

Naoko Ishii
CEO and Chairperson

April 9, 2020

Mr. Pradeep Kurukulasuriya
GEF Executive Coordinator
United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza
304 East 45th St.
FF Bldg., 10th floor
New York, NY 10017

Subject: Project Suspension Notification

Dear Mr. Kurukulasuriya:

UNDP, having consulted the relevant government agencies and co-financiers that were involved in project implementation for the full-sized child project cited below, requests the GEF Secretariat to suspend the project for reasons indicated in the attached Suspension Notification.

Last Project Status:	CEO Endorsed
Date of last project status:	June 9, 2017
GEFSEC ID:	9159
Agency ID:	5612
Agency:	UNDP
Focal Area:	Multi Focal Area
Project Type:	Full-sized Project
Country:	Congo
Name of Project:	Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Congo
Name of Parent Program:	Global Partnership on Wildlife Conservation and Crime Prevention for Sustainable Development (PROGRAM)
GEF Project Financing:	\$3,125,250
Undisbursed GEF Project Financing:	\$2,073,546
Agency Fee:	\$281,273
Undisbursed Agency Fee:	\$0
Funding Source:	GEF Trust Fund

In light of this development, I am granting suspension of the project until September 2020. I request UNDP to provide an assessment of the project suspension situation by September 30, 2020 so that a follow up decision can be made.

Sincerely,



Naoko Ishii
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility

Attachment: UNDP Suspension Notification
Copy to: Operational Focal Point, Trustee



**AGENCY NOTIFICATION ON
SUSPENSION FULL-SIZED PROJECT**

Add Date

PROJECT IDENTIFIER

Name of Project: Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Congo

Country(ies): Republic of Congo

GEF Agency: UNDP

GEF Project ID: 9159

Agency Project ID: 5612

Focal Area: Biodiversity

Trust Fund: GEFTF

PIF Approval Date: 4 June 2015

PPG Approval Date:

Council Approval Date (for FSP):

CEO Approval Date (for MSP, EA):

CEO Endorsement Date (for FSP): 9 June 2017

FINANCIAL STATUS

FSP/MSP/EA suspension Date: 11 March 2019

Grant Amount: (3,275,250) **Agency Fee:** (281,272)

Undisbursed Grant Amount: (

Undisbursed Agency Fee: (exact \$ amount)

Explanation for suspending project¹: Project activities were suspended in March 2019 due to an ongoing Social and Environmental Safeguards compliance investigation. This suspension will continue until the SECU compliance report has been issued and the UNDP Administrator issues the management action and response (estimated as September 2020). UNDP must honor its contractual and legal obligations with the project staff until the SECU investigation is completed and a decision is made on whether to continue the project or to cancel the project. Undisbursed grant amount as of 13 February 2020 is USD 2,073,546.

AGENCY CERTIFICATION

The **UNDP** would like to inform the GEF Secretariat that it will **suspension** the above-mentioned project after consultation with the beneficiary country, particularly with the

relevant government agencies involved in project preparation/implementation, and other partners including co-financiers.

Pradeep Kurukulasuriya

Agency Certifying Officer

Email Address:

Phone:



Project Contact Person

Email Address:

Phone: