



United Nations Development Programme

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

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3 July, 1996

Mohamed:
Dear Mr. El-Ashry,

Enabling: Activities: Albania

I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Enabling Activity entitled "Enabling Albania to Prepare its First National Communication in Response to its Commitments to the UNFCCC."

As you will recall, this project brief was approved by the GEFOP at its June 6 meeting. Subsequently, this brief was revised to take into consideration comments made at the meeting.

Thank you in advance for expediting the review and approval of this project brief.

Yours sincerely,

Rafael Asenjo
Executive Coordinator

Mr. Mohamed El-Ashry
Chief Executive Officer
Global Environment Facility
Room G6005
1776 G Street
Washington, D.C. 20433

c.c. Mr. Ian Johnson

PROPOSAL FOR REVIEW

PROJECT TITLE: ENABLING ALBANIA TO PREPARE ITS FIRST NATIONAL COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO ITS COMMITMENTS TO THE UNFCCC

GEF FOCAL AREA: Climate Change

GEF ELIGIBILITY: Eligible under financial mechanism for UNFCCC
 Eligible under paragraph 9 (b) of the Instrument

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS: US \$ 278,000

GEF FINANCING: US \$ 278,000

GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART FINANCING OF GEF COMPONENT: NA

COFINANCING/PARALLEL FINANCING: NA

ASSOCIATED PROJECT: NA

GEF IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: UNDP

EXECUTING AGENCY: Government of Albania / Committee for Environmental Protection

LOCAL COUNTERPART AGENCY:

ESTIMATED APPROVAL DATE: July 1996

PROJECT DURATION: 2 years

GEF PREPARATION COSTS: None

BACKGROUND AND PROJECT CONTEXT:

1. Albania is a small, mountainous country located in the south-western part of the Balkan Peninsula, on the coast of the Adriatic and Jonian Seas. To the north and the north-east Albania is bordered by the former Yugoslavia and in the south and south-east by Greece. The total land area covers 28,748 km², of which 76% is mountains and hills (most of which are deforested).
2. From the high mountains originate rivers, which open out into the plains and flow into the Adriatic sea. Due to the rugged relief of the land, the rivers are torrential with high erosive powers. On the other hand, they constitute an important source of hydropower.
3. Albania is situated in the Mediterranean climatic belt, with dry hot summers, and generally mild winters, with abundant rainfall. The north-eastern part of Albania is under the influence of continental air masses, and consequently the winters are colder, with record temperatures of - 35 °C. The average annual rainfall is over 2,000 mm in the Alps in northern Albania, and 650-700 mm in the valleys of the interior. Summer droughts are more pronounced towards the southwest.
4. The population of Albania is 3.3 million (estimated in 1992), of which 63.9% live in the countryside and 36.1% in urban areas. The capital of Albania, Tirana, has about 400,000 inhabitants while the other main cities have from 40,000 to 80,000 inhabitants.
5. Albania ranks as one of the poorest countries in Europe. Low levels of productivity and capital investments, combined with shortages of skilled labor, are seen as major constraints to growth. During the 1990's, Albania has been undergoing a difficult transition towards a market economy. However, the economic situation has started slowly to improve, and in 1995, the GNP per capita was US\$ 766 compared to US\$ 213 in 1992. At the same time, the annual inflation rate dropped from 226% to 6%, and the unemployment rate which peaked at about 27 % in 1992 fell to an estimated 13% in 1995. The main economic sectors in Albania are agriculture and industry.
6. The main sectors in Albania which emit greenhouse gases are industry; traffic; and domestic activities. The low technological level of Albanian industry results in relatively bigger amounts of GHG emissions than in many other countries. Some of these gases have a very long atmospheric lifetime. The amount of GHGs emitted by the transport and domestic sources is considerably lower, although the increasing number of cars in Albania makes an increasing contribution to the total emissions. Used cars imported from western Europe, the lack of control of the exhaust gases, and the poor quality of Albanian fuel (with its high content of sulphur) contribute to this matter.

Energy

7. The electric energy requirements in Albania are primarily met by hydroelectric power, with only a small portion covered by thermal power plants. The total generating capacity is 1,662 MW of which 1,444 MW is hydroelectric. The three largest hydro power plants form a cascade system in the Drini river in the northern Albania.

