- ◆ Is it not fair to compare the criminal law with the new forest proclamation in order during proceedings of certain crime cases?
- ◆ What is the forest definition relation with the development of basins?
- ◆ To which party does the

basins forest belong?

- ◆ There is still high demand for firewood in urban areas; what alternative power is set to these communities?
- ◆ Is there any plan of using biogas both in rural areas and urban areas? What is the government

accomplishment so far with such perspective?

- ◆ The forest ownership definitions are not clear, I need more clarification.
- ◆ What are the productions we get from forest?



Responses and further reflections of responsible bodies

- ◆ proclamation attempts to advise that we ought to undertake it responsibly
- ◆ In regard to biogas, it is obvious presently best farmers use biogas effectively. Besides, Agroforestry today is very much encouraging, we can see trees growing within forests everywhere.
- ◆ Ethiopia is found with

the same latitude with its neighbors, which are considered to be dry regions. The thing that makes Ethiopia different from is its altitude advantage. The high mountains are where we can develop forest, which will be hopeful to create peaceful environment in

the region.

- ◆ It is imperative to know that forest is subject to be cut and used in industries. However, the trees that are cut ought to be from the ones that are planted for commercial purpose.
- ◆ One of the strategies included in CRGE is that Ethiopia should protect its forest wealth.
- ◆ The law enforcement bod-

ies have major responsibilities in preventing the forest from attack.

- ◆ In regard to check points, we will elaborate the details in the regulation. This done to prevent the check points from being center of corruption.
- ◆ Those who produce charcoal ought to plant

trees of their own. Without having own forest, it has to be forbidden to produce charcoal. Studies show that 42, 000 sacks of charcoal move into Addis Ababa.

- ◆ In regard to ownership of basins' forest, it could be any ones of those indicated in the proclamation. There is

no specific issue that makes basins' forest different from other forest.

- ◆ We at the federal level will soon prepare the regulation and publicize it. However, regions also can prepare regulations that are not stated in the federal regulation.

Conclusion and way forward

I am very thankful to you for your patience and keen participation. We had great time since yesterday. We have collected great ideas from you that will help us to enrich the regulation.

I hope you too have learned a lot about forest and what our ministry has been working so far. So, it is imperative for every sector to play its own part to prevent climate change.

Besides, this new proclamation is intended to advance our effort in addressing the problems of deforestation and forest degradation.

Therefore, the ministry expects a lot from you when you return in your respective places. All sectors ought to work cooperatively to encourage forest development as well as to meet the objectives of CRGE.

Eventually, I would like to announce the conclusion of the two days conference.



Appendices

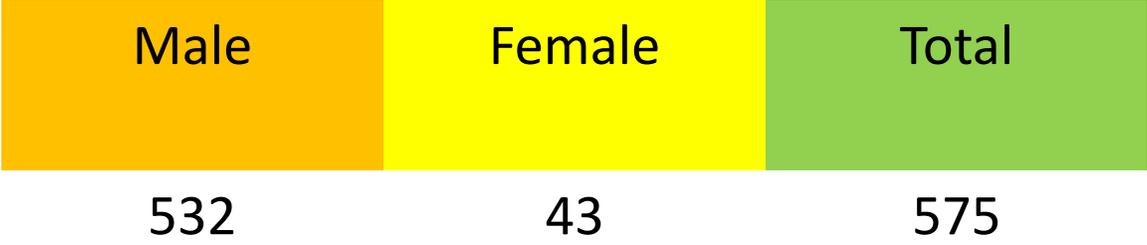
Appendix 1

Program of Conference on Forest Law Proclamation, REDD+ Strategy & Ethiopian Forestry Vision Dessie , Amhara Regional State; From April 30 to May 1, 2018

