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### **High Carbon Stock Approach recognised as a Nature-Based Solution to climate change by the UN Climate Action Summit in New York**

United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA – The High Carbon Stock Approach (HCSA) joins the United Nation’s Nature-Based Solution coalition to draw the world’s attention for the urgent need to invest in Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) to unlock nature’s full potential for climate action.

Today the UN launched the NBS compendium that includes the HCSA as a ‘no deforestation’ implementation [tool](#) and as a [NBS contributor](#) because of its role in conserving forests, the carbon and biodiversity they contain and the carbon sequestration service they provide.

“Now is the time when we urgently need initiatives that are actually conserving forests for the climate rather than just talking about it, and HCSA is a practical tool doing just that. We’re honoured to be recognised by the UN and included in the Nature Based Solutions compendium,” said Grant Rosoman from Greenpeace, an HCSA co-founder and Executive Committee member, who is at the UN Climate Summit Nature-Based Solutions Momentum high level event in New York.

The world’s climate is changing rapidly, and these changes are evident daily with widespread effects. NBS for climate change strengthen or restore existing natural ecosystems, while simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits. NBS are immediately available, cost-effective and can be scaled up to tackle the climate crisis.

HCSA is a multi-stakeholder initiative comprised of producers, NGOs, technical experts, consumer goods companies and smallholders. The HCS Approach effectively identifies tropical forest areas that are under threat from deforestation due to commodity production expansion. It identifies high carbon stock forests in the humid tropics for conservation, through an integrated land use plan, and allows degraded non-forest land to be developed for agricultural or plantation commodities while ensuring the rights and livelihoods of local peoples are respected.

Hundreds of companies have committed to HCSA. It is being scaled up to engage most of the palm oil, cocoa and rubbers sectors and adapted to different regions, including with small farmers. It is being implemented in 10 countries in Asia Pacific and Africa, including by local governments in West Papua province and Sabah State, and expanding into Latin America. To date, close to 3 million hectares (ha) of HCSA assessment area was registered, over 660,000 ha of HCS forests was identified for conservation and an additional 7 million ha of tropical forest was prevented from deforestation.

The HCSA joins the NBS coalition at the Climate Action Summit to call on the convened governments, private sector, civil society, local authorities and other international organisations to commit to and invest in ambitious climate solutions and efforts that include NBS to tip the balance back in favour of the climate, humanity and nature.

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