



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



**Reference: GEF Coordination Office
Endorsement for UNEP Umbrella Programme to
support Enabling Activities under the Convention
for Biological Diversity**

Date: April 13, 2011

Dear Colleagues

We refer to the GEF Chief Executive Officer's letter to you dated April 01, 2011, outlining the modalities for assistance to GEF-eligible Parties on meeting their reporting obligations to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

In the letter under reference, mention was made of UNEP's special National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans and National Reports under development. The Programme has been specifically designed to provide financial and project management support to LDCs and SIDs to prepare or update their NBSAPs, and prepare their Fifth National Reports. An "umbrella programme" is a modality by which all country projects are grouped under one programme. This allows UNEP to provide a more coherent and coordinated support to countries, and captures cost efficiencies through synergies. However, each country project will be handled separately and funds will be disbursed directly to the country's executing agency following streamlined UNEP rules and procedures.

We are by this mail seeking your endorsement to participate in a CBD Enabling Activities Umbrella project. In the Annex to this letter, please find (1) a template for the Letter of Endorsement (LoE) for the Umbrella Programme and (2) the draft PIF which is currently being reviewed by the GEF Secretariat. We would therefore be grateful if you could kindly complete and sign the LoE template and send it to us by 25 April, 2011.

Yours sincerely

Maryam Niamir-Fuller
UNEP/GEF Executive Coordinator/Director

Attachment 1: Template for Letter of Endorsement

Attachment 2: DRAFT PIF



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DIVISION OF GEF COORDINATION
P.O. Box 30552-00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: (254 20) 762 4166/4165 – Fax: (254 20) 7624041/42
Email: Maryam.Niamir-Fuller@unep.org