No	Activities	Time Allocated	Date	Responsible	Moderator	Remark
1	Program Introduction	8:30 – 8:45 a.m.	30/04/2018	FBC	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
2	Welcoming Remark	8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	29/04/2018	Ato Belsti Fetene A/R/En/F/W/P/ D/A D.head	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
3	Opening Remark	9:15 a.m-9:30 a.m	29/04/2018	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam State Minister	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
4	Presentation on REDD+ Strategy and Ethiopian Forestry Vision	9:30 – 10:30a.m.	29/04/2018	Wello Amba Cultural Hall	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
6	Coffee Break	10:30a.m.– 10:45a.m.	29/04/2018	Dr. Yitebitu Moges N/R/S/ Coor.	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
	Forest governance and court cases in Amhara Region	10:45a.m. – 11:25a.m.	29/04/2018	Ato Sintayehu Derese A/R/REDD+ C/U/Coor.	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
7	Presentations on Ethiopia's Forest Proclamation	11:25 – 1:00p.m.	29/04/2018	Ato Birhane Bezabih & Ato AbberuTena	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
7	Lunch Break	1:00p.m. – 2:00p.m.	29/04/2018	MEFCC	--	
8	Discussion on presentations	2:00 – 4:00p.m.	29/04/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
9	Coffee Break	4:00 – 4:15p.m.	29/04/2018	MEFCC	--	
10	Discussion on presentations continues	4 :15 – 5 :30p.m.	29/04/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
11	Discussion on presentations continues	8:30 – 10:30a.m.	30/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
12	Coffee Break	10:30 – 10:45a.m.	30/05/2018	MEFCC	--	
13	Discussion on presentations continues	10:45 – 12:30p.m.	30/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
14	Lunch Break	12:30 – 1:30p.m.	30/05/2018	MEFCC	--	
15	Discussion on presentations continues	1:30 – 3:30p.m.	30/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
16	Coffee Break	3:30 – 3:45p.m.	30/05/2018	MEFCC	--	
17	Discussion on presentations continues	3:45 – 5:00p.m.	30/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede and Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
18	Way Forward & Closing Remark	5:00 – 5:30p.m.	30/05/2018	H.E. Ato Kebede	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	

Appendix 2

Number of participants



Bishoftu Round 2

Opening Remarks



Ato Ararsa Regasa Deputy Director of OFCCA



Your Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam State Minister of Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change,
Honorable experts of MEFCC,
Honorable invited guests,

I would like first to welcome you and thank you for complying for our invitation to this important conference.

This platform has great importance to our region. As you know, our region Oromia has great forest wealth. However, it has always been under numerous difficulties.

The forest sector has huge responsibility in the country's efforts that is being made to realize Climate Resilient Green Economy. It is true that our country is growing, but the line of

growth must pursue the CRGE strategy. So, we have responsibility to protect the forest wealth we have and also to plant many more trees to expand our forest cover.

The points of discussion on this conference are: the ways and means of protection, the ways and means of planting new trees, the implementation of REDD+ strategy, and the new proclamation.

In regard to the proclamation, we will look into the former proclamation and identify the gaps it has and we will also assess the new proclamation and see how it bridges those gaps and how it is going to be implemented.

Meanwhile, I believe that we have here prominent law enforcement officials invited from various sectors.

This gathering will have great importance in the fate of the countries forest wealth. So, we expect from you in the coming two days to keenly participate in the discussion. Your participation will help us to collect important ideas that contributes for the upcoming regulations.

I am very glad to have this gathering today and I would also like to thank the ministry for organizing such very important conference.

Finally, I cordially invite His Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam to make an opening speech.

Opening Remarks



His Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam State Minister



Presentation by Dr. Yitebitu Moges



Presentation by Ato Birhane Bezabih



Presentation by Ato Abberu Tenna



Views of the Attendees

- ◆ I am so comfortable with the presentations. We were in trouble and could not undertake our task. But thank God we have now this proclamation.
- ◆ Private owned forest right is a very interesting thing. I believe many will be encouraged to develop forest.
- ◆ We have to include tech-

- nology also improve our service in forest related productions.
- ◆ I believe this new proclamation is one of the actions that aim to play a part in the efforts of growth transformation plan.
 - ◆ I like the ownership that is of the communities. This is because

- it develops sense of responsibility within the community.
- ◆ I suggest the ministry ought to offer technical support to weredas.
 - ◆ We should still need to work hard to change the attitude of people who keep destroying forest.

