



United Nations Development Programme
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)



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From: Richard Hosier
UNDP-GEF

Subject: Submission of Climate Change Enabling Activity for Namibia

We are pleased to submit for your consideration the proposal for Climate Change Enabling Activity for Namibia. The endorsement letter is sent as a separate file (Namibia govt EL.pdf).

We look forward to receiving your comments and approval.

Thank you.

**United Nations Development Programme
Global Environment Facility**

Proposal for Review

COUNTRY: Namibia

PROJECT TITLE: Namibia: Enabling Activities for the Preparation of Initial National Communication Related to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

GEF FOCUS AREA: Climate Change

COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY: Eligible under the UNFCCC financial mechanism

DATE OF RATIFICATION: May 16, 1995

GEF FINANCING: US\$ 130,000

GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART FUNDING: US\$ 10,000

GEF IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: UNDP

EXECUTING AGENCY: Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
Ministry of Environment and Tourism

COLLABORATING AGENCY: Namibia Nature Foundation

ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: 1st August 2001

PROJECT DURATION: 7 months

UNFCCC FOCAL POINT: Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
Ministry of Environment and Tourism

GEF NATIONAL FOCAL POINT: Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA)
Ministry of Environment and Tourism

Background

1. Namibia is located in Southern Africa and is bordered by Angola and Zambia in the north, Botswana the east, South Africa in the south, and the Atlantic Ocean in the west. It is roughly rectangular in shape with a total land area of 824,295 square km² (317,827 square miles). Namibia covers nearly 3 per cent of the total land area of Africa, but supports only about 0.2 per cent of the continent's human population (c. 1.7 million people in 1997).

Physical features and climate

2. The country can be divided into three distinct regions, namely the Namib Desert in the west, the Central Highlands and the Kalahari Desert in the east.
3. Namibia's marine environment is dominated by the Benguela Current which, originating in the Antarctic, flows northwards along the coast. The Benguela consists of cool upwelled water and supports some of the highest concentrations of marine life found in the world.
4. Temperatures along the coast range from 6 to 25 ° C, and winds can be strong. Although rainfall is limited (sometimes less than 1 mm per year), coastal regions receive 35 to 45 mm of precipitation by fog each year. Regular fog is attributed to the desert's proximity to the cold Atlantic Ocean, and the predominant south-westerly winds which blow cool air over the hot desert interior. Fog provides vital moisture and sustains rich and diverse communities of wildlife and plants.
5. The coastline is dramatic, consisting mostly of sandy beaches with high dunes (80%), with the rest being rocky shoreline or mixed sand and rock. The beaches are backed by low dune hummocks, high sand dunes and gravel plains. In the north, these seemingly bare plains are vegetated by nearly 100 species of lichen that survive on moisture bearing fog. The Namib Desert, which constitutes about 15 per cent of Namibia's total area, is situated along the western edge of the country, and forms a narrow belt approximately 1600 kilometers long and 80 to 150 kilometres wide.
6. The Namib is an extremely arid desert, receiving between 2mm of rainfall in a dry year to over 300mm in a wet year. The amount of precipitation by rain decreases from east to west, and is lowest at the coast. The incidence of fog is less in the deserts interior, where approximately 20mm can be expected up to 40 km inland from the coast. On the basis of its biodiversity and biomass content, the Namib is considered to be the richest desert on earth.
7. Due to its marginal rainfall, soils and climate, the Namib is largely unsuitable for agriculture and human settlement. Although subsistence farmers herd small flocks of goats and cattle along its eastern edge and in some dry riverbeds, the area is one of the least populated regions in the world. Most of the Namib is owned by the State and administered as game reserves, with tourism being the main form of economic activity, after mining. The area has one large uranium and one gold mine, while informal miners scour the landscape for semi-precious stones. On the coast, diamonds were once abundant but are today only recovered in isolated areas in the south and offshore.

