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**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
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Our Ref: MES/GS/026/02

September 15, 2004

Your Ref:

CHRISTOPHE CREPIN
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We support the Accra Urban Transport Project request for further development and entry into the GEF Pipeline 18.

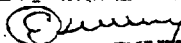
The Government of Ghana is particularly concerned with the declining environmental and safety standards in Accra and other cities in the country. This has resulted in an increase in cost and time for undertaking economic and social activities in the cities and the country at large. This trend is having a negative impact on productivity, business environment and the private sector investment in the country.

In response to this, Government has initiated various projects, including improving the quality of buses, strengthening the reform base and improving traffic management. The Government has also set up an Urban Transport Advisory Group to coordinate efforts at different levels.

However, we are aware that what is required is a systematic and integrated approach to address the declining travel conditions in the city. We expect the proposed urban transport project, with GEF support, to lay the ground work for developing a sustainable reform programme to address the multiple issues in the urban transport sector. The particular focus of this project would be on strengthening the institutional framework, introducing traffic management measures and developing bus rapid transit schemes.

We strongly endorse this concept and thank you for your consideration of our request.

Yours faithfully,


E.O. NSENKYIRE
CHIEF DIRECTOR &
GEF FOCAL POINT

cc: **Ajay Kumar**
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