



Global Environment Facility

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July 16, 2002

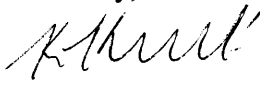
Dear Council Member,

UNEP, as the Implementing Agency for the project, *Global (Brazil, Cote d'Ivoire, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Uganda): Conservation and Sustainable Management of Below Ground Biodiversity, Phase I*, has submitted the attached proposed project document for CEO endorsement prior to final approval of the project document in accordance with UNEP procedures.

The Secretariat has reviewed the project document. It is consistent with the proposal approved by the Council in December 2001 and the proposed project remains consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures. The attached explanation prepared by UNEP satisfactorily details how Council's comments and those of the STAP have been addressed. I am, therefore, endorsing the project document.

We have today posted the proposed project document on the GEF website at www.gefweb.org. If you do not have access to the Web, you may request the local field office of the World Bank or UNDP to download the document for you. Alternatively, you may request a copy of the document from the Secretariat. If you make such a request, please confirm for us your current mailing address.

Sincerely,


for Mohamed T. El-Ashry
Chief Executive Officer and Chairman

cc: Alternate, Implementing Agencies, STAP



United Nations Environment Programme

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PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

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TELEFAX TRANSMISSION

To:	Mr. K. King Assistant CEO	Date:	12 June 2002
	FAX: 1 202 522 3240		
	Attn: GEF Programme Coordination Ramon C. Mesa Program Coordinator		
Cc:	Walter Lusigi, Programme Manager		
From:	Sheila Aggarwal-Khan Officer-in-Charge Division of GEF Coordination		

Subject: Submission of Project Document: "Conservation and Sustainable Management of Below-Ground Biodiversity" for CEO Endorsement

Page 1 of 1

Please find attached the UNEP project document for the project: **"Conservation and Sustainable Management of Below-Ground Biodiversity"** approved at the meeting of the GEF Council, December 5-7, 2001 and now being submitted for CEO endorsement. Please note that all concerns of the GEF Programme Managers that have been involved in the project review have been previously addressed and are in the project file at GEFSEC.

Cofinancing at time of submission was US\$ 6,683,830 but has increased to US \$ 7,438,678.

A complete response to GEF Council Comments can be found in Annex 11, pp. 128-134. Changes made in the Project Brief to address Council comments include:

- Paragraph 17 was embellished to address Council concerns regarding the OP fit for the project. This is explained in more detail in Annex11.
- Paragraphs 4,13,20 and 26 have been modified to give greater emphasis to the effects of forest-pasture conversion and to ensure that the project commitment to include pasture systems is clear.

- Paragraph 35 and Activity 5.2 in the logframe have been modified to give greater emphasis to capacity building and awareness raising of high-level national decision-makers.
- An addition was made to the activities under Output 3.1 in the logframe to include fund-raising to maintain the demonstration sites in order to further refine and test the sustainability of the developed solutions.

Regards.