The big thermal power plants operate mainly with oil or natural gas, although the supply of natural gas has been almost non-existent since 1983, due to a serious accident and fire at an oil

well which produced associated natural gas. Several smaller units for combined heat and power generation are located in the Albanian cities. These plants generally burn brown coal which has a very high (3-7 %) sulphur content. During the last few years, natural gas has also been used for heating and cooking.

Industry

8. Albanian industry is predominantly small scale with a bias towards engineering, chemicals, construction materials, food processing and other agro-allied industries. Until the recent political and economic crisis, the industrial sector was, along with agriculture, one of the main contributors to the Albanian economy, accounting in 1990 for 23% of the total employment and 58% of the gross national output.

The chemical industry, which includes 5 main factories producing soda and PVC, nitrogenous fertilizers, pesticides, pigments and paints, uses outdated Chinese and Albanian technology, which has a low performance rate due to design faults, poor maintenance and shortages of raw materials. Several of the chemical plants, in particular, the phosphate fertilizer and caustic soda plants, are also hazardous to their workforce and release into the environment significant amounts of gaseous and liquid wastes loaded with toxic substances.

Oil extraction and refining are very important for the national economy, employing about 20,000 workers. Currently, there are about 3,500 operational oil wells out of which 2,000 are located in the onshore oil fields near the Patosi (Fier district). The oil produced has a high density and sulphur content. The aggregated capacity of the four refineries at Ballsh, Fier, Kucove and Cerrik is about 2,7 million tons per year. However, the current utilization factor of the refineries averages only 23%. The output of the refineries is mainly for domestic use.

Despite considerable efforts to revive the industrial sector after April 1992, that resulted in the rehabilitation of several enterprises, Albanian industry remains in the grip of financial collapse due to heavy debts.

Land Use & Forestry

9. Over 60% of Albania's population lives in the countryside, and is thus directly affected by environmental degradation, consisting of erosion, deforestation, and contamination of soil and water by agricultural chemicals. Out of a total of 704,000 hectares of arable land, about 80% is annually cultivated and about 57 % is irrigated.

10. Albanian forests cover about 1.047 million hectares, or about 36% of the total land resources of the country. Approximately 80% of the forests are located in the eastern mountainous part of the country with slopes of 20-50%, and are thus highly vulnerable to erosion. Deforestation is a serious problem in the peri-urban and rural areas of Albania. Unreliable

energy supplies over the past three years have led to uncontrolled cutting of trees throughout the country, which is now littered with areas of stumps. The problem is especially pronounced in the more accessible forest areas, while deforestation in less accessible mountain areas is not a serious problem.

Agriculture & Livestock

11. Agriculture is the most important economic sector in Albania in terms of value added and employment. In recent years, this sector accounted for about 20% of the exports and 50% of the employment. The main emphasis is placed on the production of cereals. Major crops include sugar beet, cotton, grains, beans, and sunflower seeds. Olives are also considered a suitable product for export. There are around 6 million olive trees in the country of which 4 million are productive.

After 1992, the agricultural sector was severely affected by input and foreign exchange shortages; social upheavals linked to the privatization of cooperative land and assets throughout the country; and disruptions caused by the absence of an alternative mechanism to replace the collapsing centralized planning system. Social and economic chaos led to rapidly falling standards of living for the vast majority of the population, but especially in poor rural areas.

12. Livestock contributes almost half of the total value of agricultural production. Although development of animal husbandry has not specifically been encouraged, the number of cattle has increased rapidly. The anticipated continuous increase can create problems for the environment, because the density of cattle per ha of land is already very high. The high density of sheep and goats in pastures and forests causes similar problems.

National Institutions

13. The *Committee of Environmental Protection* (CEP.), under the Ministry of Health and Environmental Protection, is the central body responsible for environmental issues in Albania.

14. The *Institute of Hydrometeorology*, under the Academy of Sciences, deals with monitoring of water & air pollution, incorporating climate change related issues as well.

15. The *Ministry of Agriculture and Food*, under the Council of Ministries, deals with land use, livestock, deforestation etc.

16. The *Ministry of Mineral Resources & Energy*, under the responsibility of the Council of Ministries, deals with oil, gas and energy systems in Albania.

Environmental Legislation

17. The new "Law on Environmental Protection" was approved by the Parliament in January 1993. This law was compiled on the basis of the legislation of different European countries and in consultation with experts from international organizations such as the World Bank and UNEP.

