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To: Monique Barbut
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility
Email: gcoordination@TheGef.org

Subject: Comments by Germany on Intersessional Work Program February 2012

Dear Ms. Barbut,

Germany approves the Intersessional Work Program February 2012. Attached, please find our comments on several of the PIFs and PFDs with the request to take these into account during the drafting of final project documents.

With respect to the following projects Germany requests that **Final Project Documents are being sent to Council for review four weeks prior to CEO endorsement:**

- 4. Honduras - UNDP - Strengthening the sub-system of coastal and marine protected areas - GEF ID: 4708
- 14. Guyana: Sustainable Energy program for Guyana. (IADB) GEF ID: 4520
- 15. India: Preparation of Third National Communication (3NC) and other new information to the UNFCCC – GEF ID: 4673
- 22. Global – UNEP - Development of a Methodology with Tools and Decision Support Systems to Incorporate Floods and Droughts into IWRM in Transboundary Basins - GEF ID: 4533

With kind regards,

Matthias Seiche
on behalf of
Frank Fass-Metz

Germany approves the work program but asks that the following comments are taken into account during the drafting of the final project proposals:

2. Ecuador: Advancing Landscape Approaches in Ecuador's National Protected Area System to Improve Conservation of Globally Endangered Wildlife GEF ID: 4731

Germany supports the project proposal regarding the implementation of landscape approaches to support the conservation of endangered species inside and among protected areas. The proposal is well-structured and is consistent with the GEF objectives and in line with the national policy to strengthen the Ecuadorian protected area system and supporting the implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan. The expected outputs are coherent the project components and with the objectives proposed at project and focal area level. The PIF was developed on the base of a comprehensive analysis on the state of the art and the underlying causes of endangered wildlife, building therefore a good approach to reverse the situation, contributing to the sustainability of protected area systems and to improve the management effectiveness of protected areas. The strategy of the PIF also considers participation and gender aspects in a comprehensive form. In addition, we would like to provide the following suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal:

- Coordination with other initiatives that are working in protected areas and at buffer zones landscape level in the country is essential. For instance: Project GEF II, in which some interesting instruments were designed, i.e. systems for monitoring biodiversity (how to use these tools in the new project?), and the GIZ/GESOREN-programme in cooperation with the MAE (e.g. gaps of Continental conservation, subsystems of private and community protected areas, updating of the national strategy on biodiversity, assessment of the effectiveness of management, corridors of connectivity, etc.);
- The GEF-project should support and strengthen processes that are under way, harmonize and formalize instruments and transform or integrate them into normative and legislative frameworks;
- The proposed area of intervention is relatively wide-spread and scattered, it should be considered to concentrate the interventions on certain areas in order to have a better impact;
- It should be considered to incorporate wild flora into the project scope, in order to achieve an increased integrity of actions, since the illegal trade comprises not only species of fauna. Both aspects could be adjusted in the planned measures;
- It is important to better clarify the role of each stakeholders in the planning process and in the implementation of activities (MAGAP, SENPLADES). At this stage the PIF is not sufficiently clear on this;
- In Component 1, there are some actions mentioned that are already underway in the country, the question is how to ensure their formalization, implementation and sustainability. Regulations per se are not always sustainable in the country, regardless whether it refers to top-down methods or "command and control" regulations. An important question in this context is: What are the mechanisms and incentives that bring other governmental levels as well as communities to accept laws and legal instruments? In addition to that, the allocated budget is relatively high in a component of mainly technical and administrative nature;
- Component 2 should be more pragmatic and comprehensive and put into practice the results of Component 1. More financial resources are required in this component. The role of local stakeholders (municipalities and communities) should also be better clarified and taken into consideration.

2. Russian Federation – ARCTIC: Conserving Biodiversity in the Changing Arctic

GEF ID: 4665

Germany approves and welcomes the project proposal, which covers all relevant aspects of biodiversity conservation and climate change issues. The three components of the project address mitigation, adaptation and the sustainable management and use of biodiversity. In addition, we would

like to provide the following suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal: From an economic perspective, the project should possibly take aspects of both Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) and of the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) more into consideration, in order to explore concepts of economic valuation of natural resources and its adequate integration into political and economic decision-making.

