Administration Agreement between the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association concerning the BioCFplus REDD+ Readiness Support Multi-Donor Trust Fund (TF No.072455)

1. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (collectively, the “Bank”) acknowledge that the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (the “Donor”, and together with the Bank, the “Parties” and each a “Party”) agrees, subject to Parliamentary appropriations, to provide the sum not exceeding eight million eight hundred fifty six thousand and thirty two United States dollars and nineteen cents (US$8,856,032.19) (the “Contribution”) for the BioCFplus REDD+ Readiness Support Multi-Donor Trust Fund, TF No. 072455 (the “Trust Fund”) in accordance with the terms of this Administration Agreement. Other donors are also expected to contribute to the Trust Fund on the terms and conditions specified in the Annexes to this Administration Agreement.

2. The Contribution shall be used to finance the activities set forth in the “BioCFplus REDD+ Readiness Support Multi-Donor Trust Fund Description” attached hereto as Annex 1, and shall be administered by the Bank on behalf of the Donor in accordance with the terms of this Administration Agreement, including the “Standard Provisions” attached hereto as Annex 2, except that the administrative fee referred to in paragraph 3.1 shall not be charged to the Contribution from the Donor, and the provisions on “Governance” attached hereto as Annex 3.

3. The Donor hereby authorizes the Bank, promptly following countersignature of this Agreement, to transfer the Contribution from the BioCF Technical Assistance Trust Fund (TF052033) to this Trust Fund (TF072455).

4. Except with respect to the Deposit Instructions, any notice, request or other communication to be given or made under this Administration Agreement shall be in writing and delivered by mail, fax or e-mail to the respective Party’s address specified below or at such other address as such Party notifies in writing to the other Party from time to time:

For the Bank (the “Bank Contact”):

Dan Radack
Fund Manager, BioCarbon Fund
Forests and Landscapes Climate Finance Unit
Climate Change Group
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20043
Telephone: +1 (202) 473-8003
E-mail: Dradack@worldbank.org

For the Donor (the “Donor Contact”):

Anders Vatn
Counsellor
Royal Norwegian Embassy
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel.: +251 (0)113 710 799
Fax: +251 11 371 12 55
E-mail: anders.vatn@mfa.no
5. In the event any amounts are to be returned to the Donor under this Administration Agreement, the Bank shall transfer such amounts to the Donor, unless otherwise agreed with the Bank. When making any deposit, the Bank shall include in its deposit details information making (remittance advice) field of its SWIFT deposit message, information indicating: the amount deposited, that the deposit is made by the Bank in relation to TF No. 072455 (the BioCFplus REDD+ Readiness Support Multi-Donor Trust Fund), and the date of the deposit.

6. All annexes hereto constitute an integral part of this Administration Agreement, whose terms taken together shall constitute the entire agreement and understanding between the Donor and the Bank. Unless otherwise specified in an annex hereto, this Administration Agreement may be amended only by written amendment between the Bank and the Donor; provided, however, that any annexes to this Administration Agreement may be amended only by written amendment of all donors contributing to the Trust Fund.

7. Each of the Parties represents, by confirming its agreement below, that it is authorized to enter into this Administration Agreement and act in accordance with these terms and conditions. The Parties are requested to sign and date this Administration Agreement, and upon possession by the Bank of this fully signed Administration Agreement, this Administration Agreement shall become effective as of the date of the last signature.

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

By: 
Name: Simon Whitehouse
Title: Acting Program Manager
Forests and Landscapes Climate Finance
Climate Change Group
Date: Oct 27, 2015

NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By: 
Name: Andreas Gaarder
Title: Ambassador at Royal Norwegian Embassy, Addis Ababa
Date: 30.12.2015
BioCFplus REDD+ Readiness Support Multi-Donor Trust Fund Description

This Annex shall be applicable to and form an integral part of all administration agreements for the Trust Fund (collectively, the “Administration Agreements” and each an “Administration Agreement”) between the Bank and any entities that provide any funds to the Trust Fund (collectively, the “Donors”).

