REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (FDA)

Office of the Managing Director

MD/130/2021/-3

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Public Notice

Public Comment Period and Consultations on Private Use Permit Regulations, Chainsaw Milling Regulations and the Forest Sector Compliance and Enforcement Handbook

Notice is hereby given that the Forestry Development Authority(FDA) will hold public consultations/meetings on three proposals for regulating the use of private forest land under a Private Use Permit Regulation; a Chainsaw Milling Regulation for establishing a well-defined regulatory framework to allow a transformation of informal chainsaw milling to a formal, legal, and responsible chainsaw milling in the forest sector of Liberia; and a Forest Sector Enforcement and Compliance Handbook for detailing compliance standards and enforcement procedures for improved forest governance.

The Proposed Chainsaw Milling Regulation is expected to establish a chainsaw milling permitting regime that is consistent with, and under the ambit of Timber Sale Contract (TSC), Community Forestry Management Agreement (CFMA), and Private Use Permit (PUP), and which prohibit same from being undertaken in areas or forest land suitable for or covered by Forest Management Contracts and Forest Use Permits, and forest land designated as a Protected Area and Proposed

Protected Area. The Chainsaw Milling Regulation is expected to ensure and assure the legality and effective traceability of timber supplied by chainsaw milling from forests by harnessing the Forestry Development Authority's Chain of Custody System. The regulation proposes the limitation of chainsaw milling to Liberian nationals, primarily through legally established Cooperatives or associations, to maximize opportunities for local employment and value addition.

The Proposed Private Use Permit Regulation (PUP) prescribe standards qualifications for person(s) wishing to conduct commercial forest operations under a PUP. Therefore, the FDA intends to set forth in clear and specific terms the legal requirements of the land eligible for PUPs and the procedures by which a PUP may be applied for, granted, and maintained.

Forest Compliance and Enforcement Handbook is intended to provide an overview of compliance, inspections, investigations, and enforcement procedures under the laws, regulations, codes, and manuals governing the forest sector in Liberia. It aims to enhance the capacity of the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) to enforce relevant laws and regulations and specifically to inform forest officers on best practices for identifying violations, gathering evidence, and recommending appropriate enforcement actions.

The Public can view the regulations and handbook online @ https://fda.gov.lr/document/private-use-prermit-regulation-proposal

(EDA) to be been enlawed by a similar ordering and more figure.

https://fda.gov.lr/index.php/document/forest-complianceand-enforcement-handbook-proposal beginning September 27, 2021. In addition, hard copies of the proposed regulations and handbook are available at the Headquarters of the Forestry Development Authority in Paynesville, the FDA Regional Offices in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County, and Vonjama, Lofa County for viewing or copying.

The Public can submit comments to <u>yanquoidolo@gmail.com</u> from September 27, 2020, to November 27, 2021. Additionally, the Public can submit comments in person at the locations mentioned above and at the regional consultations to be held in Gbarnga (October 11 to 12,2021), Buchanan (October 14 to 15 2021), and Zwedru (November 2 to 4 2021) cities. Furthermore, the Public is invited to attend the regional consultations on the mentioned dates.

For more information, contact Atty. Yanquoi Z. Dolo, Legal Counsel Forestry Development Authority on +231886815517.

Dated this 23 day of September, 2021

Signed:

Hon. C. Mike Doyen Managing Director