8. The Central Highlands are characterised by rugged hills, plateaus and valleys which are generally sparsely vegetated. The mountains, which range between 1 500 to 2 000 metres in height, provide the watershed between the catchment areas of the rivers draining into the Atlantic Ocean in the west, and the endoreic basins of the Kalahari in the east.
9. Most areas within the Central Highlands receive up to 300mm of rainfall per year, but precipitation can be lower than 100mm during dry cycles. Since the mountains serve as river catchments, many small earth dams have been constructed, thus capturing water runoff and enabling commercial stock farming. Water supply for human consumption and livestock is supplemented by boreholes which are a feature of every farm.
10. Land use in this region consists mostly of commercial farms, with an average size of 5000 hectares or more. Cattle range throughout the area and supply local, regional and European markets, while a growing number of farms are now being converted to game ranches.
11. The Kalahari Desert forms part of the Arid Savannah biome and is situated in the east and south-east of the country. It extends into western Botswana and the northern Cape in South Africa. The Kalahari is characterised by parallel ridges of vegetated sand dunes, interdune plains vast calcrete pans and episodic rivers. Annual rainfall ranges from 235 to 500 mm and occurs in the form of heavy summer thunderstorms of short duration. Temperatures fluctuate considerably, ranging from minus 10 degrees centigrade on a winter night to more than 45 degrees in summer. Although the Kalahari is well protected within national parks in South Africa and Botswana, the portion within Namibia is used mainly for cattle ranching on commercial farms. However, a growing number of these landowners are farming with game which are better adapted to arid conditions.
12. The Caprivi Strip is unlike anything else in Namibia, and its inclusion within the borders of the country is a political oddity. This thin sliver of land was sought after by the German Government which wanted to link its South West African colony to German East Africa (now Tanzania). Due to its position in central/southern Africa, its climate is wet and humid, and its vegetation lush and sub-tropical. Annual rainfall ranges from 350 - 870 mm. Due to the rich vegetation, perennial border and internal rivers, floodplains and swamps, Caprivi is regarded as a prime wildlife area. In spite of being relatively densely populated by subsistence stock and crop farmers, these areas contain four of Namibia's best preserved wildlife sanctuaries. The proximity of Caprivi's parks to already existing tourist attractions such as Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe), Chobe National Park and the Okavango Swamps (Botswana) further enhance their tourism and development potential.

Demographics and history

13. Most authors agree that Namibia was first inhabited by the indigenous San (Bushmen) people who are thought to have been in the area by the beginning of the 9th century. Historians regard this tribe as being so ancient that they have probably been in Africa for tens of thousands of years.

14. At about the same time as the San migrated south, the Khoikhoi (Nama) people moved in from neighbouring Botswana while the Damara settled in the mountainous interior. The coastal areas of Namibia were settled by the now extinct Strandlopers ('beach dwellers') who are thought to have been a sub-tribe of the San.
15. Later, migratory groups of Bantu-speaking people moved southwards from central Africa and occupied the northern areas of Namibia. The more powerful Bantu-speaking tribes gradually displaced the San and Damara, who, to this day, eke out an existence in the marginal areas of the Kalahari desert and along the fringe of the Namib.
16. Namibia's harsh climate and uninviting desert coastline kept European settlers at bay until 1484, when the first Portuguese explorer, Diego Caõ, landed at the coast. Three hundred years later, whalers and seal catchers operated off the coast more frequently, and guano was discovered on the rocky islands offshore. Once European powers realised the abundance of Namibia's marine resources, the long history of over-exploitation began.
17. The Dutch Government claimed Walvis Bay and some of the islands in 1793, but were soon displaced by the British, who annexed the Cape Colony (South Africa) three years later, and together with it, the natural harbour of Walvis Bay. In 1884, the territory was proclaimed a German Protectorate. The German era came to an end with the outbreak of World War I, when soldiers from the Union of South Africa occupied the territory and Germany was forced to relinquish its claim with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 26 June 1919.
18. After World War I, the newly established League of Nations mandated South Africa with the administration of South West Africa, which heralded an era of apartheid oppression. Although there is no clear date as to when Namibians began their struggle for independence from colonial rule, most historians agree that this began in earnest in 1905 when bitter wars were fought between indigenous tribes and German settlers. Realizing that a more concerted effort was needed to achieve independence, Namibians began in 1958 to form nationalist movements, and two years later, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) was formed.
19. During the next few years, Namibians and their benefactors petitioned the UN, requesting it to apply pressure on South Africa. In 1978, the United Nations passed UN Resolution 435, which paved the way for National Independence in March 1990.

