#### **GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**

#### PROPOSAL FOR A PDF BLOCK B GRANT

Country:

Focal Area: Project Title:

Funding Requested: Counterpart Finance:

Co-Funding:

Requesting Agency:

**Block:** 

Block A or B Grant Awarded:

PDF Duration:

**Focal Ecosystems:** 

Regional - Kyrgyz Republic, Uzbekistan and Kazakstan

**Biodiversity** 

Central Asia Transboundary Biodiversity Project

US \$ 345,000

\$ 30,000 Government (in kind) \$ 200,000 British Know-How Fund

World Bank Block B

No

October, 1996 to August, 1997

**Mountains** 

#### **Project Objectives.**

The primary objectives of the Central Asian Biodiversity Transboundary Project are to support the 1. protection of vulnerable and unique biological communities within the West Tien Shan Range of Central Asia and to assist the Governments of Uzbekistan, Kazakstan and the Kyrgyz Republic to strengthen and coordinate national polices, regulations and institutional arrangements for biodiversity protection. The associated objectives are: (a) to strengthen and expand the protected area network in the West Tien Shan to ensure adequate protection of representative habitats and viable populations of key species through improved management, including the development of financing mechanisms to meet recurrent costs; (b) to identify income-generating activities for involving local communities and other stakeholders, within and close to protected areas, to reduce the pressure on the protected areas and enhance the levels of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use; (c) to strengthen local and national capacity through education and training: (d) to raise biodiversity public awareness and participation in biodiversity conservation in the region and create commitment to planning, wildlife management, monitoring and enforcement: and, (e) to establish regional (transnational) coordination and cooperation mechanisms for biodiversity conservation activities and harmonization of environmental standards relating to protected area management and wildlife, thereby improving biodiversity protection and preventing the fragmentation of habitat corridors.

#### **Project Description**

2. The project will focus on the West Tien Shan mountain range in Kazakstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan and support an integrated set of activities at local, national and regional (transnational) levels within an overarching framework of transboundary coordination and collaboration. It will strengthen a protected area network that is close to collapse by providing new models for protecting and managing biodiversity, both within conservation areas and the broader landscape, in partnership with local people and other stakeholders. The preliminary project components have been identified as follows:

#### Scope

4. The proposed World Bank/GEF project is expected to extend over five years and to include both national (planning, policy and institutional and legislation reform, public awareness and information networks) and regional elements (transboundary collaboration, shared research, monitoring and training programs as appropriate) as well as local site-specific investment interventions. Incremental costs will be assessed during preparation.

#### Description of Proposed PDF B Activities By Component

- 5. PDF grant funds are requested for the following activities:
  - Protected Area Management: This will entail final site selection of at least four (i) areas in the western Tien Shan including, but not necessarily restricted to, the existing zapovedniks. At these sites costed operational management plans would be prepared for implementation under the project. These plans will draw on the results of the social assessment, the design of the public education and awareness program, institutional, legal and training assessments, and the equipment and facilities investment program set out below. The operational planning approach, to be undertaken over approximately ten months of project preparation, would include the identification of baseline conditions (and information gaps), including a description of important natural and cultural resources (including threats to species of special management concern). Human settlement and natural resource uses inside and outside the protected areas would be assessed and present human uses that are legal and illegal would be identified. This would include an indication of those that are *de facto* controlled or regulated in terms of the management objectives of the area (e.g., hunting and wildlife trade). Management objectives would be established for each protected area by the identification of the important natural resource and environmental values that the protected area seeks to conserve in perpetuity. Subsequently the project preparation will identify specific zones where different types of human activities and infrastructure would or would not be permitted. Finally, the operational plans would identify the activities to achieve the management objectives. This would include investments (infrastructure, equipment, etc.), the specification and justification for protected area staffing and the detailed budget implications and specification of the institutional framework for managing the protected area.

Preparation would include participatory workshops involving local communities, scientists, NGO's, government and protected area managers. Initial workshops would define the scope of activities and the final workshops would confirm draft operational plans to be implemented under the project.