Comments of the Attendees

- ◆ We reduced 5.5 million ton equivalent carbon at Bale, but we couldn't yet sell the reduced carbon. We want Your Excellency to give this matter a serious attention because the public around is expecting a lot.
- ◆ More explanation is necessary on reforestation afforestation strategy.
- ◆ The right given to cut one's own trees will endanger the forest. It is necessary to revise the

- matter.
- ◆ The right to design the regulation and directives is not clearly put.
 - ◆ People are penalized for making mistakes. However, I don't see any penalty for inaction.
 - ◆ If we seriously followed up the seedlings planted till today, we wouldn't have a place to walk. But the fact is everything rests on

- reports. No one cares whether a seedling keeps growing or not.
- ◆ The new proclamation has repealed the previous ones especially of the regions. This might create chaos. In particular, the youth who benefit from forest are the case in point.
 - ◆ Because of lack of political commitment, forest is getting destroyed in the name of investment.

- ◆ The right to pass ownership to others dangerous, because owners might end up handing over the forest wealth to the wealthy.
- ◆ There is no check point in Oromia except for the excise office. It is necessary to make further elaboration on that.
- ◆ Firewood and charcoal demand is growing higher and higher. However, we don't see any alternative power that reduces the demand.
- ◆ Finfine too has lost its forest. People from the federal also have overlooked what is happening around them.

- ◆ I am a judge. I think the penalty should have been discussed with region experts.
- ◆ "Algide" park is best in its biodiversity, but it is now under serious attack.
- ◆ For many Ethiopians forest is means of survival. Unless we provide alternative means, the discussion we are making is fruitless.
- ◆ The desert areas are yet empty; we should work hard to fill the areas with forest.
- ◆ The government strategy is sometimes confusing; we have one strategy to destroy the tree by the

- name "prosopis" and we have another strategy to keep it for commercial purpose.
- ◆ The discussion offers us great enlightenment for the future endeavor. However, there must be commitment to apply it.
- ◆ Everybody becomes sensational during conference. However there is little commitment afterwards.
- ◆ Forest ought to be competent in order to get developed.
- ◆ The benefit of forest for communities must be clear and should be listed one by one.





Questions asked by Attendees

- ◆ Does this proclamation include whether attacking wildlife has penalty or not?
- ◆ How do we integrate with other sectors to work on the ecosystem management?
- ◆ If natural forest is available in other owners' field other than government forest, is it not difficult to be managed?
- ◆ There are people whose own forest taken away from them. What will be their fate?
- ◆ What is the ministry doing in regard to seed?
- ◆ It repeatedly states "government does this... does that..." which government is that?

- ◆ Pastoralists use wood to build houses. What are they going to do now?
- ◆ What do you mean by production season?
- ◆ Forests are being destroyed by the name of investment. So how can we stop such problem?
- ◆ Why are you allowing planting eucalyptus when you know that it has negative impact on agriculture and rivers?
- ◆ How can one controls those who often cut trees forest at night time?
- ◆ What is the reason for people to ask for a permission to put beehive on a tree?
- ◆ Is charcoal trade in

- Ethiopia legal?
- ◆ When you say one has owned forest, does it mean the wildlife belongs to him or her?
- ◆ Does the forest ownership book indicate that the person owns the forest land too?
- ◆ What is the benefit of the law enforcement bodies for effort they make to protect the forest?
- ◆ What does it mean by the word "intentionally" in the proclamation?
- ◆ Is it through investment that one gets land to develop forest or is there another way?

Responses and further reflections of responsible bodies

- ◆ The problem that is often observed is from the witness side. Most of them appear to a court after dealing with the guilty.
- ◆ It is only integrity that we lack, but the law doesn't have a gap.
- ◆ It is true that when forest development takes place, the alternative power should also be considered,
- ◆ Penalty would be the final measure to be applied. So, we have to work hard first to make the public aware.
- ◆ Irregularity from the law enforcement bodies' side ought to be corrected. The law is not discriminatory; so, the poor and the rich must be judged equally before the law.
- ◆ Of course when planting trees, it takes 4 or 5 years to grow. But people can grow grass side

by side and benefit from it.