1. Objectives

The objectives of the Trust Fund are:

The Trust Fund development objective is to strengthen the capacity of governments’ institutions engaged with developing and implementing land use activities under REDD+ (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest degradation with sustainable management of forests, conservation of forest carbon stocks and enhancement of forest carbon stocks constituting the “+” in REDD+) and to improve the understanding of how financial incentives for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from REDD+ can help forest countries seeking to promote rapid, large-scale investments to achieve economic development patterns that recognize the importance of forest protection, recognizing that the impact on forests can come from various sectors.

2. Activities

The activities (which may be described as “components” of activities) to be financed by the Trust Fund are:

2.1 Bank-executed activities, for which the Bank has implementation responsibility:

(a) Technical advice to and capacity building for REDD+ institutions, strategies and implementation
(b) Bank Preparation to support REDD+ pilot programs
(c) Bank Supervision to implementation of REDD+ readiness and pilot programs
(d) Program Management and Administration cost

2.2 Recipient-executed activities, for which one or more Recipients (as defined in Annex 2) have implementation responsibility:

Grants to support REDD+ institutions, strategies, and implementation

3. Eligible Expenditures

3.1 For Bank-executed activities, the Trust Fund funds may be used to finance:

(a) Associated Overheads
(b) Consultants fees for individuals with indirect costs and consultant fees for firms
(c) Contractual Services
(d) Extended term consultants with indirect costs
(e) Field Assignment Benefits
(f) Media, Workshop, Conference and Meeting
(g) Staff costs with indirect costs (excluding Temporary support staff costs)
(h) Temporary support staff costs with indirect costs
(i) Travel Expenses
3.2 For Recipient-executed activities, the Trust Fund funds may be used to finance:

(a) Consulting
(b) Goods
(c) Operating Costs
(d) Training

4. Taxes

4.1 The foregoing activities and categories of expenditures may include the financing of taxes in accordance with the Bank’s applicable policies and procedures.

5. Program Criteria

5.1 Activities are to be financed in accordance with the following program criteria:

The operations of BioCFplus REDD+ Readiness Support may include the provision of Fund Property to enable:

(a) The support of activities that will ultimately lead to Emission Reductions; and/or
(b) The support of activities generating additional benefits beyond climate.
(c) In addition, the fund will support activities that will mean equitable benefit sharing once carbon payments are made, and will disseminate lessons learned and information concerning development of programs

6. Retroactive Financing

6.1 The Trust Fund funds may be used to retroactively finance payments for eligible expenditures made as of July 10, 2015 in accordance with the Bank’s applicable policies and procedures.
ANNEX 2

Standard Provisions

This Annex shall be applicable to and form an integral part of all Administration Agreements between the Bank and the respective Donors.

1. Administration of the Contributions

1.1 The Bank shall be responsible only for performing those functions specifically set forth in this Administration Agreement and shall not be subject to any other duties or responsibilities to the Donors, including, without limitation, any duties or obligations that might otherwise apply to a fiduciary or trustee under general principles of trust or fiduciary law. Nothing in this Administration Agreement shall be considered a waiver of any privileges or immunities of the Bank under its Articles of Agreement or any applicable law, all of which are expressly reserved.

1.2 Each Donor’s Contribution (collectively, the “Contributions”) shall be administered in accordance with the Bank’s applicable policies and procedures, as the same may be amended from time to time, including its procurement, financial management, disbursement and safeguard policies, its framework to prevent and combat fraud and corruption and its screening procedures to prevent the use of Bank resources to finance terrorist activity, in line with the Bank’s obligations to give effect to the relevant decisions of the Security Council taken under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. The Donors acknowledge that this provision does not create any obligations of the Bank under the anti-terrorist financing and asset control laws, regulations, rules and executive orders of an individual member country that may apply to a Donor.

2. Management of the Contributions

2.1 The funds deposited in the Trust Fund shall be accounted for as a single trust fund and shall be kept separate and apart from the funds of the Bank. The funds deposited in the Trust Fund may be commingled with other trust fund assets maintained by the Bank. The Bank, in its capacity as trustee, has legal title to the funds deposited in the Trust Fund.