(ii) Social Assessment: The social assessment would identify the impact of local stakeholders on the zapovednik and vice versa and options for changing behavior, where necessary. It would result in the identification of key actors in conserving biodiversity,

including local communities living within the buffer zone and adjoining areas, users of protected area lands for livestock grazing, protected area management personnel (including zakaznik and leshoz), and hunting organizations; all of whom have vested interests in the zapovedniks and adjoining areas. Recommendations will be included in the preparation of the operational plans for each site. The component would end with a workshop in each country which would discuss the proposed project, indicate the timing of components and outline the procedures for public involvement.

- (iii) Public Awareness and Education Program: Design targeted public information, awareness and education programs at national, local and regional levels. This would also stress the inter-relationships and interdependence of the transboundary protected areas and the long-term need for preserving the area's biodiversity. It would identify products that could be useful in all three countries and formulate a plan for their preparation.
- (iv) Institutional and Legal Assessment: Analysis of current institutional responsibilities for biodiversity conservation at the national and local levels, with recommendations for the most cost-effective project implementation; recommendations for communication and information exchange at the national and transboundary levels (e.g. communication via Internet, regular meetings and exchange of information); and assessment of existing legislation on protected area and wildlife management in the three countries in order to ensure consistency in project implementation and enforcement.
- (v) *Training*: Needs assessment, inventory of formal and informal training opportunities and formulation of a professional development and training plan for scientists, park managers, wardens, NGO's as well as project staff on project implementation and management. In particular, opportunities will be identified for transboundary training, including twinning arrangements and work exchange.
- (vi) Equipment and Facilities Investment Program. As a result of the foregoing activities and in the context of the operational plans, detailed cost estimates and specifications would be prepared for the implementation of the project. Included in this financing plan would be an incremental cost analysis.
- (vii) Bank Coordination Workshop. The preparation activities will end with a workshop, to be held in one of the capitals of the participating countries, which will explain World Bank procedures for project implementation, procurement and disbursement.

#### Eligibility

6. The three countries have ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (Kazakstan on September 6, 1994; Uzbekistan on July 19, 1995; and Kyrgyz Republic[instrument deposited with UN]). They all have active programs to address national environmental action plans and environmental legislation and to undertake national biodiversity strategies and action plans in line with their obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

#### **National Level Support**

- 7. The Governments of Kazakstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic have all endorsed the key components of this transboundary project and requested the World Bank to proceed to develop a regional biodiversity project. Representatives from key Government agencies and the scientific community joined the World Bank identification mission and participated in discussions and planning of appropriate activities so that the process of transboundary consultation and collaboration has already begun. The preparation of the project concept and this application involved discussions with a wide range of individuals and institutions, both inside and outside government agencies, and scientists, NGOs, private hunting associations and local community organizations, all of whom welcomed and endorsed the project concept.
- 8. A framework for transboundary cooperation is already in place under the umbrella of the Inter-Governmental Committee for Sustainable Development where Kazakstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan are represented by their Ministers for Ecology and Bioresources, Environmental Protection and State Committee for Nature Protection respectively. One of the issues to be addressed during preparation is whether it would be appropriate to establish working groups under this framework which would be responsible for transnational cooperation on specific issues.
- 9. The project activities are fully consistent with the country NEAPS and national policies. The Kyrgyz Republic has recently completed a NEAP, which gave biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management a high priority. Both Uzbekistan and Kazakstan are proceeding with NEAP preparation in collaboration with the World Bank. Kazakstan has already begun work on a national biodiversity strategy and action plan and Uzbekistan (led by UNDP/GEF) and the Kyrgyz Republic will begin biodiversity strategy preparation in the near future (with World Bank/GEF assistance). Formulation of these NEAPS and Action Plans will necessarily require close collaboration between UNDP, World Bank, and the governments. All three countries have already identified biodiversity conservation in the West Tien Shan as high national priorities. In addition, the region is identified as a priority area under the Pan-European Biodiversity and Habitat Strategy.