5. India - UNDP – Developing an effective multiple use management framework for conserving biodiversity in the mountain landscape of the High Ranges, Western Ghats, India - GEF ID: 4743

Germany approves the project proposal, but would like to provide the following suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal:

We recommend that the assessment and valuation of key ecosystem services (incl. provision of clean water) from the High Range Mountain Landscape should be emphasized more strongly under Component 1 as a basis for the formulation of a *Landscape level Land Use Plan*, for improving governance of the multiple use landscape, and identification of instruments incentivizing sustainable ecosystem management (e.g. through payment for ecosystem services).

7. Namibia. UNDP Strengthening the Capacity of the Protected Area System to Address New Management Challenges - GEF ID: 4729

The proposed project aims to address new challenges in the management of Namibia's protected areas and communal conservancies (prevention of poaching through effective law enforcement; improved fire management) and to increase funding opportunities for these areas. Germany requests that the following requirement is taken into account during the design of the final project proposal:

- Providing sustainable livelihoods to communities is central to the success of conservation. Under Component 1 the project aims to support the development of financing opportunities for new communal conservancies. The strategy for these areas should be elaborated more clearly vis-à-vis the strategy for increased revenue collection across Protected Areas.
- Institutional sustainability: The project builds on substantial policy and institutional reforms supported by previous projects, and reference is made to MET's new structure that will provide for decentralization to improve on decision-making and management effectiveness in parks and wildlife management. However, a more thorough institutional analysis and capacity assessment (MET, conservancies, other key stakeholders) is required to assess how the proposed sophisticated enforcement schemes can be effectively implemented and sustained.
- Coordination with other related initiatives: Within the efforts of donor coordination the implementing agency should consider ongoing and emerging projects of German Development Cooperation. In 2011 the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has committed new funds to the Government of the Republic of Namibia for bilateral Financial Cooperation (KfW) on Integrated National Park Management and for Technical Cooperation (GIZ) on Biodiversity Management and Climate Change.
- In view of transboundary issues involved in fire management and law enforcement (e.g. in the targeted Mamili, Mudumu and Babwata NPs in the KAZA transfrontier conservation area) relevant regional programmes should be taken into account, such as the SADC Regional Fire Management Programme and SADC Programme on Transfrontier Conservation Areas.

8. Conservation and Sustainable Use of High Andean Ecosystems of Peru through Compensation of Environmental Services for Rural Poverty Alleviation and Social - GEF ID: 4773

Germany approves the well-prepared project proposal, but would like to provide the following suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project: Other international research centers (CIFOR, for instance) have conducted major projects (past, ongoing or incipient) with a focus on Payments for Environmental Services (PES). Their experiences of scaling up payments for watershed services, designing regional compensation systems to safeguard water supplies for downstream agriculture could be of interest in setting up the project. In addition, Peru implements various social programs to alleviate poverty which could be analyzed, for instance, the National Forest

Conservation Program for Climate Change Mitigation which combines transfer payments to local communities with regard to conservation and poverty alleviation.

9. Strengthening Sustainable Management of the Guano Islandas, Islets and Capes National Reserve System (RNSIIPG) – GEF ID: 4505

Germany supports the project proposal and its objectives. The areas under the Reserve System are of particular importance due to their unique ecology and their economic potentials. They are however facing growing threats from overuse and climate change. Activities to improve management practices are therefore urgently needed. To enhance the effectiveness of the project outline we would like to provide the following suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal:

- Currently Peru does not have a comprehensive zoning approach for its marine and coastal areas. In the context of developing baseline data and establishing priority sites, the project should consider a dedicated mapping exercise to support the identification of priority zones, and / or coordinate with other stakeholders / projects that are working on similar approaches and might be able to provide data;
- Component 4 refers to the establishment of an efficient, experienced and well-trained coordination team for the project. Since the coordination among stakeholders and especially governmental institutions is of great importance for project success, a clear coordination structure should also be defined, identifying roles and responsibilities and the main lines for communication and decision-making;
- Component 1 includes the design and implementation of a communication strategy: in order to increase the political and public support for the conservation of marine and coastal areas, a wider public awareness campaign should be incorporated into the project design. This could be complemented with increased scientific research into these areas to inform politics and the public;
- A main objective of the project is the building of capacities of relevant stakeholders: in order to enhance the implementation and follow up of established management plans, rules and regulations, the project should try to follow an integrated capacity development approach for tourism, sustainable fisheries and management, including the definition of joint management / monitoring options;
- Component 2 will develop a stakeholder analysis: in order to have a clear administrative and governance structure, the project could analyse the potential / feasibility for establishing a multi-stakeholder platform including all relevant stakeholders such as particularly also the Peruvian navy, PROABONOS, PRODUCE, etc. which play a significant role in the management of the Reserve Areas.

