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Dear Mr. Wallis,

It is with pleasure that I write to thank you for your participation in the seventh session of the UN Forum on Forests this year, and particularly the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue. This session of the Forum was the most significant milestone reached by the International Arrangement on Forests to date, and we thank you for your support in accomplishing this achievement.

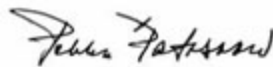
Your efforts in mobilizing stakeholder participation from the Non-Governmental Organizations Major Group are a critical factor for our growing success in engaging civil society in the work of the Forum. These efforts have been, and continue to be much appreciated.

The adoption of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests sets a new standard in forest management, one that is expected to have a major impact on international cooperation and national action to reduce deforestation, prevent forest degradation, promote sustainable livelihoods and reduce poverty for all forest-dependent peoples. The Forum now has a clear and strong mandate through 2015, reflected in the new multi-year programme of work.

Major groups' contributions to sustainable forest management have been well recognized in discussions at the Forum, and, indeed, the UNFF7 outcomes call for active and effective stakeholder participation in the development, implementation and assessment of forest-related policies and programmes. We are confident that your group will have a number of important and relevant inputs to make for future discussions at the Forum, as well as at relevant regional and sub-regional discussions.

I look forward to our continuing collaboration.

Most sincerely,



Pekka Patosaari
Director

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