#### Justification for the PDF Grant

10. The proposed project is consistent with the GEF Operational Strategy for Biodiversity, especially support for *in situ* conservation and protected areas under the Operational Program for Mountain ecosystems. The West Tien Shan mountains, the most western branch of the Himalayan chain, lie at a biological crossroads between the Palearctic and Oriental Biogeographical Realms. Because of their

geographical position and the mixing of two distinct flora and fauna, the area is biologically rich and supports unique plant and animal communities, including many endemic species. Moreover, the area is a centre of origin for wild relatives of several important horticultural and agricultural species including tulips, apples, walnuts and other fruit trees.

- 11. The project is consistent with Article 8 (*in-situ* conservation) of the Convention on Biological Diversity since it will provide support for the strengthened protection, management and extension of protected areas in a region of important biodiversity and will promote the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and maintenance of viable populations of species within, and beyond, protected area boundaries. Furthermore, it will promote environmentally sound and sustainable development in the western Tien Shan and allow for the natural regeneration and restoration of degraded ecosystems and recovery of threatened species by encouraging alternative land use practices and the cessation of overgrazing by livestock. Promoting conservation and sustainable use measures beyond protected area boundaries will provide more effective protection for wide-ranging and endangered species such as the snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*), lynx (*Lynx lynx*), white-clawed bear (*Ursus arctos leucoryx*), argali (*Ovis ammon*) and Marco Polo sheep (*O. ammon polii*), lammergeier (*Gypaetus barbatus*) as well as migratory raptors and other birds.
- 12. The project is consistent with Agenda 21 and guidance from the Conference of the Parties since it will promote conservation, management and sustainable use of mountain and semi-arid ecosystems and endemic species; identify and monitor wild relatives of domesticated species, especially those under threat; strengthen involvement of local communities and build partnerships at local, national and regional levels and promote innovative and cost-effective measures to conserve biodiversity in a transboundary region, including economic incentives and alternative livelihood opportunities for local communities.
- 13. The national and regional programs and targeted and cost effective interventions will enhance cross-sectoral benefits, particularly in the benefits derived from reducing watershed/land degradation in the watershed of the Naryn river (later becoming the Syr-Darya which originates in the western Tien Shan and one of the two which supplies the Aral Sea basin).
- 14. In addition to its eligibility under the Mountains OP, the project will fulfill a short term need created by the breakup of the Former Soviet Union, by mitigating the loss of technical expertise to Russia and much reduced funding for protected area management in a time of economic reform. The project will benefit from lessons learned and materials and training prepared for the Russia GEF project and provides an excellent opportunity to establish a foundation for transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation in Central Asia for the future.

#### Items to Be Financed

The PDF grant would be used to finance the costs of national and international consultants, field surveys for site selection, workshops, consultations and social assessments, including participatory rural appraisal. The British Know-How Fund will provide cofinancing of \$200,000 and government specialists would work with national and international specialists in developing project components and cost estimates.

Preparation costs in US \$.

| Activity                 | GEF Financing | Government<br>Contributions | Co-Financing |  |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------|--|
| Protected area           | 120,000       | 10,000                      | 100,000      |  |
| Management               |               |                             |              |  |
| Social Assessment        | 70,000        | 5,000                       | 50,000       |  |
| Public Awareness and     | 30,000        |                             | 30,000       |  |
| Education                |               |                             |              |  |
| Institutional and Legal  | 25,000        | 5,000                       | S. 8 S. 4    |  |
| Assessment               |               |                             |              |  |
| Training                 | 20,000        |                             | 20,000       |  |
| Investment Program       | 10,000        |                             |              |  |
| Workshop                 | 40,000        | 10,000                      |              |  |
| Project Coordination and | 30,000        |                             |              |  |
| Travel Costs             |               |                             |              |  |
| TOTAL                    | \$ 345,000    | 30,000                      | 200,000      |  |

Items to be financed are shown in the above table. Cofinancing for \$200,000 will be provided through the British Know-How Fund.

