## 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022

## MEDIA ALERT: UN Chief's renewable energy plan – Cut Carbon Not Forests says it's time to sunset all biomass subsidies

UN Secretary-General António Guterres said that while time is running out to prevent the worst impacts of the climate crisis, there is a 'lifeline' right in front of us. Highlighting that renewable energy technologies such as wind and solar are readily available and in most cases, cheaper than coal and other fossil fuels, the UN chief proposed <u>five critical actions</u> to jump-start the energy transition.

Elly Pepper, senior advocate at NRDC and member of the <u>Cut Carbon Not Forests</u> coalition has made the following comments:

"Don't be fooled by the UN Secretary General's vague words – [securing raw materials for renewables] is code for cutting down the world's forests to burn them in power stations. Bioenergy is not green, it's no good for the climate, and it endangers wildlife.

"In the UK, power companies receive millions of pounds every single day to burn wood from the some of the world's most wildlife-rich forests. Governments must stop pouring money into this false solution and use it to boost true renewables like wind and solar, or into energy efficiency which can help cut people's soaring energy bills."