Population, health and human development

20. Namibia's population growth rate of >3% is one of the highest in southern Africa and the world. The age structure of the population for the years 1990 and 2000 portrays a youthful population indicative of high fertility (average of 6.0 children born per woman).
21. The rate of adult literacy in Namibia, defined as the proportion with the ability to read and write among all those aged 15 years and above, was over 76 per cent in 1991, which is among the highest in Africa. Similarly 75 per cent of children aged 6-9 years were enrolled in school in 1991, 91 per cent of those aged 10-14 years and 72 per cent of those 15-19 years

old.

22. The unemployment rate in Namibia was 20.1% in 1991. The level of unemployment is higher in the urban areas (26.1%) than in the rural areas (16.2%). 53 per cent of the unemployed are youth under the age of 25. Over 41% of economically active persons were found to be underemployed.
23. Most of the more common diseases affecting Namibians (malnutrition, diarrhoea, respiratory infections and tuberculosis) are decreasing, while AIDS is on the increase. Namibia's greatest killer remains malaria, which accounts for approximately 31% of childhood deaths after infancy.
24. Housing in Namibia is a serious problem and, like many other socio-economic indicators, remains skewed along racial lines. Namibia's pre-independence policy of apartheid was applied not only at a national level, but also at the municipal, town and village levels. All towns and formal villages within the country are characterised by dual settlements; a well serviced modern part for the minority and inadequate houses and shacks for the majority.
25. Redressing the pronounced disparities in the provision of housing has been a major task of the government, and a number of public and private sector schemes have been initiated in urban areas. Rural housing has however not been adequately addressed, since families cannot afford bank loans (even under subsidised schemes) and cannot purchase communally owned land, so thus have no legal tenure. Instead they use natural materials to construct traditional shelters and stockades. An average of about 4,200 traditional homesteads are established each year resulting in the felling of roughly 1.764 million trees per year. Many dwellings fall into disrepair within a short time, as termites quickly consume those constructed from inferior timber. Hardwood trees are now virtually absent in the more densely populated areas, and deforestation has become alarming in many regions.

Transport and communications

26. Namibia's vast size and scattered human populace make an efficient transport and communications network disproportionately important for its young economy. The country's excellent infrastructure, established over the years by German and South African engineers, is today the responsibility of the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications. Although many of Namibia's roads, railways, harbours and airports were established primarily for strategic and military reasons, they now form the basis for most travel and trade.
27. The deep-water harbour at Walvis Bay is, in terms of infrastructure and efficiency, one of the best on Africa's west coast. Roads and railways link this port to many landlocked African countries, most of whose economies rely on imports and exports for their survival. Walvis Bay's relative proximity to Europe and North America provides a strategic advantage over comparable facilities along Africa's east coast, and the Namibian Government has established high quality bitumen roads to neighbouring Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

28. Namibia has a well-developed telecommunications and postal network although only about 4% of Namibians are connected by telephone. The average growth for new telephone services in the past 12 years has been 6% per year. This growth rate is expected to increase to 10% over the next five years.

Water and electricity

29. Water is Namibia's most critical natural resource and is an essential commodity for development. Water is required for human consumption and economic production, and there is a high demand for high quality and assured supply in all urban areas as well as in most outlying regions.
30. Namibia's water reserves are highly variable, as they rely mainly on rainfall, the efficiency of bulk storage dams and the health of subterranean aquifers. Perennial rivers are confined to the northern and southern borders, both a considerable distance from the central economic growth points. Transporting this water to the interior is extremely expensive, as are the costs of desalination.
31. Throughout Namibia, potential evaporation exceeds precipitation by a factor of three. It is estimated that 56% of water consumption derives from groundwater, 20% from ephemeral rivers and 24% from the perennial border rivers. Because of high temperatures, it is estimated that 83% of total rainfall evaporates, only 1% contributes to groundwater recharge, and 2% can be harnessed in surface storage facilities.
32. Water scarcity is a constraint in the development of virtually all other sectors, ranging from major developments in industry such as mines and factories, to development in the health sector and the provision of potable water for domestic consumption.
33. Namibia's electricity is obtained from two coal-fired power stations and a small hydroelectric plant on the Kunene River. Commercial energy resources amount to about 78% of national consumption, while traditional fuels (wood, charcoal and animal waste) consume the balance. However, traditional fuels supply the energy needs of approximately 60% of all Namibians.
34. Utilization of renewable solar and wind energy has been negligible (0.3%) although an estimated 30 000 windmills pump water in the commercial and communal farmlands. Many institutions regard solar energy as being an area deserving increased research and investment because of Namibia's high insolation levels. A small wind park is planned for the southern coast by 2002.

