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OF UKRAINE

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TO: Mr. Nick Remple
UNDP-GEF Regional Manager
Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS

CC: Mr. Douglas Gardner
UN Resident Coordinator
UNDP Resident Representative
UNDP Ukraine

From: Dr. Anatoliy Hrytsenko
Deputy Minister
GEF Operational Focal Point

Subject: Endorsement of the project proposal **"Conservation and sustainable management of Polissya through integration of globally important biodiversity concerns into main areas of economic activity at key sites"**

Dear Mr. Remple,

Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine presents its compliments to UNDP and has the honor to inform the following.

In my capacity as Global Environment Facility (GEF) Operational Focal Point for Ukraine, I hereby endorse the enclosed proposal to access GEF funding to elaborate and implement the project **"Conservation and sustainable management of Polissya through integration of globally important biodiversity concerns into main areas of economic activity at key sites"** through the United Nations Development Programme.

Ukraine signed the Convention on Biological Diversity on June 11, 1992, ratified it on November 29, 1994 and became a Party on February 7, 1995. Ukraine joined the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat in 1996. Ukraine approved the Pan-European Biological and Landscape diversity Strategy, as well as adopted the State Programme of National Ecological Network Formation in Ukraine for 2000-2015 years.

Ukraine and the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine in particular, together with other ministries and institutions develops respective national policy on biological and landscape diversity conservation, natural resources recovery, ecological network creation on regular basis, but still needs assistance to fulfill its international obligations. Assistance gained from this UNDP's project will help in conserving globally significant biodiversity to preserve it and, also, assist sustainable development in the Polissya Region - one of the largest forested lowland area with many intact wetlands in the hart of Europe by ensuring an integrated approach for ecological network creation and further it sustainable management. Ministry of Environmental Protection of U kraine b elieves t he p roject will successfully address the mentioned issues.

Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine avails itself of this opportunity to renew to UNDP the assurances of its highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,



**Dr. Anatoliy Hrytsenko,
Deputy Minister
GEF Operational Focal Point**