#### **Expected Outputs**

The expected outputs of this PDF Block B Grant will be:

- (i) Operational and investment plans for at least four protected areas
- (ii) Specific studies on Hunting and Wildlife Trade, undertaken as part of the Protected Area Component as well as social, legal and institutional assessments and a program for Public Awareness and Education
- (iii) A full GEF Proposal for an investment package focusing on the protected areas of the West Tien Shan mountains

Central Asia Transboundary Biodiversity 8 PDF

19 July, 1996

(iv) Regional coordination mechanisms and working groups already in place between the three participating countries

#### **Expected Date of Project Preparation Completion**

15. It is expected that project preparation would be completed by August 1997.

#### **Preparation Implementation**

16. In each country project preparation will be coordinated by the appropriate Governmental agency with overall responsibility for biodiversity conservation. In the case of the Kyrygz Republic, this will be the Committee of Environmental Protection; in Kazakstan, the Ministry of Ecology and Bioresources; and in Uzbekistan, the State Committee for Nature Protection. It is intended that NGOs, scientific institutes and local communities will be closely involved in project preparation and implementation.

#### **Implementing Agency Task Manager**

Justin Mundy EC3IV

August 1, 1996

**Annex: Background Information** 

#### **Protected Areas and the West Tien Shan Region**

- The three countries' protected systems are a legacy of the former Soviet Union system, wherein 1. protected areas are divided into four categories, Zapovedniks - strict nature reserves used for research and biosphere conservation - of which the Kyrgyz Republic has 5 (197,000 ha or 1% total area), Kazakstan 8 (852,000 ha or 0.3% total area), Uzbekistan 10 (245,000 ha or 0.5%); National Parks - protected, but allowing limited tourism, agriculture, and grazing - of which the Kyrgyz Republic has 1 (19,400 ha), Kazakstan 1 (50,000) and Uzbekistan 1 (31,503 ha); Zakazniks (special purpose reserves, established to safeguard certain flora or fauna populations, usually for a specified period, Kyrgyz Republic 31, Kazakstan 93 (6.2 million ha or 2.3%), Uzbekistan 4 (102, 305 ha or 0.25%), and Natural Monuments (Pamyatniki Prirody). The protected area system of the former Soviet Union was one of the best in the world, however in Central Asia as in Russia, economic difficulties and the strains of the transitional period have seriously undermined its efficacy. In Uzbekistan, for instance, this has led the number of Zakasniks (Nature reserves) being cut from seven to four and from 211,500 to 102,305 hectares (52% reduction). Furthermore, communities adjacent or within protected areas have increased their reliance on the protected areas' resources, especially by additional demands for pasture, fuelwood, arable land and game for immediate consumption or sale. All of these issues considerably increase pressure on protected areas. Ecotourism, which may be a potential income source, is poorly managed and provides a minimal return.
- 2. Central Asia urgently needs support in developing mechanisms to mitigate the negative environmental impacts of the transitional phase on biodiversity conservation, particularly in areas which contain exceedingly high levels of biodiversity, but which are fragile and under significant threat, such as the West Tien Shan mountains. This, the most westerly part of the Himalayan system, is one of the world's most remarkable areas and already contains a large number of almost contiguous protected areas, including the Aksu-Dzhabagly (Kazakstan), Besh-Aralskiy and Sary-Cheleskiy (Kyrgyz Republic) and Chatkalskiy (Uzbekistan). Of these, two Sary-Cheleskiy and Chatkalskiy are already Biosphere Reserves and it is intended that Aksu-Dzhabagly should be so designated in the near future. However, while the total area nominally protected is significant at 250,000 hectares, most of these protected areas have substantial populations within them and actual levels of protection are meager. The Karatau range in Kazakstan is unprotected, although steps are being taken to protect 41,000 hectares in the range.
- 3. The West Tien Shan region (including the Karatau range in Kazakstan) is species rich with some 3,000 recorded species of flora and fauna of which 170 are endemic. This astonishing range of biodiversity includes many which are endangered elsewhere in their range and threatened globally (refer Table One). The region is affected by almost the entire range of climatic conditions from sub-tropical to tundra and glaciers, consequently it possesses semi-arid, forest and mountain ecosystems. Characteristic mammals include, inter alia, the snow leopard (Panthera uncia), Menzbiers marmot (Marmota menzbieri), white-clawed bear (Ursus arctos leucoryx), lynx (Lynx lynx), Central Asian mountain goat (Capra sibirica) and argali (Ovis ammon); avi-fauna include golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos), Eurasian eagle-owl (Bubo bubo), lammergeier (Gypaetus barbatus) and Himalayan griffon vulture (Gyps himalayuensis). The area has a large number of species which are useful to humans, including:

medicinal plants and herbs (over 220), grasses (lucerne grass originated from here), apples (the region was the origin of many of the currently commercialized/domesticated apples and the remaining wild relatives in the Tien Shan are of increasing interest to those seeking scab resistant species), nuts (including the remaining endemic walnut forests of the region), tulips (all the commercialized species of tulip are based on 4 varieties, remarkably, 63 species exist in Central Asia of which 38 are endemic to the Kyrgyz Republic) and grapes.

