

ART Secretariat Summary of the Appeals Record

On June 16, 2023, the Amerindian Peoples Association (**APA**) submitted an appeal of the result of the review process for their complaint regarding the 2016-2020 Validation and Verification of the Government of Guyana's REDD+ Program. The relevant rules for appeals are set out in ART's publicly available REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard (**TREES**) and ART's Complaints and Appeals Process (**Guidance**). Terms of Reference were issued that are consistent with TREES and the Guidance. The APA declined to comply with, and be bound by, the Terms of Reference and required changes to the Terms of Reference that were inconsistent with TREES, the Guidance, and the procedural fairness that is afforded to both parties to the appeal. The APA was provided with additional time and opportunity to be heard and provided notice as detailed in the draft and final Appeal Dismissal Notice, that the Appeal would be dismissed on October 27, 2023, if it did not execute and comply with TREES, the Guidance, and the resulting Terms of Reference.

APA's appeal was dismissed on October 27, 2023, per the Dismissal Notice, on the basis that the APA failed to comply with procedural requirements and timelines and otherwise perfect its appeal in accordance with TREES and the Guidance. Copies of the appeal record are now available on the ART website.