18. Key issues that the Law deals with are:

- the prevention and reduction of pollution;
- conservation of the biodiversity specific to the natural biogeographical background of the country;
- national management of the natural resources to avoid their exploitation;
- restoration of the areas damaged by human activities or by a natural phenomena;
- preservation of an ecological balance and of the quality of life; and
- maintenance and improvement of the environment.

This law determines, for the first time, a procedure for an Environmental Impact Assessment, which is now obligatory for all projects and activities which are expected to have significant impacts on the environment or are particularly dangerous to human health.

Measures Undertaken to Fulfill the Commitments to the UNFCCC

19. Albania ratified the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change on 3 December 1994. In order to fulfill its commitments to the Convention, the Government of Albania has requested financial and technical support for preparing its first national communication to the CoP.

20. So far, only one study has been undertaken (and completed) by the Government, namely "*Potential Implications of the Expected Climate Change on the Coastal Region of Albania*", with the assistance of the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan. This study was undertaken by a task team including 16 experts from Hydrometeorological Institute, Institute of Chemical Technology, Tirana University, Institute of Forestry Research, Ministry of Tourism, Institute of Biological Research, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and Physical Planning Institute. The climate scenario on which the study was based indicated that in the future, the climatic conditions will be more favorable for harnessing solar energy. According to this scenario, Albania can expect a warming of about 0.8 °C by the year 2030 or up to 2,5 °C by the year 2100, and an increase in the number of hours of sunshine.

21. Albania has been approached by the Government of the Netherlands to develop a renewable energy project in the framework of Activities Implemented Jointly, and is currently conducting a study on the use of this type of energy.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

22. The immediate objective of the project is to prepare the first National Communication of Albania to the Conference of Parties, in accordance with Article 12 of the UNFCCC, and to build endogenous capacity to fulfill its commitments to the Convention on a continuous basis.

23. The GHGs that will be addressed in the study will include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide(N₂O) and carbon monoxide (CO).
24. Besides the inventory, a GHG mitigation analysis and a national mitigation plan or strategy will be formulated, in order to identify and develop concrete measures, with the target of enhancing sinks or reducing global GHG emissions.
25. With respect to the vulnerability assessment, this project will complement the work undertaken earlier, and formulate a national plan for adaptation on climate change in Albania.
26. The project can also be seen as a useful exercise to enhance general awareness and knowledge of climate change related issues in Albania, thus enabling these issues to be taken into account in planning and strategy formulation for different economical and technical sectors, and to strengthen the country's role in international scientific fora and negotiation processes related to climate change. A part of this task is to develop an institutional mechanism/framework to strengthen the dialogue, information exchange and cooperation among all the relevant players in the field, including governmental, non-governmental, academic, private and "grassroots" sectors.
27. The project will also help Albania to identify concrete projects with the goal of reducing global GHG emissions or enhancing sinks: projects that may also be eligible for further funding or co-funding by GEF or other multilateral or bilateral organizations.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

28. During the project preparation, the following components and activities have been identified to respond to the objectives of the project and to implement the project successfully:
29. Identify a local *Project Coordinator / Manager* and establish a Project Steering Committee with participants from all the project relevant sectors to prepare a detailed work plan for the project (eventually with the help of an international consultant) and to identify the institutions that will be responsible for implementing the different sub-components of the project (institutions that are also able to undertake these tasks independently after the project, as needed). During the project implementation, the *Project Steering Committee* (PSC) will:
 - (a) give guidance for, steer and monitor the implementation of the project;
 - (b) work as an additional information link between the project and the "outside world";
 - (c) establish permanent links to coordinate climate change related issues and initiatives in the country ; and
 - (d) support smooth transition from this enabling activity to the actual implementation of the national mitigation and adaptation plans prepared under this project.
30. Identify and create links (eventually establish an information center) to both national and international sources of information (such as the US Country Study Program and the Bilateral

Programs, UNEP, IPCC, CC:TRAIN, international research institutes dealing with inventories, renewable energy sources or other climate change related issues, ongoing enabling activities in other recipient countries etc.) in order to undertake the specific tasks of the project, to learn from experiences and ideas of similar kinds of projects elsewhere, and to avoid duplication of effort. One main goal of this activity is to find potential international partners to cooperate with, either on this project or on the follow up projects dealing with implementation of the identified mitigation or adaptation measures. To the extent feasible electronic networks (Internet + World Wide Web) are used to save travel costs and enhance the geographical coverage of available information.