2.2 The currency in which the funds in the Trust Fund shall be held is United States dollars (the “Holding Currency”).

2.3 Donors agree to deposit their Contributions in the Contribution Currency stated in their respective Administration Agreements. In the case of deposits received in a Contribution Currency other than the Holding Currency, promptly upon the receipt of such amounts and the accompanying Deposit Instructions, the Bank shall convert such amounts into the Holding Currency at the exchange rate obtained by the Bank on the date of the conversion. Where deposits prove to be insufficient to complete activities as a result of exchange rate fluctuations, neither the Bank nor the Donor shall bear any responsibility for providing any additional financing.

2.4 The funds deposited in the Trust Fund may be freely exchanged by the Bank into other currencies as may facilitate their disbursement at the exchange rate obtained by the Bank on the date of the conversion.

2.5 The Bank shall invest and reinvest the funds deposited in the Trust Fund pending their disbursement in accordance with the Bank’s applicable policies and procedures for the investment of trust funds administered by the Bank. The Bank shall credit all income from such investment to the Trust Fund to be used for the same purposes as the Contributions.
3. **Trust Fund Fees and Costs**

3.1 The Bank shall deduct and retain for its own account, as a deduction from each Installment, an amount equal to two percent (2%) per Installment as an administrative fee for the Trust Fund.

3.2 In addition, costs incurred by the Bank for other expenses, such as for program management and Trust Fund administration, that are (i) not covered by the percentage deduction specified above as an administrative fee and (ii) not included under Annex 1 of the Administration Agreements in accordance with the Bank's applicable policies and procedures shall be charged to the Trust Fund on an actual basis.

3.3 Each Donor acknowledges and agrees that the percentage deductions for fees in this Trust Fund Fees and Costs section are estimated on the basis of anticipated Contributions. If actual Contributions significantly differ from what was originally anticipated at the time of signature of the first Administration Agreement, or if other circumstances affecting Trust Fund fees or costs change, the Bank reserves the right to request a change to the terms of this Trust Fund Fees and Costs section, which would be effectuated by amendments made to the Administration Agreements of all Donors and which would thereafter be applicable to all new Contributions that are provided either as amendments to supplement existing Administration Agreements or from new Donors under new Administration Agreements.

4. **Accounting and Financial Reporting**

4.1 The Bank shall maintain separate records and ledger accounts in respect of the funds deposited in the Trust Fund and disbursements made therefrom.

4.2 The Bank shall furnish to the Donors current financial information relating to receipts, disbursements and fund balance in the Holding Currency with respect to the Contributions via the World Bank’s Trust Funds Donor Center secure website. Within six (6) months after all commitments and liabilities under the Trust Fund have been satisfied and the Trust Fund has been closed, the final financial information relating to receipts, disbursements and fund balance in the Holding Currency with respect to the Contributions shall be made available to the Donors via the World Bank’s Trust Funds Donor Center secure website.

4.3 The Bank shall provide to the Donors via the World Bank’s Trust Fund Donor Center secure website, within six (6) months following the end of each Bank fiscal year, an annual single audit report, comprising (i) a management assertion together with an attestation from the Bank’s external auditors concerning the adequacy of internal control over cash-based financial reporting for all cash-based trust funds as a whole; and (ii) a combined financial statement for all cash-based trust funds together with the Bank’s external auditor’s opinion thereon. The cost of the single audit shall be borne by the Bank.

4.4 If a Donor wishes to request, on an exceptional basis, a financial statement audit by the Bank’s external auditors of the Trust Fund, the Donor and the Bank shall first consult as to whether such an external audit is necessary. The Bank and the Donor shall agree on the appropriate scope and terms of reference of such audit. Following agreement on the scope and terms of reference, the Bank shall arrange for such external audit. The costs of any such audit, including the internal costs of the Bank with respect to such audit, shall be borne by the requesting Donor.

