

ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

ԲՆԱՊԱՀՊԱՆՈՒԹՅԱՆ  
ՆԱԽԱՐԱՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆREPUBLIC OF ARMENIA  
MINISTRY  
OF NATURE PROTECTION375002, ք.Երևան, Մոսկովյան փ. 35  
Հեռ.՝ (374 1) 521 099, (374 1) 531 862  
Ֆաքս՝ (374 1) 531 861, (374 1) 538 187  
Էլ. փոստ՝ mnp@mnpjac.am  
interdpt@mnpjac.amՆ Ա Ն Ա Ր Ա Ր  
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E-mail: mnp@mnpjac.am  
interdpt@mnpjac.amԲ- 14 / 239  
« 27 » 02 2002 թ.To: Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif  
Director  
UNEP Division of Global Environment Facility Coordination  
PO Box 30552  
Nairobi Kenya  
Fax: (254-2) 62-40-41

Dear Mr. Djoghlaif,

Hereby I, GEF Operational Focal Point for Armenia, officially endorse the execution of the "In Situ conservation of crop wild relatives through enhanced information management and field application" project that will be jointly implemented in five countries, which can be considered key centers of crop wild relatives origin. I confirm Armenia's full commitment and effective cooperation with Bolivia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, and Uzbekistan aimed at successful performance of the project.

The project is devoted to conservation and sustainable use of crop wild relatives that is one the key priorities of Armenian Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The activities proposed within the project will significantly contribute to further protection and proper management of CWR resources available in the country.

Best Regards,

V. Lyvazyan

Cc: Marieta Sakalian, PhD  
Scientist, Conservation Wild Crop Relatives  
IPGRI  
Fax: (39-06) 6197-9661

02/0303

# Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación

La Paz, February 18, 2002  
MDSP-VMARNDF N° 430/2002

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif  
Director  
Division of GEF Coordination  
United Nations Environment Programme  
Fax: 254-2-624041  
Nairobi, Kenya.-

**URGENTE**

Ref.: Bolivia GEF Operational Focal Point Endorsement UNEP/GEF PDF B Project on "In Situ Conservation of Crop Wild Relatives through Enhanced Information Management and Field Application".

Dear Mr. Djoghlaif

Because of Bolivia's geographical location in the center of South America, the diversity of environments found within its boundaries cover a range from tropical rainforests and lowland wetlands to high mountain forests, deserts and steppes. Estimations of the total number of vascular plants vary from 15,000 to 18,000 species.

The importance of Bolivia's biota is derived not only from the number of species or habitats existing in the country, but also from the fact that Bolivia has been the center from which a number of pre-Columbian cultures have sprung. At present Bolivia's traditional agricultural systems maintain *in situ* more than 50 domesticated indigenous plants that include tubers, roots, grains and fruits as well as a number of adapted introduced crops that have originated local varieties and land races.

Being a center of origin for a number of crops of prime importance for world agriculture, such as potatoes, peanuts, squashes and peppers, the conservation and sustainable use of crop wild relatives is a priority for our country.

Starting at the beginning of 2000 a group of scientific institutions, herbaria and genetic research centers with *ex-situ* collections have worked in coordination with the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, to jointly draft the Bolivian component of the project proposal *UNEP/GEF PDF B "In Situ Conservation Of Crop Wild Relatives Through Enhanced Information Management And Field Application"*. This project is the product of the joint efforts of Armenia, Bolivia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan and international partners such as FAO, IPGRI, the IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, Botanic Gardens Conservation International and Diversitas.

We consider that this project has been exemplarily developed in a fully participatory manner both at the national and international levels.

The project was developed in Bolivia at the same time as, and is fully aligned with, our *National Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Strategy and Action Plan*. It received approval from our GEF National Committee during its 16<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> sessions.

# Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación

For all the aforementioned considerations I have the pleasure, in my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Bolivia to hereby formally endorse the *UNEP/GEF PDF B project proposal on "In Situ conservation of crop wild relatives through enhanced information management and field application"* that will be executed in Armenia, Bolivia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, and Uzbekistan.