In accordance with the objectives of the project, information needs such as the following can be identified:

- (a) information on climate change phenomena itself and its potential impacts to the global and local ecosystems;
- (b) sources and sinks of GHG (including greenhouse gas formation mechanisms);
- (c) methods to collect the statistical information needed for the inventories and tools to manage the data;
- (d) internationally available information about the general methodologies and practices related to the vulnerability assessment or GHG mitigation analysis, as well as about specific technologies and practices in the field of energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, carbon sequestration, reduction of methane emissions etc; and
- (e) potential international partners to provide services and /or funding for the potential follow-up projects dealing with the implementation of the identified mitigation or adaptation measures.

Specific attention will be paid to dissemination of and public access to the available information (as well as to the results of this project) in order to enable a wide participation and involvement of all the interested individuals and organizations both during and after the project. The personnel of this activity may consist of computer specialists, also providing support for other departments, and experts of the specific project relevant fields such as meteorology & atmospheric physics, renewable energy sources and energy efficiency; forestry , etc.

31. By building on the activities already undertaken in Albania (see paragraph 20) and existing methodologies and “tools”, study the impacts of climate change especially on agriculture and sea level rise, and adaptation to climate change with respect to the specific geographical and climatological characteristics of Albania.

32. Undertake a national inventory of GHGs following the latest IPCC methodology and guidelines (both from IPCC and CoP), and build endogenous capacity to regularly update this inventory.

- (a) identify existing data gaps, evaluate the reliability of the data, and prepare a strategy to fulfill the data gaps;
- (b) undertake specific studies to fulfill the existing data gaps and establish a permanent data collection and management system under cooperation of the relevant institutions (including the Committee for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Transport, Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Mine Resources and Energy) to provide the basic statistical data for the actual and following inventories;
- (c) undertake the inventory using the latest IPCC methodology;
- (d) ensure an institutionalization of a regular inventory process in line with the obligations of the countries to the UNFCCC.

33. Build capacity, develop tools and undertake studies to provide relevant information for formulation of a national GHG mitigation strategy.

- (a) organize a workshop to present different methods and tools for mitigation analysis and to clarify challenges and opportunities of such an analysis for the relevant institutions in Albania - not only from the viewpoint of GHG reduction but also related to general planning and development processes under way in the country;
- (b) build capacity in the research institutes and NGOs working with alternative energy sources, energy efficiency, advanced agricultural practices or carbon sinks to make preliminary feasibility studies and cost analysis of different options (covering also the regulatory and legislative framework, tariff and fiscal policies, tax incentives etc.) in order to provide the essential background information for the mitigation analysis and formulation of a national GHG mitigation strategy;
- (c) undertake a mitigation analysis using the selected tools and the collected background information in order to construct a series of different climate mitigation scenarios, to evaluate their consistency with the general development goals of Albania, and to prepare a draft proposal to implement the most promising mitigation measures.

34. Develop a national plan for mitigation and adaptation.

- (a) organize workshop(s) with wide local participation and relevant international partners to present the results of the vulnerability assessment, inventory, adaptation and the mitigation analysis, together with the results or status of another ongoing national project relevant to the issue, and to discuss the results with the objective of formulating a national plan for mitigation of greenhouse

gases and adaptation to climate change;

- (b) in cooperation with the relevant institutions, prepare a national plan for mitigation and adaptation.

35. Using the outputs of this project as well as results of other ongoing projects, prepare the first national communication of Albania to the Conference of the Parties.

RATIONALE FOR GEF SUPPORT:

36. The project is consistent with the Operational Criteria prepared by the GEF Task Force on Climate Change in order to provide coordinated and timely assistance for the countries to fulfill their commitments to the Convention. This project responds to this objective by implementing an activity needed to enable Albania to prepare its first national communication to the Conference of the Parties.

37. In addition to the immediate output of preparing the national communication, the project will build capacity and establish an institutional framework to facilitate the implementation and further development of the identified follow-up measures.

SUSTAINABILITY AND PARTICIPATION:

38. The Government of Albania fully supports the objectives of this project and gives a very high priority to it due to the reasons already mentioned earlier. The Government has also endorsed that the final output of the project will be the national communication in compliance with the UNFCCC.