- ◆ It is imperative to know that the role of eucalyptus in the development of green economy is immense. The one thing that needs to be focused on is that planting eucalyptus requires selection of areas.
- ◆ It is of course important to expand the utilization of solar power.
- ◆ The only guarantee we have to our water resource is the forest we aspire to develop. Because deforestation harms us all, we have to rise in unison to develop forest.
- ◆ It is very important to know that the proclamation has made it clear that all other laws that contrast with the new proclamation have been repealed.
- ◆ Regions shouldn't need

to worry much about the new proclamation, because there is still a room to partake in the designing of regulation and directives.

- ◆ It is imperative to know planning to depend on natural forest is against the law. Everyone has the right to plant trees chosen for commercial purpose in his or her backyard. Eucalyptus in this regard is the tree that is highly appreciated for protecting natural forest by serving the general public as firewood and as construction material.
- ◆ It has been mentioned that the proclamation excludes environment issues. But, this is not true. Environment has already been discussed in the proclamation.
- ◆ Our goal ought to be to

benefit from carbon trade. We welcome carbon money, but it is additional element. The major goal is to develop climate resilient green economy and to prevent climate change.

- ◆ It is true that honey must be produced within

the forest. But the proclamation attempts to advise that we ought to undertake it responsibly.

- ◆ We cannot totally remove people from residing within forest. However, it is our respon-

sibility to guide them how they ought to take care for the forest.

- ◆ It is true media plays great role in raising awareness of the multitude. We will continue using media to raise awareness.

Conclusion and Way forward

I am very grateful to you for staying with us for two days discussing CRGE, REDD+, and the new forest proclamation 1065/2018.

It is high time to come up in unison and make relentless effort to expand our forest cover and restore Ethiopia's green beauty.

In the past two days, your participation was so great that we were able to collect very important points that will help us in developing the regulation and directives.

I hope this conference will not end here. It is imperative to continue the awareness raising activities to reach the general public.

So, thanking you again, I would like to announce the conclusion of the conference.