Economic activities

35. At the time of independence in 1990, the most important economic activities in Namibia were agriculture, mining, fishing and tourism.
36. Namibia's mining industry is based on precious metals, diamonds, base metals, semi-precious stones and source material. Mining has provided the stimulus for national

development and growth, providing the largest sectoral share of the GDP. Direct taxes paid by industry represent 65 to 80% of Namibia's income tax revenue. The future of this sector is favourable since proven reserves are known to exist in viable quantities and there is potential for value-added processing of mineral products within the country.

37. Namibia's agriculture sector consists of freehold ('commercial') and communal farmers. Commercial farmers are mostly of European origin, owning large farms in the central and eastern regions of the country. Communal, mainly subsistence farmers are largely confined to the more densely populated former "homelands" and have no land tenure. Previous colonial administrations favoured the commercial sector through subsidies and support systems such as veterinary services and agricultural extension. Thus, privately owned ranches (average size 7822 hectares) established considerable infrastructure in the form of stock-proof fences, boreholes, producers' co-operatives, control boards and rotational management systems. This sector produces at least three quarters of agricultural output and almost all exports. Communal farmers relied on subsistence farming methods, cultivating traditional crops and maintaining herds of large and small livestock.
38. The contribution of agriculture to Namibia's GDP (estimated at 9% in 1992) fluctuates widely due to limited agricultural resources and unreliable rainfall. However, this sector offers jobs (either formally or informally) to over 40% of Namibia's employed persons over the age of 15.
39. Namibia's fishing grounds have one of the highest production rates in the world. However, foreign vessels plundered the country's abundant fish stocks during the 1960s - 1970s, and stocks are only now beginning to recover. The previous era of over-exploitation was characterised by a total lack of control and most of the catches were processed on factory vessels and the products exported. Fisheries is one of the cornerstones of the Namibian economy and supports a number of secondary industries such as processing, packaging and supplies, and employs a significant work force, especially at Walvis Bay.
40. Namibia's protected area network of 13 parks and a number of recreation areas covers 13.8% of the surface area of the country. Etosha National Park was established as the country's first park in 1907. Since then, many more parks have been proclaimed. In 1967, commercial farmers were given conditional ownership over wildlife and, on the basis of adequate fencing, were allowed to use game. This resulted in many landowners protecting their game and adopting a policy of mixed game and stock farming. Today Namibia's commercial farmland supports an estimated 70% of all large game mammals in the country. The financial profitability of game/stock farming remains low at the moment, but the arid conditions in Namibia provide little alternative to commercial farmers.
41. Another key form of wildlife use in Namibia is trophy hunting. This takes place on state land, private land under freehold and leasehold tenure and, increasingly, on public land controlled by communities. Namibia ranks third in Africa in terms of trophy hunting, and in 1985, provided 12% of all trophy animals shot on the continent. During the period 1991 - 1993, between 6000 and 9000 trophies were taken in Namibia. On private land, the landowner derives income from this activity, while on public land (including communal areas), proceeds

revert to the state. Trophy hunting is only permitted under the auspices of a qualified and registered hunting guide. The financial value of trophy hunting is high relative to the numbers of animals shot, and in 1991, it was estimated that commercial farmers had a combined turnover of N\$13 million, while the state received less than 2% of this in the form of fees (see also para. 43).

