

## JOINT STATEMENT

### Meeting on

### **Operationalization of Memorandum of Understanding signed between National Directorate of Land and Forests of the Republic of Mozambique and Tanzania Forest Services of the United Republic of Tanzania**

1. The National Directorate of Land and Forests of the Republic of Mozambique (DNTF) and The Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) have been working together on the development of mechanism for cooperation to address the challenges that are faced by the two countries in the management of forest resources. In this context, on 8th April 2012 the two institutions signed, in Maputo, Mozambique, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that identifies key areas for cooperation in the forest sector with focus on Transboundary resource issues.
2. On the 15 and 16<sup>th</sup> of August a meeting was held in Dar es Salaam for the Operationalization of Memorandum of Understanding. The meeting was attended by 20 representatives from both countries including CEO and senior staff of TFS, the Director and provincial staff of DNTF, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (Tanzania) and representatives of WWF and TRAFFIC who have provided technical or resourcing support to this and related trans-boundary conservation initiatives for Tanzania-Mozambique.

The objectives of the meeting were to set up the framework for implementation of Memorandum of Understanding signed, between National Directorate of Land and Forest and Tanzania Forest Services Agency, in short, medium and long run.

The Opening Address by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism stressed the importance of the MOU aim of 'enhancing cooperation between Tanzania-Mozambique in good governance in forest resources, protection and management, with focus to trans-boundary issues'

3. On institutional matters it was agreed:
  - a. The Joint Technical Committee would comprise 3 members from each country. These would be from Tanzania – TFS Zonal Manger-Southern Tanzania, Head of Legal Services Unit and Head of Natural Forests Section. From Mozambique the members would be the Head of the Department of Law Enforcement DNTF and the Heads of the Provincial Services of Forestry (SPFFB) in Niassa and Cabo Delgado Provinces.
  - b. The Chair of the Joint Technical Committee will be filled by the respective Directors of Forestry in each country serving annually – the CEO of TFS will serve as the first Chair for year 2013/14.
4. On priorities it was concluded that the immediate focus for 2013/14 on the 7 noted 'Areas of Cooperation (Article 4 of the MOU) would be:
  - a. *Trans-boundary collaboration on law enforcement to reduce and/or eradicate illegal logging and illegal trade.*
  - b. *Exchanging information and data on monitoring of trans-boundary trade of forestry products, including non-timber forest products*
5. A detailed Action plan to implement these priorities by the Joint Technical Committee was developed during the meeting. As well as identifying resources needed to implement the most urgent priorities to address the unsustainable aspects of the harvesting and trade of forest products and current significant loss of revenue to the national economies of both countries.
6. In closing, it was agreed to develop a joint programme resourced over a 5 year period to effectively address the Areas of Cooperation and Responsibilities (Articles 4 & 5 respectively) stipulated in the MoU.