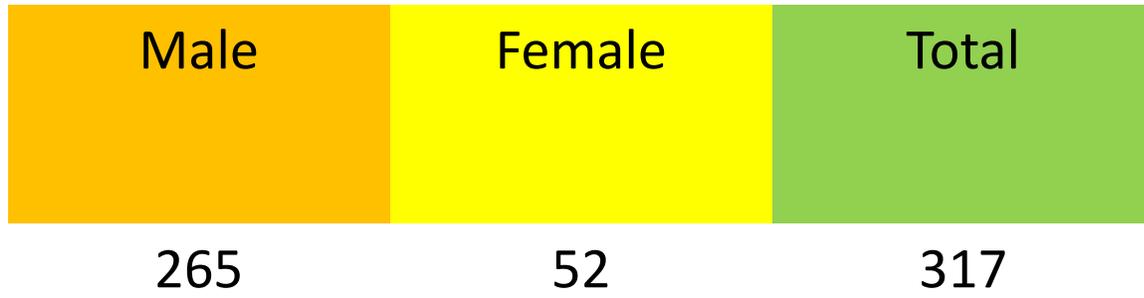
Appendices

Appendix 1

No	Activities	Time Allocated	Date	Responsible	Moderator	Re-mark
1	Program Introduction	8:30 – 8:45 a.m.	11/05/2018	FBC	FBC	
2	Welcoming Remark	8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	11/05/2018	Invited guest from OEF-CCA	FBC	
3	Opening Remark	9:15 a.m-9:30 a.m	11/05/2018	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam State Minister of ME FCC	FBC	
4	Presentation on Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy	9:30 – 10:00a.m.	11/05/2018	Dr. Yitebitu Moges N/R/S/ Coordinator	FBC	
5	Presentation on Forestry Vision and REDD+	10:00 – 10:30a.m.	11/05/2018	Dr. Yitebitu Moges N/R/S/ Coordinator	FBC	
6	Coffee Break	10:30a.m.– 10:45a.m.	11/05/2018	ME FCC	--	
7	Forest Proclamation: Issues addressed	10:45a.m. – 11:15a.m.	11/05/2018	Ato Birhane Bezabih	FBC	
8	Presentations on Ethiopia's Forest Proclamation	11:15 – 12:30p.m.	11/05/2018	Ato Abberu Tena	FBC	
9	Lunch Break	12:30p.m. – 1:30p.m.	11/05/2018	ME FCC		
10	Discussion on presentations	1:30 – 3:30p.m.	11/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
11	Coffee Break	3:30 – 3:45p.m.	11/05/2018	ME FCC	--	
12	Discussion on presentations continues	3:45 – 5 :30p.m.	11/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
13	Discussion on presentations continues	8:30 – 10:30a.m.	12/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
14	Coffee Break	10:30 – 10:45a.m.	12/05/2018	ME FCC	--	
15	Discussion on presentations continues	10:45 – 12:30p.m.	12/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
16	Lunch Break	12:30 – 1:30p.m.	12/05/2018	ME FCC	--	
17	Discussion on presentations continues	1:30 – 3:30p.m.	12/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
18	Coffee Break	3:30 – 3:45p.m.	12/05/2018	ME FCC	--	
19	Discussion on presentations continues	3:45 – 5:00p.m.	12/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
20	Way Forward & Closing Remark	5:00 – 5:30p.m.	12/05/2018	H.E. Dr. Gemedo Dalle	FBC	

Appendix 2

Number of participants



Jimma round 1

Opening Remarks

Your Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam
State Minister of Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change

Dear invited guests,

I welcome you all on behalf of Jimma Zone administration and on my behalf. It is obvious that the major effort we are making in GTP 2 is concerned with climate change. It is very encouraging to see the new forest proclamation get declared and we are here now gathered

to reflect on it.

The forest sector is a determining factor to the country's economy. In particular our region Oromia is a region where the largest forest cover is found. Accordingly, we have great responsibility to protect the forest and strengthen the benefit we get from it.

This platform is believed to be an opportunity where we learn a lot about the forest wealth we have and build our capacity for the

future endeavor. In the meantime, the forest issue needs political commitment in order to meet the intended objectives.

What is more, protecting forest development ought to be the major task of the country in the effort we are making to eradicate poverty.

So welcoming you again to the conference, I cordially invite His Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam To make an opening remark.



Opening Remarks



His Excellency Ato Kebede Yimam State Minister



Dr. Yitebitu Moges Presenting



Ato Birhane Bezabih Presenting



Ato Abberu Tenna Presenting



Views of the Attendees

- ◆ In regard to awareness, there is still a gap. So, the ministry ought to focus on adequate budget to conduct awareness.
- ◆ We are glad because the proclamation answers lots of our questions.
- ◆ Unless farmers get benefit from forest, it is

inevitable for them to continue hurting the forest. The upcoming regulation should consider the matter.

- ◆ We were facing problems due to diverse laws. I believe we have now got solution. This proclama-

tion will solve all those problems.

- ◆ The most common problem of deforestation is agriculture expansion, coffee production, displacement, and coffee production.

Comments of the Attendees

- ◆ The phrase that reads “when it is found necessary” lessens regions role. So, it is better to give elaboration on the subject.
- ◆ If inheritance includes land, it seems like it is against the constitution that says transferring land is not possible.
- ◆ This conference is too late. The ministry ought to work with regions since the start.
- ◆ I support the penalty of the federal proclamation. Especially the ones at

the starting; the ending parts in my opinion are not appropriate.

- ◆ The proclamation says that other proclamations that are in disagreement with the federal proclamation are cancelled. This is done without presenting the matter to Oromia council.
- ◆ Illubabor zone is famous for its forest. But it didn't get the appropriate care; it is yet under attack.
- ◆ The proclamation gets implemented at wereda

level; it was better if the ministry included us during discussion.

- ◆ The society's forest is already handed to the youth. No one knows to which group this wealth belongs. Meanwhile, the youth are abusing the forest.
- ◆ The government offers license for charcoal sale, in the meantime, you say it is driver of deforestation.
- ◆ It is encouraging to see about seven sectors gathered here. But

there should be a strategy for us to work collaboratively when we go back to our respective weredas.

- ◆ The REDD+ at Buno Bedelle is extracting the budget

of the Zone. It has to stand to its feet.

- ◆ In regard to lease, it seems it is not time bounded.
- ◆ People are still converting forest land.