10. Armenia – Green Urban Lighting – GEF ID: 4742

The project plans on conducting educational campaigns, exhibits and displays of advanced green lighting technologies. Please explain in more detail the target groups and scale of these measures.

Furthermore, the piloting of energy efficient projects in component 4 is focused on the demonstration of applicability of energy efficient urban lighting in Armenian cities. Please explain in more detail, how these practices are made public and how the program will contribute to the widespread application after the piloting.

12. Colombia: Low-carbon and efficient national freight logistics initiative (IADB) - GEF ID: 4603

Germany approves the low-carbon and efficient national freight logistics initiative but would like to request that the following questions be clarified during the preparation of the final project document:

- Why is the USD\$15 million loan from the IADB not included as part of the co-financing?
- How will the Vehicle Renovation Fund be financed? If the answer lies in the design phase, what assurances exist that financing will be available?

- What happens to the trucks that are phase out through the vehicle renovation fund? Will the project over-see the scrapping/recycling of the trucks, as well?
- How are the stated risks weighted (low, medium high)? Is the fact that such a high percentage of trucks is owned by individuals rather than trucking companies also a risk in terms of reaching the targeted trucks?

16. India - Promoting Business Models for Increasing Penetration and Scaling up of Solar Energy Promoting Business Models for Increasing Penetration and Scaling up of Solar Energy – GEF ID: 4788

Coordination with the activities of other donors should be sought more actively. This could help to avoid unnecessary overlaps and create room for synergies. The recently established donor platform of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) offers a good basis for an improved exchange of the implementing agency with other donors.

Lessons learned from the project “Commercialisation of Solar Energy in Urban and Industrial Areas (ComSolar, 2009-2013)” implemented by GIZ with MNRE should be taken into account during further project design. Activities of this Indo-German project are very similar to the proposed GEF project.

18. Pakistan: Sustainable Energy Initiative for Industries - GEF ID: 4753

The scope of the proposed project is relevant to the needs of the industrial sector in Pakistan. It is completely in line with the activities being carried out by the German Development Cooperation, through the GIZ Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (REEE) Project. Furthermore, GIZ REEE has been actively working with the three public institutions selected as implementation partners for this project. However, the following issues need to be addressed:

1. The Federal Ministry of Environment (signatory of the PIF) has been dissolved as the provinces are dealing with Environment now.
2. ENERCON, originally part of the environment ministry and no part of ministry of water and power, is presently a very weak institution with severe lack of technical and managerial staff. Furthermore, a recently submitted bill by ENERCON for the enforcement of an ‘Energy Conservation Act’ was rejected by Parliament
3. Since the contribution of the three public sector implementing agencies to the project is ‘in kind’, it is very unclear how the accreditation center would be established and run
4. Soft loans amounting to 9.5 million USD from local banks may not be available for the industry
5. The number of persons trained in EnMS over the period of four year by the Accreditation center appears to be very small in relation to the amount of investments the project aims to generate

As provincial government are now active in developing energy legislation and carrying out RE and EE initiatives at the provincial scale, it may be a good idea to include them in the project activities.

19. Serbia: Reducing Barriers to Accelerate the Development of Biomass Markets in Serbia – GEF ID: 4517

The project in its current form is very broad in scope. Successful implementation of all project components seems quite challenging in light of the limited budget allocated to individual components. Furthermore, the description of the activities under each component is very general and lacks detail, e.g. on specific institutions and stakeholders to be involved in project implementation. We would suggest a stronger focus on clearly defined fields of activity, that can be implemented within the proposed budget – rather than attempting the removal of too many barriers at the same time.

Furthermore, we recommend close coordination with activities of German development cooperation in further developing the proposed GEF project. As part of the German Climate Technology Initiative, a program for the biomass market development in Serbia is currently under preparation on behalf of the

German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and will be implemented 2013-2017 through KfW and GIZ. The implementing agency should actively seek contact and exchange in order to ensure synergies and complementarities and avoid inefficient overlap of activities.

Apart from mentioning large cuts in GHG emissions, the PIF contains no information on the potential quantity of GHG reductions associated with the project. This makes it impossible to assess whether the project will promote global environmental benefits in a cost-effective manner.

23. Angola – FAO - Land Rehabilitation and Rangelands Management in Small Holders Agropastoral Production Systems in Southwestern Angola - GEF ID: 4720

The full project proposal should make reference to existing land use and development planning approaches at regional and communal level. The envisaged land-use planning exercises by the project should be integrated in and based on these existing processes in order to facilitate the up scaling of the approach in other regions of Angola. In this sense the concept of the proposed integrated land management plans needs to be explained more in detail.

The identification of communal pastoral areas and transhumance corridors has to be done at a higher geographical level, such as province or region in order to assure coherency between the different municipalities and to avoid future conflicts. In this sense, the project proposal needs more explanations also referring to the FAO land delineation approach.

25. Pakistan: Sustainable Land Management Programme to Combat Desertification in Pakistan - GEF ID: 4754

Germany would like to compliment UNDP on the very impressive amount of baseline data compiled, but has serious doubts on the feasibility of the approach in the enormous scale of 800.000 ha, especially in the current political insecurity Pakistan is facing.

1. We consider a significant, measurable decrease in extent of degraded areas on a landscape level (Project component 1) to be unrealistic within a project timeframe of 5 years. We kindly request to differentiate between the area covered by new land use plans, and the total area where the improved SLM practices will actually be applied.

2. While the PIF recognizes the importance of participatory approaches, we have reservations regarding the level of participation that can realistically be achieved given the large scale targeted for a time period of five years. We recommend putting more emphasis on the participation of local communities and farmers, and less emphasis on scale.

3. The PIF mentions that “The project will develop and implement a gender inclusion strategy” We recommend that the inclusion of gender aspects should not be “postponed” to a separate strategy, but should be an integral part of the PIF and the overall approach from the beginning, and should therefore receive more emphasis in the PIF

4. The PIF mentions that “legal basis for land use planning will be established making land management decisionmaking more informed”. We consider the legal basis as a pre-condition for introducing SLM on a large scale, and therefore we request a clarification whether the expected outcomes can be achieved without a reform of the current legal basis.

5. Germany development cooperation is preparing a project on protection and sustainable management of Biodiversity in Khyber-Pakhtunkwa, to be implemented by German International Cooperation, GIZ. This project has strong linkages to SFM and the UNDP PIF and is scheduled to start end of 2012. We recommend to contact the GIZ country office to discuss possible synergies, especially on land use planning, on supporting provincial structures in Khyber-Pakhtunkwa, and on supporting the implementation of the National Action Plan for Biodiversity.

26. Uzbekistan: Reducing pressures on natural resources from competing land use in non-irrigated arid mountain, semidesert and desert landscapes of Uzbekistan – GEF ID: 4600

Germany approves the PIF. Nonetheless, it has to be clarified that a Co-financing of Grant and in-kind 750.000 mentioned under C. a) would be Co-Financing by BMZ, with GIZ only being the implementing agency of BMZ and b) a GIZ-UNDP cooperation is currently still under negotiation, i.e. not fully clarified. If approved, this could only be a co-financing limited by the GIZ project duration, i.e. ending 12/2014.

The GIZ project on participatory pasture management in Farish Rayon, Jizzakh Oblast (PIF p15) is also considering the option of a joint GEF/UNDP/GIZ project with additional GIZ project funds only for the PPG.