42. Although the Namibian tourism industry is operating well below capacity (average bed-night occupancy around 30%), it is predicted to grow faster than any other industry in the country over the next decade. It is estimated that tourism's contribution to the GDP was 5% during 1992. In 1994, 282000 tourists visited the country, but over 600 000 are expected to visit the country in 2001. The industry is expected to grow at a rate of approximately 8% per annum while foreign exchange earnings could increase at an annual rate of 14%. The foreign exchange earned through tourism is currently equivalent to 12% of Namibia's export earnings, and exceeded that earned from agricultural exports during the same year. Tourism employs an estimated 20 000 people, with many more employed indirectly. Tourism has more potential than any other development options, to employ unskilled people in the more remote areas.
43. The basis for tourism in Namibia is biodiversity and scenery, and the country's game reserves and wilderness areas are the main attractions. In recent years, a number of commercial farmers (particularly those with abundant game) have established guest facilities and offer more exclusive accommodation than in government run rest camps. In addition, private operators have established lodges in the scenic communal areas. The government recently enacted legislation which enables communities to share the income derived from tourism (and wildlife use) by establishing conservancies on unproclaimed state land.

Environmental policy and legislation

44. At Independence, the Namibian government adopted a progressive National Constitution with specific environmental clauses. It also developed a Green Plan, which was presented at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit (UNCED) by the President, Dr. Sam Nujoma.
45. The Green Plan was the first step in giving effect to Constitutional clauses on the environment, particularly Article 95 (1) which declares that "*The State shall actively promote and maintain the welfare of the people by adopting policies aimed at ... The maintenance of ecosystems, essential ecological processes and biological diversity of Namibia and utilisation of living natural resources on a sustainable basis for the benefit of all Namibians, both present and future...*"
46. Three of the most important government initiatives taken since independence to promote local involvement in natural resource management are the Community Based Natural Resource Management programme (CBNRM), the Sustainable Animal and Range Development Programme (SARDEP) and the establishment of Water Point Committees (WPCs).

47. Most environmental legislation is outdated, fragmented or inadequate, and a comprehensive programme to overhaul legislation is underway. So far, a new draft Environmental Management Act, Parks and Wildlife Act, Forestry Act, and Pollution Act are in the process of enactment.

International conventions

48. Namibia is a Party to numerous international environmental treaties, conventions and protocols. These include, among others:
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (ratified in 1994);
 - Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (acceded to in 1978);
 - Convention on International Trade on Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (acceded to in 1975);
 - Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (acceded to in 1994);
 - Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (acceded to in 1994);
 - 1990 London Amendment to the Montreal Protocol (acceded to in 1994);
 - Convention on Biological Diversity (ratified in 1997);
 - Convention to Combat Desertification (ratified in 1997); and,
 - Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (acceded to in 1996).

Environmental institutions

49. Responsibility for land use planning and natural resource management was forcibly transferred from the local people to a succession of colonial governments. The current post-independence government has inherited this power, and land use planning in the country remains centrally controlled. However, decentralisation has been adopted as part of Namibia's democratisation process. Government has declared its willingness to transfer more responsibilities to the regions, traditional authorities and communities, thereby re-empowering the people. There are essentially three levels of land use planning in the country: national, local and cross-boundary (regional).

Planning at the national level

50. After independence, a government consisting of sector ministries was formed. In its first national development plan (NDP1), Government committed itself to "follow integrated land-use planning techniques involving all sectors so as to support long-term sustainable development for all Namibians". The key policies to help achieve these goals are stated as follows:
- Land reform and improved land administration to reduce unjust land allocation;
 - Integration of land-use planning capacity which co-ordinates land-use planning at all levels;
 - Improved access to land by regulating and regularising land tenure in the commercial areas;

- Introduction of land-use planning in all communal areas and unproclaimed State land before new allocations are made.