This proclamation alone can't stop the forest degradation that takes because of coffee production.

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Questions asked by the attendees

- ◆ How trustworthy is the safety of protected areas?
- ◆ Why definition of forest included household backyard trees?
- ◆ In regard to inheritance, doesn't it contrast with Oromia land proclamation?
- ◆ Being found with tools like cutlass was said to be a wrongdoing. Is this not contrasting against the Oromia culture?
- ◆ Why Beddele Brewery is not supporting the efforts of environment protection?
- ◆ What is the ministry doing with the water power sector?
- ◆ Indigenous plants are mentioned. Which ones are

indigenous? Is it possible to plant them and use them?

- ◆ The proclamation talks about control. What is the limit of control?
- ◆ What is the government doing to reduce emissions caused by agriculture?
- ◆ The farmer sometimes uses the forest to support his livelihood. This is considered trespass the law. How are we going to judge such actions?
- ◆ What do you think of the legal settlement areas and the endangered forests?
- ◆ There is illegal coffee plantation that is en-

dangering the forest.

How do we tackle such problem?

- ◆ What is the contribution and result of NGOs working on forest related issues?
- ◆ If certain people bring their lands together and request to develop forest; will it be called societies' or associations' ?
- ◆ There are people who are removed from their land in "Buno Bedelle" and "Gechi" and this people are asking for compensation. What does this proclamation do for them?
- ◆ The proclamation showed up after the forest got destroyed.

How are we committed to protect the remaining?

- ◆ People are replacing forest with agriculture. But we from law enforcement are refusing to give them acknowledgment. How do we need to treat such people based on the new proclamation?
- ◆ How much does the local community benefit from forest? Is there benefit

anyways?

- ◆ The farmers are planting eucalyptus and using it for their livelihood. In the meantime, they don't choose places when planting eucalyptus. As a result, rivers are drying. What solution does the ministry have to such problem?
- ◆ Enterprises in Oromia give 5% to community. Is

that enough?

- ◆ What is the reason for regions not to have their own proclamation?
- ◆ What do you mean by "protected forest"?
- ◆ It was said authorities' permission is needed to cut trees; which authorities are they?
- ◆ Does the proclamation talk about PFM?



Responses and further reflections of responsible bodies

- ◆ In regard to using of indigenous trees from private forest, it is necessary to have permission first.
- ◆ REDD+ is government program. And its costs are covered from the fund it earns. So, there is no

burden that REDD+ causes on the regular budget.

- ◆ We are getting fund from Norway government for the Oromia project. This fund can be released only if we are reducing emissions from

deforestation and forest degradation.

- ◆ You are from the law enforcement group and you can play great role in the efforts of protecting forest. The protection task cannot be left to one sector

alone.

- ◆ Forest development advantage is not economic alone; it has also advantage of peace and stability.
- ◆ Article 28 # 1 tells that proclamation 542/2007 is made null and void by proclamation 1065/2018. Besides, # 2 says any proclamation that contrasts with this new forest proclamation cannot be applied. These two points ought to be considered seriously.
- ◆ It is imperative to understand the objectives of participatory forest management. It attempts to make societies beneficiary from forest development.
- ◆ It is important to know that destroying forest from any type of ownership is illegal.
- ◆ The reason the backyard trees are included in forest resource is in order to get protection by the proclamation. If for

example someone is found destroying these trees, it is only such articles in the proclamation that makes the person accountable for what he did.

- ◆ The fear of deforestation by the name of private ownership is an interesting point. But, privately owned forests are the ones planted by men and aimed for economic purposes. Eucalyptus tree is an example.
- ◆ Privately owned and non-indigenous trees such as eucalyptus can be cut by the owner without permission.
- ◆ The tools that are forbidden to carry in the forest and yet argued to be part of traditional heritage will be considered in the upcoming regulation.
- ◆ Region's steering Committee is led by region's president. Zone steering committee is led by zone administra-

tor. Similarly, wereda's administrator will lead the steering committee at the wereda level. The steering committee encompasses all sectors' heads and other important institutions' heads.

