



14 October 2010

Mr. Halldor Thorgeirsson  
Director, Sustainable Development Mechanisms  
UNFCCC Secretariat  
Via Facsimile +49 228 915 1999

Dear Mr. Thorgeirsson:

We would be delighted if you would consider speaking at the **African Bankers' Carbon Finance & Investment Forum** in Johannesburg, South Africa, which will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) - through its Energy Branch, Risoe Center on Energy, Climate, and Sustainable Development, and the UNEP Finance Initiative presents the Forum in partnership with the African Carbon Asset Development Facility (ACAD), the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), and Standard Bank. Certainly, we believe that your input, given your current role at the UNFCCC and impressive past activities, would be very valuable for this thought provoking and lively discussion with fellow experts in the rapidly evolving fields of carbon and finance. We hope that you will consider participating in the session:

COP-16, South Africa, and the Future of the Carbon Market: at 9:30 on November 5.

The global carbon market remains the only international instrument aimed at effectively reducing carbon emissions by the private sector in developing countries, presenting tremendous new opportunities for African financial organizations, their clients, and third-party technical service providers. In the run up to COP16, as pressure mounts to act against climate change, analysts predict that the carbon market will continue to thrive, particularly in Africa, while increasingly moving from project-based to programmatic and sectoral approaches.

Africa is only just beginning to tap into this market. Nevertheless, enormous needs in the areas of cleaner energy and infrastructure as well as sustainable land use across the Continent exist, creating real opportunities to develop projects that can generate carbon credits under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and other vehicles. Many such projects, however, find themselves stalled by a lack of finance. **The African Bankers' Carbon Finance Investment Forum** seeks to remedy this gap, in supporting the African carbon community to better integrate into the global market.

A combination of high-level panel discussions, targeted training and hands-on clinics conducted by leading international experts will also make your participation in this event worthwhile. Topics will include: carbon price drivers, financing CDM projects, the latest state-of-the art contractual mechanisms, carbon from a corporate governance perspective, and the future of carbon markets. You will also have an opportunity to participate in an executive policy roundtable with other CFOs, CEOs, members of banking credit committees, and leading government representatives.

We would be honoured to have your participation in this event and we look forward to welcoming you to Johannesburg. Upon confirmation, you will be provided with a comprehensive speaker brief giving you full details to facilitate your participation. We will also provide further logistical details, and background materials.



**Additional background on the conference is available at the following website:**  
**<http://corporateandinvestment.standardbank.com/global/products/finance/acad.jsp#>**

**Please RSVP to:**

Glenn Hodes  
UNEP Risoe Center  
gsho@risoe.dtu.dk

We very much hope that you can join us in November 2010 for this exciting event.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Christensen", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Christensen  
Head, UNEP Risoe Center  
On behalf of the Conference Organizing Committee