28. Seychelles - UNDP - Expansion and Strengthening of the Protected Area Subsystem of the Outer Islands of Seychelles and its Integration into the Broader Land and Seascape – GEF ID: 4717

Germany approves the project proposal, but would like to provide the following suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal: Bearing in mind that 1) the (future) Seychelles PA System provides a huge potential for marine and terrestrial bioprospecting, and that 2) the Seychelles ABS framework is being updated with respect to the requirements of the Nagoya Protocol, it is suggested that the full project proposal should elucidate how future access regulations to genetic resources from the PA network will look like and how potential benefits arising from ABS agreements could contribute to PA management and financing. In this context, it would be desirable to have in the full proposal a rationale embedded which explains why particular IUCN PA categories and management / governance types have been chosen and what is their particular comparative advantage? This will be instrumental for knowledge management as well as possible up-scaling options of the project approach.

29. Disposal of Obsolete Pesticides Including POPs and Strengthening Pesticide Management in the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in The Sahel (CILSS) Member States, GEF ID: 4740

Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting-process of the final project proposal:

In the context of project component two, a collecting–and-recycling system for used pesticide containers is supposed to be implemented. According to the current description, an involvement of the private sector is not envisaged. We doubt that without the involvement of the private sector such a system would operate successfully in the long run. Hence, we advise to try to get the private sector involved, in particular of the informal collectors.

30. Disposal of POPs and Obsolete Pesticides and Strengthening Life-Cycle Management of Pesticides, GEF ID 4756

Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting-process of the final project proposal:

In the context of project component two, a collecting–and-recycling system for used pesticide containers is supposed to be implemented. According to the current description, an involvement of the private sector is not envisaged. We doubt that without the involvement of the private sector such a system would operate successfully in the long run. Hence, we advise to try to get the private sector involved, in particular of the informal collectors.

31. Disposal of POPs and Obsolete Pesticides and Strengthening Sound Pesticide Management; GEF ID: 4641

Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting-process of the final project proposal:

In context of project component two, a collecting–and-recycling system for used pesticide containers is supposed to be implemented. According to the current description, an involvement of the private sector is not envisaged. We doubt that without the involvement of the private sector such a system would operate successfully in the long run. Hence, we advise to try to get the private sector involved, in particular of the informal collectors.

In project component three, the intention to upgrade an already existing laboratory is mentioned. We would like to have further information on the costs for analytical equipment and especially on the fixed

costs to keep the laboratory operative in the long run. Who is supposed to cover the fixed costs in the future?

35. Disposal of Obsolete Pesticides including POPs and Implementation of Pesticides Management Program, GEF ID: 4738

Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal:

In the context of project component two, a collecting-and-recycling system for used pesticide containers is supposed to be implemented. According to the current description, an involvement of the private sector is not envisaged. We doubt that without the involvement of the private sector such a system would operate successfully in the long run. Hence, we advise to try to get the private sector involved, in particular of the informal collectors.

Germany asks that Final Project Documents for the following projects will be sent to Council for review four weeks prior to CEO endorsement. The Final Projects should only be endorsed after the following points have been taken into account.

4. Honduras - UNDP - Strengthening the sub-system of coastal and marine protected areas - GEF ID: 4708

Through this project, Honduras aims to promote the conservation of biodiversity through the expansion of the effective coverage of marine and coastal protected areas and to contribute subsequently to the protection of very unique and important ecosystems in Central America. The proposal illustrates clearly the national situation and political priorities, and presents a thorough problem analysis. Based on this analysis, objectives and outcome of the project are coherent and consistent with the underlying priorities. There are, however, the following concerns which should be addressed before the proposal proceeds further:

The activities described within three of the project components, namely to reach the objective of expanding the coverage of marine and coastal protected areas in Honduras and to guarantee their sustainability in finance and management, do not sufficiently explain how they will deal with the problems and barriers stated which have so far prevented the establishment of effective marine conservation networks, especially when it comes to institutional deficiencies of SINAPH. The full proposal should therefore clearly identify how improved management effectiveness and the strengthening of relevant actors are to be achieved beyond strategic approaches and comprehensive management planning, agreements and monitoring systems;

The Baseline on protected areas presented in the project document and the source given for further information do not match with the figures in the quoted National Protected Areas System of Honduras (SINAPH). SINAPH lists 91 protected areas in Honduras covering almost 4 million ha and not only "approximately 2.3 million ha". It includes 4 marine national parks (not only 2) and 1 marine nature reserve with a total area of ca. 800.000 ha, not to mention coastal protected areas. As the objective of the project is to expand the effective coverage of marine and coastal protected areas in Honduras, these discrepancies should be clarified and presented in a consistent way.

