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A graduate of the University of Arizona (1981) with a Bachelor's Degree in Science, specialized in Mining Engineering, a Diploma in Applied Geophysics to Engineering (1983) from the Costa Rican Electrification Institute in San Jose, a Master's Degree in Renewable Energies from the University of Auckland, New Zealand (1987), with emphasis on geotechnics, especially applied geochemistry and geophysics, and a Master's in Biodiversity Management (2000) from the Pan American International University in Panama (Online Program.)

From 1981 to 1998 I worked at the Institute of Hydro Resources and Electrification (IRHE) in Panama where I conducted several research studies on various sources of renewable energy likely to be utilized in Panama in the future.

I participated in most (90%) studies on the geothermal potential in Panama, performing geochemical, geological, and geophysical field explorations in specific locations with good geothermal potential, prospecting the Baru Volcano Complex, the Chitra-Calobre region, the Anton Valley, and the Tonosi area.

I was equally involved in numerous surveys and pre-feasibility and feasibility studies of hydropower projects, especially geotechnical analysis and interpretation of different geological and geophysical field data. I also participated in the creation of our national wind map for future eolic projects.

My wide experience and specialized knowledge in the field of renewable energies also includes the usage of peat for energy purposes. In this regards, I led the research team sponsored by the University of British Columbia in Canada, acquiring a deep understanding of the biomass-to-biofuel generation process.

I have a comprehensive knowledge of mining operations. I got involved early on as a technical consultant in mining activities in Panama, ending up as a chief mining engineer for an open-pit manganese mine.

From 1981 until 1998 all my activity was directed towards renewable energy exploration, with the exemption of the period 1992-1996 when I was more involved with the mining sector in Panama.

I began my professional work in the field of climate change in 1999 when I provided consulting services for the First National Communication on Climate Change in Panama, participating in activities and workshops in the initial stages of the Clean Development Mechanism, better known as CDM, under the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC).

In the year 2000, and after getting a Master's in Biodiversity Management, I was recognized as a Consultant in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) before the National Environmental Authority (ANAM), which is the equivalent entity in Panama to the EPA in the United States. This recognition gave me the opportunity to elaborate numerous EIA studies for different sectors, especially the hydroelectric one. This implies an in-depth knowledge of Panama's environmental normative legislation.

In 2002 I was responsible for the Climate Change Adaptation Project executed in the Santa Maria River Basin with emphasis on determining the current and future vulnerability of water resources in the region, considering adaptation measures to climate change as part of a Regional Project that encompass Central America, Mexico, and Cuba.

In 2003 I started to serve as negotiator from Panama before the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, having an effective role in mitigation-related issues, especially regarding Clean Development Mechanism projects.

I assumed my present positions as Deputy Administrator General of ANAM (Vice Minister rank) in 2004. ANAM deals with all environmental issues in Panama and administrates, coordinates, and supervises more than 1,700 employees. At the same time, I was

designated as the Focal Point before the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and a leading negotiator in the Convention process as well as the Head of ANAM's team before the UNFCCC and its Executive Board. I was also the Technical Focal Point for The Global Environment Facility (GEF), which deals with Biodiversity, Desertification, and Climate Change issues for the Resource Allocation Fund (RAF) and other GEF funds.

In this management capacity, I has been very actively involved in structuring and supporting projects that help mitigate greenhouse gas emissions in both the private and the public sector with the objective of making Panama fulfill its commitments under the Kyoto Protocol and analyze strategies toward this adaptation.

Renowned international entities—such as Natsource, Ecosecurity, CO2e, BennetJonnes, Grupo Santander, Suez, and many other members of the International Emissions Trading Association IETA—have openly stated their approval of my management command of the rules under the Kyoto Protocol and in the structuring of CDM projects for approval by the Executive Board.

As recognized expert in the international arena of carbon market, I have given numerous presentations in very important international forums: Carbon Expos, Foro Latinoamericano de Carbon, Carbon Forum in San Francisco, and other events sponsored by the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA by its acronym in English).

I am currently being considered for one of the positions within the Executive Board of the Kyoto Protocol, which I would assume at the beginning of 2010 if I decide to take it.

