



October 29, 2018

Jason Gray
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA
95812

Re: Comments on the California Tropical Forest Standard: Criteria for Assessing Jurisdictional-Scale Programs that Reduce Emissions from Tropical Deforestation

Dear Mr. Gray:

We have evaluated the draft California Tropical Forest Standard and are writing to encourage the California Air Resources Board to endorse the Standard.

Olam is a global agricultural company operating in 66 countries and with significant operations in California (growing and processing Almonds, Tomatoes, Onions and Garlic). Olam is a global leader in sourcing and trading tropical crops such as cocoa and coffee, including managing our own concessions growing timber, palm oil and rubber in the tropics.

We have made a formal commitment to end tropical deforestation within our supply chains of palm oil, soybeans, timber, coffee, cocoa and other commodities that are often associated with the conversion of tropical forests to cropland, pasture and plantations.

We have also come to appreciate the importance of jurisdictional approaches to deforestation, in which local and regional governments are active participants in strategies to slow and eventually stop deforestation across entire political jurisdictions—states, provinces, districts and others. This support for jurisdictional approaches is explicitly embedded within our global Living Landscape Policy, which aims to generate positive environmental and social impacts from agriculture.

By providing clear, rigorous guidance on deforestation emissions reference levels, environmental and social safeguards, monitoring, reporting and verification, and carbon accounting, the CTFS will establish a high bar of tropical jurisdiction performance that will facilitate our efforts to contribute to solutions to the tropical deforestation challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Smyth", written over a white background.

Michael Smyth
Senior Vice President