14. Guyana: Sustainable Energy program for Guyana. (IADB) GEF ID: 4520

While Germany welcomes the intention to improve RE-access in Guyana, the connection between the stated problem and proposed solutions is not clear in the PIF. The primary problem, as we see it, is that Guyana is dependent on thermal-based energy generation (i.e. from fossil fuels) which is both cost-ineffective and damaging to the environment. While we understand that a feasibility study for a 150 MW Hydropower project is intended to explore alternative energy to address the problem, we do not understand how the greater focus of the PIF on rural electrification for 134 Ameridian Communities helps to fix the problem. The argument for CO2 emissions reductions in rural areas is not convincing (see below). We would tend to see GEF's role as supporting the feasibility study and conducting the

revision of framework conditions for promoting renewable (currently GEF is contributing \$100,000 to these activities) rather than the rural electrification activities. The reasons are as follows:

The PIF stated objectives under sec. B.3.: i) electrify Ameridian communities; ii) reduce electricity costs; iii) improve quality of life of villagers, do not support *significantly* the GEF Strategic Objective 3 when we consider cost-benefit.

The numbers provided indicate that only 74,100 (10% of total population) people occupy Guyana's hinterland and of those, about 60,000 (80%) do not have access to energy. The proposal aims to increase renewable energy access to people in the hinterland by 9%, which would give about 5300 people energy access at a cost of USD 20.4 million (when we consider GEF + Co-financing in Component I). When we calculate the cost per ton over 20 years, this works out to USD 62/ton, which is quite high considering the relatively low impact. Furthermore, there is no consideration of how rural electrification, particularly on-grid installed energy, in Guyana's hinterland – one of the world's most pristine and untouched primary forests – might impact development in the future. The potential for economic development in the hinterland is mentioned in the PIF, but no clarification is provided about what might be intended.

If rural electrification is a goal of the IDB, then we suggest allowing IDB to finance these initiatives while GEF focus efforts on the stated problem of improving renewable energy access to the area where 90% of the population lives. This could include doing the feasibility studies and gap analyses for renewable energy and efficiency measures along the coast and looking at the potential for hydropower.

With regard to the feasibility study for the 150MW Hydropower plant: **please provide more information about the facility under consideration.** Germany is aware of one feasibility study for the Amalia Fall Hydropower Dam, which was rejected by the World Bank for financing due to the anticipated negative social and environmental impacts.

The net GHG reductions for Guyana would need to be assessed as part of the hydropower feasibility study, as the flooding associated with dam construction results in GHG emissions. We estimate that in the case of Amalia Fall, the project would need to offset more than 90,000 Tons of CO₂eq/ year to make up for the emissions from the dam construction

15. India: Preparation of Third National Communication (3NC) and other new information to the UNFCCC – GEF ID: 4673

Germany welcomes India's ambitious proposal for robust national reporting, including several new milestones, such as using 2006 IPCC Guidelines, Tier 3 inventory methodologies and the development of a national emissions factor database.

Given the high costs of the proposed activities, Germany requests to receive the draft final project proposal, which should include details regarding the calculation of costs and clear distinctions between costs for the biennial update report to be submitted in 2014 and the national communication to be submitted in 2016, four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

In addition, German requests the following points be taken into consideration:

- Please include information on domestic MRV in Component 7, as this is part of the Durban outcome and is omitted in the summary table.
- CEO endorsement of the TNC must be contingent on the submission of India's second national communication to the UNFCCC.

22. Global – UNEP - Development of a Methodology with Tools and Decision Support Systems to Incorporate Floods and Droughts into IWRM in Transboundary Basins -

GEF ID: 4533

Germany is not able to assess the PIF due to the general and unspecific information provided.

In the PIF is indicated that in up to five pilot basins the Decision Support Tool will be applied. These five pilot basins will be selected out of 30 ongoing lake and river basin GEF projects. We would like to

see in the PIF in which river basins the DSS will be applied, who will be the national key institutions as well as the GEF recipient countries. In addition, we encourage UNEP to indicate in the PIF how cooperation with existing bilateral and multilateral initiatives in these river basins will be organized.