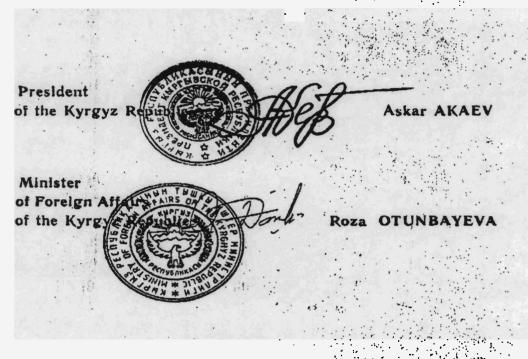
Table One: Threatened Animal Species in the West Tien Shan

| Animal groups | Total<br>Species | Included in the Red Data Books of: |      |        |            |           |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------------------|------|--------|------------|-----------|
|               |                  | <i>IUCN</i>                        | USSR | Kyrgyz | Uzbekistan | Kazakstan |
| Insects       | Several          | 1                                  | 30   | 5      | 14         |           |
|               | thousand         |                                    |      |        |            |           |
| Amphibians    | 4                |                                    |      |        |            | 1         |
| Reptiles      | 36               | 2                                  | 2    | 3      | 5          | 3         |
| Birds         | over 300         |                                    | 10   | 13     | 16         | 12        |
| Mammals       | about 70         | 2                                  | 8    | 4      | 5          | 12        |



# TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

Pursuant to Article 35 of the Convention on biological diversity signed on June 5, 1992 at Rio de Janeiro, and in compliance with the Law No 40 of 26 July 1996 of the Kyrgyz Republic, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic informs herewith the General Secretary of the United Nations of accession of the Kyrgyz Republic to Convention on biological diversity.



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#### КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН КУРЧАП ТУРГАН ЧӨЙРӨНҮ КОРГОО МИНИСТИРЛИГИ

# МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОХРАНЫ ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЫ КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ

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Brown Mundey Batotorde Mantiney Fishling Ducen ECA

Mr. Jonathon Brown
Chief, Infrastructure
Energy Environment Division
Country Department III
Europe and Central Asia Region
World Bank
1818 h Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433 U.S.A.

Dear Sir.

I am writing to reaffirm the Kyrgyzstan government's commitment to a Central Asia Transboundary project, to strengthen conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the West Tien Shan mountain range. My Ministry welcomes this opportunity to strenthen protection and management of our protected areas and to foster collaboration for biodiversity conservation with our neighbours and colleagues in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. This important project is clearly of national and regional priority. Indeed, during our participation in preparation of the Pan-European Biodiversity Strategy the Central Asian republics already emphasised the biological importance of the West Tien Shan.

On behalf of my government, I would like to request the World Bank to proceed with the preparation of this project with Kyrgyzstan as a participant. The Government of Kyrgyzstan is fully committed to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and has already ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity. I fully endorse the attached proposal for Project Development Funds and trust that the GEF will look favourably upon this application for funding. The grant will allow us to begin cooperation within the three Central Asian republics not only for this project but for further biodiversity initiatives.

I look forward to a favourable response to our request.

Yours,

Minister for Environment Protection, Prof.

Kulubek J. Bokonbaev

## MINISTRY OD ECOLOGY AND BIORESOURCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKSTAN

Our ref. # 6-1-383/2175

July 15, 1996

Mr. Jonathan Brown
Chief
Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Division
Country Department III
Europe and Central Asia Region
The World Bank
1818 H Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
USA

Dear Mr. Brown!