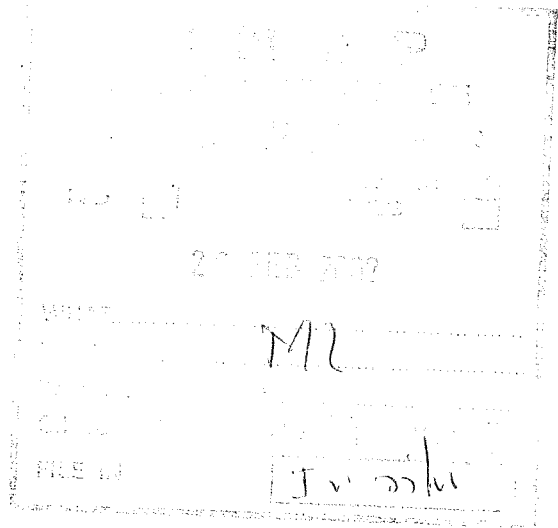
We look forward to the implementation of this project, which we consider will substantially contribute to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, and the agricultural and scientific development in our country and at the international level.

Sincerely yours;



**Hernán S. Cabrera Francidakiz**  
VICEMINISTRO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE, RECURSOS  
NATURALES Y DESARROLLO FORESTAL  
Min. Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación

Lic. Hernán Cabrera Francidakiz  
GEF Operational Focal Point Bolivia  
Viceministro de Medio Ambiente Recursos  
Naturales y Desarrollo Forestal  
Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación  
Telf.: (591-2) 2330762  
Fax.: (591-2)2331273  
Email: vdsma@coord.rds.org.bo  
La Paz, Bolivia



*MBW*

MBW/bzf

m: IPGRI, Toby Hodgkin Fax: + 39 06-6197 9661  
VIMAG, Dr. Alan Bojanic  
FAN, MHNNKM, IE, Centro de Diversidad Genética UMSS, Painumani  
VMARNDF, Despacho  
Arch, DGB/Recgenét  
DGB-RG N° 196/2002

REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR  
*Tanindrazana-Fahafahanana-Fandrosoana*

MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

THE SECRETARY GENERAL  
OF MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT  
Madagascar

N° 164 /Minenv/SG

02/0271

**Mr Ahmed Djoghlaif**  
**Director**  
**UNEP Division of Global Environment facility**  
**Coordination**  
**PO Box 30552**  
**Nairobi Kenya**  
**Fax : 254 2 624041**

Mr Ahamed Djoghlaif,

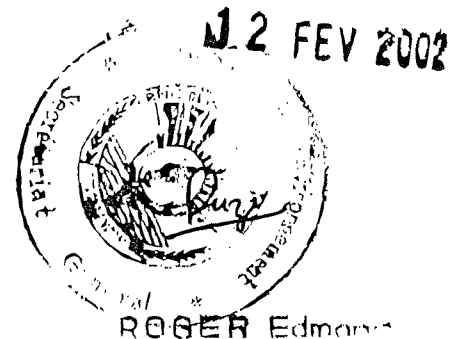
I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the progress made in the preparation of the project-document of " *In situ* Conservation of Wild Crop Relatives Through Enhanced Information Management and Field Application".

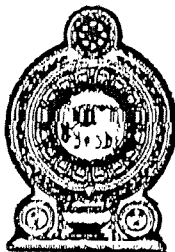
As you are aware, the project implementation will contribute to the national initiative to effectively conserve and use, in a sustainable manner, the agrobiodiversity in Madagascar. In addition, it is expected throughout the project activities that this would provide environmental, economic and socio-cultural benefits on National, Regional and a global scale. Finally, fully aligned with our national Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, the conservation and sustainable use of crop wild relatives will be helpful for our country to implement the CBD multi-year programs of activities by decision CoP III/11 on agricultural biodiversity.