For the last five years, as Deputy Administrator General (Vice Minister) of ANAM, my duties focused on assisting the General Administrator in achieving all the environmental objectives that Panama mandates by law.

Some of my duties involved:

- ❑ Supervising all technical departments dealing with Protected Areas
- ❑ Improving and enforcing environmental normatives.
- ❑ Analyzing performance of existing industries by means of environmental audits.
- ❑ Analyzing the Environmental Impact Assessment procedures for every new project to be developed in the country, including mitigation plans and social and environmental benefits mandatory by law.
- ❑ Promoting the environmental culture and education among Panamanians.
- ❑ Analyzing the availability of our most precious resource, water, which deals with the national plan for its use among the different sectors in our society.
- ❑ Verifying the procedures dealing with the forestry sector and follow-ups for a better performance of our general duties having always in mind our national environmental objectives that are meant to protect our mountainuos and coastal marine ecosystem and, at the same time, improve the quality of life of Panamanians, allevating povertry and extreme povertry conditions.

- Responsible to deal with Renewable Energy projects of all sources (hydro, wind, solar, biomass, biogas, etc.) from environmental perspective and its relationship with mitigation and adaptation actions to combat the effects of global warming.

My duties are intrinsically related to the implementation of new strategies to achieve this last goal: poverty alleviation. In the international arena, I am the UNFCCC focal point in Panama, the GEF technical point in the country, and the active negotiator under UNFCCC processes.

On behalf of the National Environmental Authority of Panama (ANAM), I have dealt with all investing funds aiming at implementing environmentally sustainable developments projects. I am also the appointed head of the National Designated Authority (DNA) whose duties include the education regarding CDM activities and processes, the structuring of projects as possible CDM qualifying projects, and the building of a portfolio of possible CDM projects, analyzing them and seeing to it that they are indeed feasible projects. One of the most important issues is how to structure these CDM projects so that they can contribute to real sustainable development activities as established in art. 12 of PK within hosting communities.

I have to deal with issues of adaptation, mitigation, transfer of technology, and financing strategies for Panama. Some of our duties are geared to implement projects that link communities together and help mitigate poverty in the most vulnerable communities. I am responsible for promoting our national CDM portfolio which has more than 120 possible projects, and oversee the social and environmental integrity of these projects. One of my duties is to persuade the private sector to use 30% of possible income from CERS in sustainable development-related activities where communities and project developers sit together to decide which kind of projects is better for their communities.

I represented Panama before the Central American Commission of Environment (CCAD), representing Panama at a Ministerial level to promote, discuss, propose, and approve environmental procedures related to Climate Change for the Central American Region. I acted as an advisor to CCAD environmental minister meetings in all issues related to Climate Change negotiations and the impact on the region.

My work with CCAD, ANAM, and UNFCCC also involved my responsibilities as Country Coordinator of the Environmental Energy Partnership (EEP) program under the auspices of the Government of Finland. In this capacity, I was part of the EEP Steering Committee (ESC) that evaluated project proposals from Central American countries. At the same time, I advised the ESC about ways to improve the process of evaluation and selection of those small renewable energy pilot projects that are directly linked with social environmental activities. At the national level, I was responsible for finding project alternatives under EEP, guiding the writing of proposals with the hosting communities, and for selecting the

projects to be presented to EEP on behalf of Panama. Due to my strong participation and involvement in the EEP, Panama jumped from having one project approved in the period January 2002-August 2004 to having 26 approved, out of 52 presented at the date of this writing (April 2009), the result of being very creative and innovative in all the proposals submitted, and of following at all times the issues concerning transfer of technology as specified in the UNFCCC. These projects dealt with hydroenergy, biomass to energy, bioethanol, solar and eolic energies, peat, the issue of overall energy efficiency, and other.

I was appointed to the Chair of Host Country Committee of the World Bank (WB), May 2007 through May 2008, to help the WB's Carbon Finance Unit (CFU) better perform in issues mainly related to sustainable development activities amongs its different carbon funds. My work while in this position influenced the creation of two new facilities for CFU. One is related to Forest Carbon Partnership Facility for issues of Reductions Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD), and the other one was the Carbon Partnership Facility (not operational yet.)