We would like to express our sincere appreciation of your high appraisal of role played by the Ministry of Ecology and Bioresources of the Republic of Kazakstan in ensuring success of the World Bank preparation mission for Western Tian Shan regional biodiversity preservation project. I believe that contacts of the mission members with representatives of state and NGO stakeholders demonstrated readiness of Kazakstan to take an active part in future work.

On behalf of the Government of Kazakstan, I am honored to request the World Bank to support implementation of the Central Asian Regional Biodiversity Preservation Project. It is very important that the Project will have as its objective preservation of biodiversity in the Western Tian Shan - recognized biodiversity center of global importance. Moreover, I would like to point your attention to advisability of expanding the Project scope to include Karatau Mountains - northerly extension of the Western Tian Shan and the area of exceptional diversity of the Central Asian higher flora. Ministry of Ecology and Bioresources had already prepared draft Government decree, agreed with all institutions and local authorities involved, on establishing Karatau State Reserve, which we hope will be signed by September, 1996. Ministry plans to familiarize Mr. Justin Mundy, the World Bank Project Task Manager, with Karatau Reserve during his upcoming mission to Kazakstan.

In addition, it is my duty to note that the Ministry of Ecology and Bioresources considers advisable to entrust the World Bank to act as executing agency for purposes of the Project Development Fund.

Sincerely yours,

Minister

[SIGNATURE]

Nikolay Bayev

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FROM : MIN ECOBIORESOURCES RK

PHONE NO. : 3272 630360

Jul. 16 1996 01:47PM P01

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Mr. Jonathan Brown Cirief Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Division Country Department III Europe and Central Asia Region The World Bank 1818 H Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20433 USA

Уважаемый господин Браун.

Позвольте выразить Вами искренную признательность высокую оценку роли Министерства экологии и биоресурсов Республики Казахстви в обеспечении успешного проведения визита мнесни Всемирного Банка в рамких подготовки регионального проекта по сохранению биологического разнообразия Западного Тяпьшаня. Нядеюсь, что контакты членов миссии с представителями **Заинтерссованных** государственных неправительственных И нашей страны продемонстрировали Казахстана принять активное участис в будущей работс.

11: 5.

От имени Правительства Республики Казахстан имею честь обратиться во Всемирный Банк поддержать реализацию проекта по Сохранению Биологического Разпообразия Центральновзнатского Регнопа. Очень важно, что реализация этого проскта преспедует своей первоочередной цельто сохранение бионогического разнообразия Запалного Тяньшаня - признанного центра бионогического разнообразия всемирного масштаба. Кромс того, хотел бы обратить Ваше внимание на целесообразность расширения проскта на горный массив Каратау - северного отрога Западного Тяньшаня, район исключительного биологического разнообразия высшей Центральной Азии. Министерством экологии и Республики Казахстан уже подготовлен согласованный со всеми

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FROM : MIN ECOBIORESQUECES RK

PHONE NO. : 3272 630360

Jul. 16 1996 01:48PM P02

заинтересованными организациями и местными властями проект постановления Правительства Казахстана о создании Каратауского государственного заповедника, которос, как мы надеемся, будет подписано до сентября текущего года. Министерство планирует ознакомить руководителя проекта от Всемирного Банка господина Джастина Манди с Каратауским заповедником в ходе сго предстоящей поездки в Казахстан.

Кроме всего прочего, считал бы своим долгом отметить, что Министерство экологии и биоресурсов Республики Казахстан считает целесообразным возложить на Всемирный Банк функцию неполнительного агента Фонда подготовки проекта.

Остаюсь искренне Ващим,

Министр

Николай Баев

### STATE COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

July 12, 1996

Our ref. # 01-704

Mr. Jonathan Brown
Division Chief
Infrastructure, Energy and Environment
Country Department III
Europe and Central Asia Region

Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan supports an idea of implementing the Biodiversity Preservation project in the Central Asian region with participation of Kazakstan and Kirgizia [Kyrgyzstan].

Increasing bioresource use sustainability, strengthening protected areas, and developing cooperation with our Kazak and Kyrgyz colleagues in biodiversity preservation are important regional priorities.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan I request the World Bank to start preparation of the above mentioned Project with Uzbekistan's participation and to act as executing agency for use of the project preparation funds (PDF).

Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan ratified International Biodiversity Convention, and the Government of Uzbekistan firmly intends to deal with biodiversity preservation and promote sustainable use of bioresources.

State Committee for Environmental Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan supports the presented proposal regarding financing project preparation (PDF), and we hope that Global Environmental Facility (GEF) will adopt a positive decision on the issue of financing. Extension of the grant would allow us to initiate cooperation between the three Central Asian republics not only under this Project, but under other biodiversity preservation initiatives.

Sincerely,

Chairman

[SIGNATURE]

A.Sh. Khabibullaev

c:\data\uzbcabdv.doc

draft unofficial translation - VLITVAK **FAX COVER SHEET** To: Jonathan Brown Fax: 202 477 3372 Dear Mr. Brown! Thank you for your letter of June 19, 1996, about the Global Environmental Facility Project to preserve biodiversity in the Central Asia region. This issue is agreed with [approved by] the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Original of the attached letter is sent by mail. Sincerely, [SIGNATURE] Askhad Khabibullaev Chairman State Committee for Environmental Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan

**ГОСУЛАРСТВЕННЫЙ** KOMUTET РЕСПУБЛИКИ **УЗБЕКИСТАН** по охране природы

**ЎЗБЕКИСТОН** РЕСПУБЛИКАСИ ТЛБИАТНИ МУХОФЛЗА KILIIIIII давлат кумитаси

STATE COMMITTEE FOR NATURE PROTECTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF **UZBEKISTAN** 

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Date: 12 июля 1996 г.

To:

DWOHN'I'AH BPAYH

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From:

Out/Fax No:

Subject:

Уважаемый господин Браун!

Благодарю Вас за письмо от 19 июня 1996 г. о Проекте Глобального экологического фонда по сохранению биологического разнообразия в центрально-азиатском регионе.

Данный вопрос согласован с Правительством Республики Узбекистан.

Сригинал нижеприведенного письма направлен Вам почтой.

Искренне Ваш

Председатель Госкомприроды Республики Узбекистан

### УЗБЕКИСТОН РЕСПУВЛИКАСИ ТАБИАТНИ МУХОФАЗА КИЛИШ давлат кумитасн



PHONE NO. :

### ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ КОМИТЕТ РЕСПУВЛИКИ УЗВЕКИСТАН DO OXPAHE DPHPOIN

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РУКОВОДИТЕЛЮ ОТЛЕЛА ПО ВОПРОСАМ ИНФРАСТРУКТУРЫ, ЭНЕРГЕТИКИ И ЭКОЛОГИИ З-ро ДЕПАРТАМЕНТА ВСЕМИРНОГО БАНКА ПО СТРАНАМ EBPOIN W LIEHTPAILHON ASKIN

г-ну Джонатану Брауну

Правительство Республеки Узбенистан поддерживает идею осуществления Проекта по сохранению биологического разнообразия в центральноазматском регионе с участием Казахстана и Киргизии.

Повышение устойчивости использования биодогических ресурсов, укрепление защиты охраняемых зон и развитие сотрудничества с нашими коллегами из Казахстана и Киргизии и вопросах сохранения биологического разнообразия является важным региональным приоритетом.

От имени Правительства Республики Узбекистан прошу Всемирный Банк приступить к подготовке указанного проекта с участкем Узбекистана, а также выступить в роли исполнительного ведомства по использованию средств для подготовки проекта (РДР).

Парламент Республики Узбекистан ратифицировал Международную Конвенцию по биологическому разнообразию и Правительство Узбекистана вмеет твёрдое намерение заниматься вопросами сохранения биологического разнообразия и содействовать устойчивому использованию биоресурсов.

Государственный Комитет Республики Узбекистан по охране природы поддерживает представленное предложение касательно финансирования для подготовки проекта (РДГ) и надеюсь, что Глобальный экологический фонд (СЕГ) примет подожительное решение по вопросу финансирования. Выделение гранта позволит нам начать сотрудничество между тремя Центральновзиатскими республиками не только в зыках этого проекта, но и по другим инициативам по сохранению билогического разнообразия.



