



COLLABORATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

Cameroon's Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife,

AND

The Sangha Tri-national Foundation,

On

The sustainable financing of management activities in The Lobéké National Park and the Sangha Tri-national Transboundary Complex

Collaboration Agreement between

The **Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF)**, on the one hand, and

The **Sangha Tri-National Foundation (STNF)**, on the other hand,

Hereinafter referred to as « **MINFOF** » for the Ministry and « **STNF** » for the Foundation, and collectively referred to as « **The Parties** »,

Considering the resolutions of the Yaoundé Declaration following the March 1999 Summit of Central Africa Heads of States, which were later on reiterated in the Treaty on the conservation and sustainable management of forest ecosystems in Central Africa, signed in Brazzaville on 5 February 2005, and instituting the Commission of Central Africa Forests (COMIFAC) ;

Determined to implement the commitments made by the Heads of States under the Brazzaville Treaty;

Subscribing to the renewed willingness of the Government of the Republic of Cameroon to foster a concerted management of forestry and wildlife resources;

Recognising the contribution of international governmental and non-governmental cooperation in implementing efficient actions for the funding, conservation and sustainable and efficient management of forest and wildlife ;

Mindful of the Cooperation Agreement signed on 7 December 2000 in Yaoundé, by the Central Africa Republic, and the Republics of Cameroon and Congo in view to create the Sangha Tri-National (STN);

Desirous to take all appropriate measures necessary for the accomplishment of the missions of the STNF;

Recognising the missions assigned to the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife;

Considering the Forest Environment Sectoral Programme (FESP);

Mindful of the Articles of Incorporation and the Statutes of the STNF, of 9 March 2007;

Considering the mission of the STNF to raise funds required to ensure the management of each of the three parks of the STN, including the protection and sustainable management of natural resources in surrounding areas ;

Considering the resolutions taken by the Board of Administrators of the STNF, aimed at strengthening cooperation with MINFOF, with a view to funding for actions on integrated management of biodiversity STN in general, and in the Lobéké National Park in particular;

Hereby agree as follows :

Article 1: Object of the Agreement

This Collaboration Agreement shall define the terms and conditions of collaboration between the signatory Parties, for the sake of an effective attainment of the objectives and proper execution of the activities of the Sangha Tri-National Foundation (STNF) in Cameroon, in order to sustainably fund the conservation and management of biodiversity in the STN, and especially in the Lobeke Park and its environs.

Article 2: Commitments of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife

In a bid to ease the proper execution of this Collaboration Agreement, the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) shall, in conjunction with other competent Administrations:

- Provide the Sangha Tri-national Foundation (STNF) with all the support required to operate in Cameroon, including, but not limited to obtaining authorisations to carry out activities, to establish its Headquarters, or tax exemptions and public utility status ;
- Provide the Sangha Tri-national Foundation (STNF) with the support and collaboration needed for the implementation of its programme ;
- Facilitate counterpart funds raising activities when and where necessary, in order to help execute the STNF programmes in compliance with the forms jointly agreed by the parties ;
- Provide all the assistance needed to help raise funds for the STNFS, from both public and private donors ;
- Undertake actions, where need be, with other competent bodies aimed at promoting the STNF at national and international levels;
- Ensure that grants made available by the FTNS under the execution of its programme are managed in a sound and transparent manner.

Article 3: Commitments of the Sangha Tri-national Foundation

In a bid to facilitate implementation of this Collaboration Agreement, the Sangha Tri-national Foundation (FTNS) shall:

- Inform MINFOF about decisions taken by its Board of Administrators on the allocation of grants;
- Inform MINFOF on a regular basis, on the overall execution of its Programme, and provide all data requested by MINFOF ;
- Closely involve MINFOF, and where necessary, all the other national competent bodies, in the execution of its programmes and projects at national and international levels;
- Submit an annual progress report to MINFOF, for information.

Article 4: Implementation and Follow up of the Agreement

1. The Parties shall mutually share written information concerning the appointment of their respective Focal Points in charge of liaising and following up this Collaboration Agreement.
2. The Parties shall mutually share inform each other on any unforeseen difficulties or circumstances likely to slow down the execution of this Collaboration Agreement, and take all the measures necessary to overcome them.
3. The Parties shall meet once a year in a joint Committee consultation session, to assess the implementation of this Agreement, as well as eventually examine the obstacles preventing them from taking up their commitments, and envisage appropriate measures to meet the objectives of the Agreement.

Article 5: Communication

No information concerning the implementation of this Collaboration Agreement shall be made public or reproduced by **either Party**, without the prior consent of the **other Party**.

Article 6 : Entry into Force and Duration

This Collaboration Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature.
Its duration shall be of five (5) years, renewable upon tacit agreement.

Article 7 : Revision

- 1 This agreement may be revised at the behest of either of the signatory party.
- 2 The Parties may, under the implementation of this Collaboration Agreement, and where need be, conclude a Protocol of any nature to complement it.

Article 8: Notice of Termination of the Agreement

- 1 The notice of termination of this Agreement shall take effect six (06) months after the date of the written notification transmitted diplomatically to the other Party.
- 2 Once the duration of this Agreement expires, its provisions and those of any separate Protocol, additional agreement or regulation concluded within the framework of this Agreement shall still be effective for all the pending obligations. Such obligations shall not exceed six (06) months.

Article 9: Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute arising between MINFOF and the STNF as a result of the execution of this Agreement, or of its related Protocols shall be settled amicably. In the event of any persistent disagreement, the Ministry of External Relations (MINREX) shall be sought for arbitration.

Done in Yaoundé in two copies, on this **06 MAI 2009** day of the year....., in English and French, both versions being authentic.

For The Sangha Tri-National
Foundation

Mr. Laurent Magloire SOME
Chair Person of The Board of
Administrators



For The Ministry of Forestry
and Wildlife

Pr. Elvis NGOLLE NGOLLE,
Minister in charge of
Forestry and Wildlife.