

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
Michal Pastvinský
Director of the Global Relations Department
Vršovická 65, 100 10 Prague 10
Tel: (00420 2) 67 12 20 89
Fax: (00420 2) 67 31 19 49

03/02/03

Prague, February 14, 2003

Ref: 309/920/03

Subject: *Endorsement of the GEF project proposal "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity through Sound Tourism Development in Biosphere Reserves in Central and Eastern Europe"*

Dear Ms. Aggarwal-Khan,

As the designated GEF Operational Focal Point for the Czech Republic, I am pleased to provide endorsement of the proposed project "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity through Sound Tourism Development in Biosphere Reserves in Central and Eastern Europe" (in total USD 29.100,-, of which USD 24.000,- GEF contribution), to be executed through the UNEP.

The objectives of the project are aligned with our national priorities and main strategic documents, mainly State Environmental Policy (1995, updated 1999, 2001), State Agricultural Policy, State Forestry Policy (2000) and State Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection Programme (1998).

Nevertheless I have some comments to the submitted proposal which are included in the Annex to this letter. We would be grateful if the project proposal could be amended accordingly.

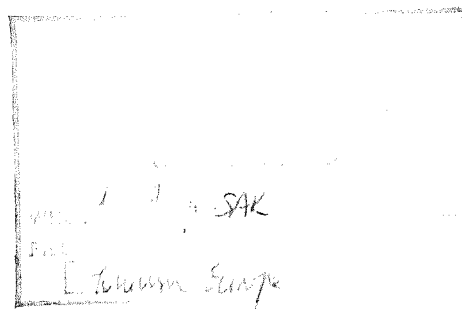
We hope that the experience gained through the proposed project implementation in selected Biosphere Reserve will contribute to improved management also in other protected areas of our country.

Yours sincerely,



Michal Pastvinský
GEF Operational Focal Point

Ms. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan
Programme Officer – Medium-Sized Projects
UNEP/Division of GEF Coordination
P.O.Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya



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FAX 1

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER
International Funding Department
NTE-26-3252002

02/1935

Ms Sheila Aggarwal-Khan
UNEP
The Division of Global Environment Facility Co-ordination
Nairobi, Kenya
P.O. Box 30552
Fax: 254 2 624 041
254 2 624 042

Subject: Endorsement of the project proposal: "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity through Sound Tourism Development in Biosphere Reserves in Central and Eastern Europe" project.

Budapest, 26th September 2002

Dear Ms. Aggarwal-Khan,

I wish to refer to the request by the Aggtelek Biosphere Reserve (Hungary) for funding the above cited project. In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Hungary, I am pleased to endorse the PDF A Block project proposal of the "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity through Sound Tourism Development in Biosphere Reserves in Central and Eastern Europe" project.

I would appreciate if you could facilitate the approval of funding this project.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. László Becker
Managing Director of International Funding Department
GEF Operational Focal Point

Ministry of Environment and Water, Hungary
1011 Budapest I. Fő utca 44-50.
Phone: 361 457 3300
Fax: 361 201 2361

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POLISH DEPT FOR
ENVIRONMENT SWAP

tel: (+48 22) 628 5085; fax: (+48 22) 628 5081
ul. Bracka 4, 00-502 Warszawa;
www.ekofundusz.org.pl

EF-4571/W/2002

02/16/02

October 28, 2002

FAX 1

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif
Director
UNEP/GEF Co-ordination Office
P.O. Box 30552 Nairobi, Kenya
Fax: (254 2) 624 041

Dear Sir,

Acting in our capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point in Poland we would like to extend our support to a project proposal entitled „Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity through Sound Tourism Development in Biosphere Reserves in Central and Eastern Europe”. The proposed PDFA phase of the project specifies problems related to development of sound tourism in legally protected areas. There should be also transfer of experiences among five countries (Poland, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Hungary and Serbia) contributing to establishment good practices in maintaining sound tourism in selected Biosphere Reserves. The readiness to work in the project was confirmed by the Management of Babia Gora Biosphere Reserve in Poland.

Based on our experiences we believe that the proposed PDFA activities will be useful in producing a full scope project for the future review and implementation.

Your sincerely

Prof. Maciej Nowicki
President

cc.
Ms Alicja Breymeyer
National UNESCO-MAB Committee of Poland
00-818 Warszawa, ul. Twarda 51/55