39. After the project and Albania's first national communication to the CoP have been finalized, the Government will take responsibility to regularly update the inventory and prepare further communications in accordance with agreements reached by CoP.

40. To ensure wide participation, a national Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established with representatives from the Committee for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy, Ministry of Construction and Tourism together with representatives from Institute of Hydro meteorology, Institute of Public Health, Institute of Forestry, and other relevant governmental or non-governmental organizations, international experts working in the country or corporations. It is expected that after successful completion of the project, the PSC will continue to deal with UNFCCC related matters on a permanent basis. Also, as already mentioned under activity 2, specific attention will be paid to dissemination of, and public access to the available information, and to capacity building on the project relevant sectors in order to fulfill the commitments of Albania to the UNFCCC on a continuous basis, and facilitate the work with the identified follow-

up measures.

PROJECT FINANCING, BUDGET AND INCREMENTAL COSTS:

41. The project is consistent with the GEF Operational Criteria for enabling activities related to national communications. Therefore, GEF is being requested to fund the full costs of the project. A detailed project budget reflecting the different sub-task is presented at Annex 1.

ISSUES, ACTIONS AND RISKS:

42. The ultimate criteria of success will be how the results of the project will be incorporated in the broader development goals of Albania. The project tries to address this by establishing an institutional framework for cooperation and involvement of all the relevant partners, and ensuring that other presuppositions for close collaboration exist.

43. Considering the immediate results of the project, a crucial element will also be close collaboration between the different ministries at the institutional level, and collaboration of the project personnel at the individual level, with each other and with the project support staff paid by the government. Another issue is international collaboration, especially when preparing a work plan for and implementing the research oriented activities. During this process, common methodologies will be used and among others IPCC and UNEP will be consulted to ensure that the methods are adequate. Also results of other ongoing or finalized projects will be used to avoid duplication of effort.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

44. The Executing Agency of the project will be the Committee for Environmental Protection. The PSC will be charged with overseeing and advising project execution and will have decision making power over all aspects of the project. The project will also collaborate closely with all the other relevant ongoing projects in Albania both through the PSC and between the research teams in order to enable an effective information exchange between the projects and full utilization of their results.

45. Under the different activities, study tours will be undertaken, and working links with international partners will be established in order to ensure an effective exchange of information and appropriate implementation of the project.

46. With this arrangement the project seeks to establish close links with other climate change related activities being carried out by other GEF implementing agencies or other multilateral or bilateral organizations. It will do so practically as figured above and also by participating in the informal consultative mechanism, CC:FORUM, being set up by the UNFCCC secretariat, to ensure that the results and outputs of this project will be shared among all actors involved in climate change activities in order to enable such actors to mutually benefit from one another's activities.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

47. After a detailed work plan for the project has been prepared, an external review on it will be undertaken. The purpose of the review is to identify in the early stage of implementation the eventual gaps, overlaps and other risks, and to identify potential partners and sources of information from which the project can benefit.

48. The PSC together with the Executing Agency will be responsible for monitoring the project on a continuous basis. In order to do this, the Project Manager, with the help of the leaders of the research teams, will prepare regular progress reports. In addition, an external midterm evaluation will be conducted about 12 months after the start of the project. The purpose of this evaluation is to review the overall success of the project and suggest modifications to the implementation of the project for the remaining part. It is vital that the recommendations from the evaluation are disseminated immediately, so that appropriate action can be undertaken without delay. A joint meeting of the evaluators together with the Project Steering Committee has been designed for this purpose.

49. For the remaining part, the project will rely on common UNDP monitoring and evaluation practices.

A STANDARD ACTIVITY MATRIX FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

