



June 30, 2016

Hon. Harrison S. Karnwea, Sr.  
Managing Director  
Forestry Development Authority (FDA)  
Monrovia, Liberia

Dear Hon. Karnwea;

We thank you wholeheartedly for your efforts to improve the overall governance of the forestry sector. The SDI remains committed to working with the FDA and other stakeholders to improve the governance of our forest resources.

In the spirit of this collaboration, we have enclosed one copy of a briefing paper that SDI has published outlining concerns about FDA's plan to legalize conversion timber. As we have noted in previous communications, we are very concerned that doing so will accelerate deforestation and illegal logging. We have also enclosed an open letter from 50 Goldman Environmental Prize winners from 40 countries, expressing their concerns about the FDA's plan as well.

The Goldman Environmental Prize honors grassroots environmental heroes from the world's six inhabited continental regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Islands & Island Nations, North America, and South & Central America. The Prize recognizes individuals for sustained and significant efforts to protect and enhance the natural environment, often at great personal risk. The Goldman Prize views "grassroots" leaders as those involved in local efforts, where positive change is created through community or citizen participation in the issues that affect them.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nora G. Bowier", written over the typed name.

Nora G. Bowier  
Coordinator