4.5 The Bank shall make available to the Donors copies of all financial statements and auditors’ reports received by the Bank from Recipients pursuant to any Grant Agreements (as defined below) in accordance with the Bank’s Access to Information Policy.
5. **Progress Reporting**

5.1 The Bank shall provide the Donors with annual progress reports by the end of each Bank fiscal year. The progress reports shall be provided with reference to the results framework agreed by the Bank and the Donor, as such results framework may be reviewed by the Parties from time to time. Within six (6) months of the End Disbursement Date (as defined below), the Bank shall furnish to the Donors a final report on the activities financed by the Trust Fund.

5.2 Any Donor may review or evaluate activities financed by the Trust Fund at any time up to closure of the Trust Fund. The Donor and the Bank shall agree on the scope and conduct of such review or evaluation, and the Bank shall provide all relevant information within the limits of the Bank’s applicable policies and procedures. All associated costs, including any costs incurred by the Bank, shall be borne by the Donor. It is understood that any such review or evaluation will not constitute a financial, compliance or other audit of the Trust Fund.

6. **Disbursement; Cancellation; Refund**

6.1 It is expected that the funds deposited in the Trust Fund will be fully disbursed by the Bank December 31, 2020 (the “End Disbursement Date”). The Bank shall only disburse funds deposited in the Trust Fund for the purposes of this Administration Agreement (other than returns to Donors) after such date to the extent such date is changed in accordance with amendments made to the Administration Agreements of all the Donors. Following the End Disbursement Date, the Bank shall return any remaining balance of the Trust Fund to each Donor in the Holding Currency in the manner specified in its respective Administration Agreement on a pro rata basis with regard to the total funds deposited in the Trust Fund by such Donor relative to the total funds deposited in the Trust Fund by all Donors, all calculated as Holding Currency amounts.

6.2 Any Donor may cancel all or part of such Donor’s pro rata share, and the Bank may cancel all or any Donors’ pro rata shares, upon three (3) months’ prior written notice, of any Contributions (paid and not yet paid) that are not committed pursuant to any agreements entered into between the Bank and any consultants and/or other third parties for the purposes of this Administration Agreement, including any Grant Agreements, prior to the receipt of such notice. In the event of a cancellation, the Bank shall return to the Donor its pro-rata share in the Holding Currency as specified in the Administration Agreement; unless otherwise agreed between the Bank and the Donor.

7. **Disclosure; Dispute Resolution**

7.1 The Bank shall disclose the Administration Agreements and related information on this Trust Fund in accordance with the Bank’s Policy on Access to Information. By entering into Administration Agreements, the Donors consent to such disclosure of their respective Administration Agreements and such related information.

7.2 The Donors and the Bank shall use their best efforts to amicably settle any dispute, controversy, or claim arising out of or relating to the Administration Agreements.

8. **Grants to Recipients**

8.1 The Bank shall, as administrator of the Trust Fund on behalf of the Donors, enter into one or more grant agreements (the “Grant Agreements”) with recipients (the “Recipients”) consistent with the purposes of this Administration Agreement and on the terms and conditions set forth in the Grant Agreements. Grant Agreements may be entered into up to the maximum amount of the Contributions that all Donors have agreed to make available under the Administration Agreements between the Bank and the Donors.
8.2 The Bank shall be responsible for the supervision of the activities financed under any Grant Agreements. Subject to the consent of any relevant Recipients, representatives of the Donors may be invited by the Bank to participate in Bank supervision missions related to the Trust Fund.

8.3 The Bank shall promptly inform the Donors of any significant modification to the terms of any Grant Agreements and of any contractual remedies that are exercised by the Bank under any Grant Agreements. To the extent practicable, the Bank shall afford the Donors the opportunity to exchange views before effecting any such modification or exercising any such remedy.
Governance

This Annex shall be applicable to and form an integral part of all Administration Agreements between the Bank and the respective Donors.

The Trust Fund manager will consult with the donors on the type of technical assistance activities to be undertaken, the countries where these activities could be undertaken, and the technology focus. An annual work program will be prepared by the management, taking into account the outcome of these consultations, and to be approved by the donors meeting to be held at least once a year.