- ◆ Your comment in regard to the participation of security bodies and special zone leaders is correct. They should have been invited to this conference.
- ◆ In regard to permission by private forest owner's ability to permit one to cut trees, it is only the manmade trees that are aimed for commercial purpose can the owner give permission. Indigenous trees need government bodies' permission to be cut or moved.
- ◆ Even the commercial trees can be cut and moved without permission by owner alone.

Anyone other than the owner cannot move manmade trees without permission.

- ◆ The owner of manmade trees can give buyers only a receipt. Permission to move the trees is issued by government alone.
- ◆ The concern of firewood usage is correct. The government is making an effort to provide alternative power. One is expanding electricity service throughout rural areas. However, it is inevitable to use firewood

and even charcoal until the problem gets addressed.

- ◆ If agricultural productivity level gets improved, there is no need to expand agriculture. In so doing, we get better products from agriculture and we still protect our forest from deforestation that is caused by expanding agriculture.
- ◆ In regard to the forest handed to the youth, it can be included in soci-

eties' forest.

- ◆ Placing beehive on trees required permission just to protect the forest from fire that may endanger the forest during honey collection.
- ◆ In regard to the eucalyptus tree being seen as a problem, it is really wrong assumption. If we plant it at the appropriate land where it can't harm agricultures or rivers, we can benefit a lot from it.

Conclusion and way forward



Dear participants, I am very thankful to you for your keen participation in the course of the two days conference. The ideas we gathered from you is immense and we

will use the while preparing the regulations and directives.

Meanwhile, I have also confidence on you that you will jointly work to protect the country's forest through raising awareness of the general public and through realizing the implementation of the new forest proclamation.

So, thanking you again I would like to conclude the two days conference here.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Program of Conference on Forest Law Proclamation, Ethiopian Forestry Vision & REDD+ Jimma, Oromia Regional State; From May 16 to May 17, 2018

No	Activities	Time Allocated	Date	Responsible	Moderator	Re- mark
1	Program Introduction	8:30 – 8:45 a.m.	16/05/2018	FBC	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
2	Welcoming Remark	8:45 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	16/05/2018	Invited guest from OEF-CCA	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
3	Opening Remark	9:15 a.m-9:30 a.m	16/05/2018	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam State Minister of MEFCC	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
4	Presentation on Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy	9:30 – 10:00a.m.	16/05/2018	Dr. Yitebitu Moges N/R/S/ Coordinator	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
5	Presentation on Forestry Vision and REDD+	10:00 – 10:30a.m.	16/05/2018	Dr. Yitebitu Moges N/R/S/ Coordinator	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
6	Coffee Break	10:30a.m.– 10:45a.m.	16/05/2018	MEFCC	--	
7	Forest Proclamation: Issues addressed	10:45a.m. – 11:15a.m.	16/05/2018	Ato Birhane Bezabih	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
8	Presentations on Ethiopia's Forest Proclamation	11:15 – 12:30p.m.	16/05/2018	Ato Abberu Tena	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	
9	Lunch Break	12:30p.m. – 1:30p.m.	16/05/2018	MEFCC		
10	Discussion on presentations	1:30 – 3:30p.m.	16/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
11	Coffee Break	3:30 – 3:45p.m.	16/05/2018	MEFCC	--	
12	Discussion on presentations continues	3:45 – 5 :30p.m.	16/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
13	Discussion on presentations continues	8:30 – 10:30a.m.	17/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
14	Coffee Break	10:30 – 10:45a.m.	17/05/2018	MEFCC	--	
15	Discussion on presentations continues	10:45 – 12:30p.m.	17/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
16	Lunch Break	12:30 – 1:30p.m.	17/05/2018	MEFCC	--	
17	Discussion on presentations continues	1:30 – 3:30p.m.	17/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
18	Coffee Break	3:30 – 3:45p.m.	17/05/2018	MEFCC	--	
19	Discussion on presentations continues	3:45 – 5:00p.m.	17/05/2018	Participants	H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam	
20	Way Forward & Closing Remark	5:00 – 5:30p.m.	17/05/2018	H.E. Dr. Gemedo Dalle	Ato Daniel Amare FBC	

Appendix 2

Number of Participants