Lately, and related to all ANAM duties in the field of social environmental activities, I got deeply involved in the topic of Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD), from day one, when Papua New Guinea and Costa Rica brought the issue back to UNFCCC negotiations in december 2005, putting together our national strategy to achieve reduction coming from deforestation and, at the same time, linking these activites to poverty alleviation programs, specially within indogeneous communities. Our estrategy was accepted worlwide as an interesting and creative approach that clearly shows the neccesary steps to reach the REDD-related goals, linking together the adaptation and mitigation factors. I designed our national accounting approach to our natural resources while, at the same time, implementing several sustainable development projects in communities who live within our forests and protected areas. I am convinced that REDD is not only a project, but also—and mainly—a strategy needed to be implemented within different productive sectors. I am currently involved in structuring our compensation plan to deliver possibles revenues from future REDD CERS activities.

I have been working very actively to demonstrate the viability of an integration program for all our national policies in Panama related to REDD activities, showing the way to achieve all our goals from a REDD perspective. It is important to highlight that up to this moment there is no REDD experience worldwide, and that the one I have outlined for Panama has caught international attention and is being considered at this time in negotiations involving indogeneous groups and forest communities. I am convinced that I could help UN agencies, public sector as well as private one to understand the processes of mitigation and adaptation under REDD startegy. At same time, I have developed a unique way to involve the private sector in public and social projects within specific communities aiming at achieving Millenium Goals utilizing instruments from the UNFCCC.

I have been engaged in the UNFCCC process since 2002 and dealt with Climate Change issues since 2000 under CDM, and Adaptation Projects under UNDP. My last two meetings after Poznan COP 14 was the AWG-LCA and AWG-KP talks and SBSTA, SBI, AWG-LCA and AWG-KP both in Bonn from March 29 to April 8, 2009 and from June 1st to June 12th, where I participated in all issues under negotiation that ultimately will shape the content of the post 2012 Agenda that should be reached at Copenhagen next December 2009.

I am a member of the Participant Committee (PC) of the FCPF, under the World Bank, which decides the approval or rejection of REDD country activities, and the Latin American representative before the FCPF Policy Board.

Under the UN REDD program, I also have the responsibility of approving or rejecting REDD activities proposed by countries, and hold the position of Vice Chair under UN REDD on behalf of participant countries.

Recently, the last meeting in Montreux, Switzerland, Panama was selected as the first country under FCPF to get approval of its National REDD Readiness Strategy additional to funds allocation presented to UN REDD to implement part of REDD Readiness Strategy. The World Bank as well as the UN Agencies have committed themselves to support Panama to finish their due diligence to start the program proposed under REDD Readiness Strategy.

Panama, under my command as Deputy Administrator General, has become a recognized leader in Central America and Dominican Republic, elevating the degree of awareness of Climate Change within Ministries of Environment (Central American Commission of Environment—CCAD), as well as a regional leader in the preparation of unified regional positions to be negotiated in the near future. During the last five years Panama undoubtedly gained a position of leadership in the region in issues dealing with Climate Change.

I am convinced that all our countries will face new climate change-related challenges in the course of this century. These challenges will also impact the EEP program (Environmental Energy Partnership). My recommendation is to link this program or initiative to activities under the UNFCCC where Finland and Central American countries could highlight the positive results of pilot programs, exemplary showcases for larger regional projects.

My expertise, as part of a team effort, will help reach the Millennium goals, the UNFCCC and EEP goals, and, most importantly, make rural communities in our countries experience and feel that sustainable development activities are transforming their lives while, at the same time, making them less vulnerable to climate changes.

All this expertise has led me to be a senior adviser to private, public and international sectors to restructure all their initiative in a better and more comprehensive and strategic way,

not only to meet environmental regulations, but also to get a high degree of social acceptance as well as increment revenues from same activities. I am very convinced that this new century offers a lot of opportunities to private sector to deal in a better way with social environmental responsibilities while making out of that a new economical opportunity, a win, win win situation for all stakeholder if is done with the right approach.

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