

COLLOQUIUM ON THE DEEPENDING DIALOGUE WITH STAKEHOLDERS IN THE FOREST SECTOR IN KENYA MARCH 4TH – 6TH AT BOMA INN HOTEL, ELDORET

CLOSING STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES ON 6TH MARCH 2015

Chief guest, invited dignitaries, fellow participants, kindly acknowledge our support to the Forest Sector Colloquium that has come to a fruitful end. We are delighted with the process that has brought us this far. We hope to build up on the same in the subsequent forums.

Our present community members and leaders are grateful for the rich pool of knowledge and expertise that has been shared in the last three days. We want to assure the participants and the Colloquium speakers that our community is; and will be ready for dialogue on the identified issues. Our shared vision is that of leading fulfilled lives, having a stable economy and maintaining enriched culture. We shall contribute our rich knowledge towards restoring our forests' lost glory.

We shall continue raising awareness and vigorously participate in processes leading to formulation of policies relating to the rights of indigenous people and those governing the forest sector.

We appeal to our friends to support our vision and our resolve to help the authorities rehabilitate and restore degraded forest areas and craft livelihood programmes.

We fully support the establishment of REDD (Readiness Process for the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility) to support consultations and capacity building among stakeholders in the forest sector, including indigenous forest communities and people. This facility comes at a time when the forest communities are engaged in meaningful consultations, as they dialogue with the relevant Authorities.

In conclusion, we shall consult widely in a bid to come up with solutions relevant to our problems.

We wish you all well and a safe journey. Kindly pass our kindly regards to your families.

Thanks.



Towett J. K.
Chairperson