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point and on-behalf of the Secretary general of the Government Ministry of Environment in Madagascar, I hereby formally endorse the project proposal "In situ conservation of crop wild relatives through enhanced information management and field application"

UNEP  
CENTRAL OFFICE  
RECEIVED  
18 FEB 2002

WHAT.....  
WHO..... M2  
DATE OF RECEIPT.....  
CIRCULATE.....  
FILE IN..... Wild Crop Relatives





# MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Parisara Piyasa, 104, Robert Gunawardana Mawatha, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.  
Tel: 094 1866612 Fax: 094 1875326

My No.: 04/02/02/454

Your No.:

Date: 13.02.2002

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif,  
Director,  
UNEP Division of Global Environment Facility Coordination,  
Nairobi,  
Kenya.

Dear Sir,

02/0257

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

14 FEB 2002

WHAT: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: MZ

CHECKED: \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCULATE: NO  YES

FILE IN: In-situ Conservation

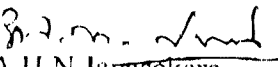
## GEF Operational Focal Point Endorsement Letter

As you may aware Sri Lanka is considered as one of the biodiversity hot spots in the world. Within this rich biodiversity it contain enamous number of crop wild relatives that is essential for crop improvement. Therefore we strangely believe that the conservation of crop wild relatives should be in the foremost frontiers in the Sri Lanka's biodiversity conservation endeavor. Since the biodiversity conservation and food security through improved agricultural technology are two of the priority focal areas in the government agenda I hereby state that the conservation of crop wild relatives also falls among our countries priority conservation and development programmes. Further more the project on *in-situ* Conservation of Crop Wild Relatives through Enhanced Information Management and Field Application is fully align with our national biobiversity conservation strategies and action plans.

Therefore in my capacity as the GEF Focal point for Sri Lanka, I hereby formally endorse the component of Sri Lanka of the project proposal on "*in-situ* Conservation of Crop Wild Relatives through Enhanced Information Management and Field Application"

which is supposed to be executed in Sri Lanka and other countries such as Armenia, Bolivia, Madagascar and Uzbekistan.

Best regards,

  
A.H.N. Jayasekara,

Acting Secretary,  
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources,  
"Sampathpaya",  
Battaramulla,  
Sri Lanka.

✓ Copy to : Marieta Sakalian ,Scientist, IPGRI

To: Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaf,  
Executive Coordinator  
UNEP/GEF Coordination Office  
P.O. Box 30552  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Phone: 2542 623257  
Fax: +2542 623696/624041  
Date: 22 February, 2002

02/0301

Dear Mr. Djoghlaf,

In my capacity of GEF Operational Focal Point in Uzbekistan it is a great pleasure for me to make a reference regarding the project proposal "*In-situ* Conservation of Crop Wild Relatives Through Enhanced Information Management and Field Application" developed by national partners in Armenia, Bolivia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan together with IPGRI, FAO and other international conservation agencies.

The proposal directly addresses COP Decision III/11, which identifies wild relatives of domesticated species as an important area of work, which will contribute both to conservation and to sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity. By focussing on wild relatives the work proposed will make a significant contribution our conservation work in Uzbekistan, particularly with respect to mountain ecosystems. Through the project we will be able to bring together and make use of substantial amounts of information that already exist in research institutes and other organizations dealing with plant genetic resources in Uzbekistan and to link these to information available from relevant international agencies.

Undertaking this project will be a vital step towards our fulfillment of obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity and will be a significant contribution efforts to increase the sustainability of agricultural production, food quality, human well-being and reduce the negative impacts of agriculture on the environment.

Furthermore, the project will contribute to fulfill the national priorities of the country, drawn out in the Government's Scientific and Technical Programme of Uzbekistan, calling for urgent efforts to *study of Uzbek plant genetic resources and develop methods and tools for their sustainable conservation and use.*

I would thus very much appreciate if you could facilitate the approval by UNEP-GEF of this project so important for the well being of our country.

Yours Sincerely,

Sergey V. Myagkov  
GEF Operational Focal Point in Uzbekistan,  
Director Deputy  
Hudrometeorological Institute (SANIGMI)  
Glavgidromet  
72, Makhsumov Str.,  
Tashkent, 700052  
Uzbekistan  
Tel.: (99871) 358329/676646  
Fax: (99871) 1332025/1331150  
E-mail: sanigmi@meteo.uz

Stamp: 21 FEB 2002  
mz  
In-situ Crop Wild