ENABLING ACTIVITY IN ALBANIA

Enabling Activity Commitment	Output (Planning, execution, limited research)	Capacity Building	
		Institutional strengthening	Training
<i>Inventories and Stocktaking</i>			
Emission inventory			
- CO2 from energy sources	X	X	X
- CO2 from land use change	X	X	X
- CH4 from energy source	X	X	X
- CH4 from other source	X	X	X
- N2O	X	X	X
- other sources and gases	X	X	X
Vulnerability Assessment			
- agriculture	X	X	X
- forestry	X	X	X
- coastal zone	UNEP(X)	UNEP(X)	UNEP(X)
- water resources	X	X	X
- health impacts	X	X	X
- natural ecosystems	X	X	X
- other impacts	X	X	X
<i>Identification of Options to Meet the Objectives of the Convention</i>			
Mitigation Options			
- energy related			
-- industry	X	X	X
-- transport	X	X	X
-- energy supply	X	X	X
-- residential	X	X	X
- non-energy sources			
-- agriculture	X	X	X
-- forestry	X	X	X
-- waste management	X	X	X
-- other	X	X	X
- sink enhancement	X	X	X
Adaptation Options (stage I)	X	X	X
<i>Preparation of a Plan to Fulfill Commitments</i>			
- national plan for mitigation	X	X	X
- national plan for adaptation	X	X	X
- limited public awareness building	X	X	X
<i>Preparation of a National Communication</i>			
- inventory	X	X	X
- mitigation options	X	X	X
- vulnerability and adaptation	X	X	X
- other relevant information	X	X	X

Legend

X activity undertaken in the proposed project

SSS activities already covered by other projects or programs; following acronyms are used:

ADB = Asian Development Bank

ALG = ALGAS Project

CCT = CC:TRAIN

GEF = Other Regional or Country Specific GEF "Enabling" Project

GTZ = German Agency for Technical Cooperation

OECD = OECD/IPCC Programme

UNEP = United Nations Development Programme

US = U.S. Country Studies Program

X(\$\$\$) or \$\$\$(X) complementary activities

NA not applicable

0 not covered

DETAILED PROJECT BUDGET

1.	Project Management (incl. Information Exchange/Communication)	
	Personnel costs	US \$ 15,000
	Training	US \$ 10,000
	Equipment	US \$ 10,000
	Publication and printing costs	US \$ 10,000
	Operational (incl. travel, communication/Internet & others)	US \$ 20,000
	Subtotal	US \$ 65,000
2.	Vulnerability Assessment & Adaptation	
	National Experts/Subcontracts	US \$ 17,000
	Training	US \$ 20,000
	Equipment	US \$ 5,000
	Operational (incl. travel, planning workshops & others)	US \$ 12,000
	Subtotal	US \$ 54,000
3.	Inventory	
	National Experts/Subcontracts	US \$ 30,000
	Training	US \$ 20,000
	Equipment	US \$ 7,000
	Operational (incl. travel, planning workshops & others)	US \$ 12,000
	Subtotal	US \$ 69,000
4.	Mitigation Analysis	
	National Experts/Subcontracts	US \$ 14,000
	Training	US \$ 10,000
	Equipment	US \$ 5,000
	Operational (incl. travel, planning workshops & others)	US \$ 10,000
	Subtotal	US \$ 39,000
5.	National Plans for Mitigation and Adaptation	
	National Experts/Subcontracts	US \$ 13,000
	Operational (incl. travel, planning workshops & others)	US \$ 20,000
	Subtotal	US \$ 33,000
6	Preparation of the National Communication	
	National Experts/Subcontracts (the Project Manager is responsible for the preparation of the communication and the costs are thus incorporated into project management costs)	
7.	Monitoring and Evaluation	US \$ 10,000
	Project Support Services (3%)	US \$ 8,000
	TOTAL	US \$ 278,000



TIRANA
ALBANIA

FAX

Date 5/15/96

Number of pages including cover sheet 01

TO: Mr. Raffael Asenjo

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REMARKS: Urgent For your review Reply ASAP Please comment

Message: OFFICAL REQUEST FROM GOVERMENT

As a Party to the Convention on Climate Change, ALBANIA is very interested to carry out the inventory on greenhouse gases and their emissions in order to fulfill our commitments to the Framework Convention on Climate Change, according to the Article 4.1 of this Convention.

Living in a transition period, the Government of ALBANIA is in no position to fulfill this commitments to the Convention due to the lack of funds and technical assistance.

This is not the first time the Government of ALBANIA is seeking for technical assistance for making the inventory of greenhouse gases and their emissions. We have been asking the Secretariat of the Convention for this issue as well. I am informing you that a Project Proposal from ALBANIAN Government is going to be sent by E-mail from UNDP office in Tirana, Albania.

We hope GEF Council will consider our request.

Thank You in advance.

Lirim SELFO

CHAIRMAN