



GEORGIAN NATIONAL PLATFORM

EASTERN PARTNERSHIP CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM

Appeal

We would like to inform you that today, August 3, the Coordination Council of the National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum discussed the draft of the amendment to the resolution N496 of October 6, 2021, of the Government of Georgia on the "Approval of the Regulation on Granting, Termination and Determining and Correcting/Changing Forest Borders" status.

In this regard, we share with you our agreed position and proposal:

Given that the meeting with the Minister is of high public interest, which in turn is related to national and international policies and commitments, it would be appropriate if the meeting is held after the end of the vacation period in September.

According to preliminary research, due to the period of vacations, most of the persons actively involved in the process who represent international and local organizations, are currently unavailable to participate in the mentioned meeting.

Herein, we once again express our support for the Ministry's initiative to give the process a broad participatory character and to use the National Forestry Program (NFP), which until the end of 2020, played a key role in the process of implementing forestry reform, for the creation of a working format and a platform for issue-based dialogue.

We believe that this decision by the Ministry, which was announced on July 25, in the process of summarizing the public review of the document, was the right answer to the questions and critical opinions asked by international and local organizations, as well as various ministries.

As you know, NFP is a European model of participatory dialogue format in the forestry sector, which has been supported by international organizations in Georgia since 2013. In the coming years, it is planned to further strengthen the platform within the framework of various donor projects.

In turn, the national platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum, especially its third working group (Environment, Energy and Climate), will be actively involved in the dialogue, both in terms of content discussion and organization and mobilization.

Sincerely,

Chairwoman of the Georgian National platform

Nino Chkhobadze