Table 1 Key Namibian government ministries responsible for land use planning and natural resource management

Ministry	Summary of the main functions of relevant Departments / Directorates
Agriculture, Water and Rural Development (MAWRD)	<p>Department of Agriculture Optimise agric. production, increase value-adding & expertise, reduce imports Ensure local and national food security & provide drought relief</p> <p>Department of Water Affairs Bulk water supply and water distribution for humans, livestock & irrigation</p> <p>Directorate of Rural Development Reduce poverty and promote equitable distribution of wealth Promote equitable access to productive resources & halt rural-urban migration</p> <p>Directorate of Veterinary Services Controlling of stock diseases & improvement of stock health</p> <p>Directorate of Extension and Engineering Assisting communal & commercial farmers and facilitating feasibility studies</p> <p>Directorate of Agriculture, Research & Training Research, planning, training & community-based programmes (e.g.SARDEP)</p> <p>Directorate of Planning Policy, planning, economic analysis & evaluation of proposals</p>
Environment And Tourism (MET)	<p>Directorate of Parks and Wildlife Management of game reserves, extension, law enforcement & research</p> <p>Directorate of Scientific Services Specialist research, management planning, permit administration, information</p> <p>Directorate of Forestry Reforestation, extension, research, fire management, forestry control</p> <p>Directorate of Environmental Affairs Policy, research, CBNRM, EIA, pollution, legislation, conventions, planning</p> <p>Directorate of Tourism Tourism planning and regulation</p>
Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR)	<p><i>All Directorates</i></p> <p>Promote sustainable utilisation of marine resources & law-enforcement Research, setting of quotas & monitoring of resource & environment, EIAs</p>
Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME)	<p>Directorate of Mining and Geological Survey Promote & facilitate exploration & mining, and increase mineral production Research and monitoring (e.g. surveying & mapping), law-enforcement, EIAs</p>
Ministry of Lands Resettlement & Rehabilitation (MLRR)	<p>Directorate of Rehabilitation and Resettlement and Land Resettle landless (esp. disadvantaged) citizens & rehabilitate the disabled Procurement and allocation of land for the above Land use planning and allocation of concessions & Permission to Occupy</p>
Min. of Regional & Local Government & Housing (MRLGH)	<p>Directorate of Regional and Local Government Town & regional planning, zoning, and evaluation of development proposals Support to Regional Governors regarding the above</p>

51. The Ministries of Water and Rural Development; Environment and Tourism; Lands, Resettlement and Rehabilitation; Regional, Local Government and Housing; Fisheries and Marine Resources and Mines and Energy have some form of land use planning authority. In view of the potential overlap, Government established the National Planning Commission (NPC) to co-ordinate planning. On the basis of Namibia's Environmental Management Act, Government will soon establish a Sustainable Development Commission (SDC), which will in future provide coordination between ministries in the field of land use planning.

Land use planning and co-ordination at the regional and local levels

52. Planning at the local level is weak in Namibia, probably as a result of past disempowerment. Nevertheless, Government divided the country into 13 regions soon after independence and established regional councils. Efforts are underway to improve the capacity of the regions to engage in forward planning and management. The most successful capacity building has occurred through the implementation of programmes or projects in the rural areas, especially those initiated by a combination of line ministries and NGOs. In some instances (e.g. the Community-based Natural Resource Management Programme – CBNRM) pilot projects have led to community empowerment and improved local-level planning capacity. More recently, regional councils governing Namibia's coastal regions have initiated a project to manage and conserve coastal and marine biodiversity in their areas.

Land use planning and co-ordination at the SADC level

53. A number of permanent cross-border committees have been established to co-ordinate the management of major river systems shared by Namibia and her neighbours (Table 2). Unlike many sectoral efforts at the local and national level, these cross-boundary initiatives aim primarily to achieve integrated management and sustainable development.

Table 2 Water co-ordinating committees between Namibia and her neighbours

Title of Agreement, signatories and date	Primary objectives
<p>Permanent Joint Technical Commission on the Kunene River (PJTC) between Angola and Namibia.</p> <p>Signed : 18/09/1990</p>	<p>a) Ensure maximum beneficial regulation of water flow at Gove Dam for optimal power generation at Ruacana and to control water abstraction in the middle-Kunene River.</p> <p>b) Ensure continuous operation & adequate maintenance of water pumping works at Calueque and Ruacana.</p> <p>c) To allow the PJTC to evaluate future schemes on the river for electricity needs of both countries.</p>
<p>Joint Permanent Water Commission (JPWC) Between Namibia and Botswana.</p> <p>(Signed : 13/11/1990)</p>	<p>Advise both Parties on the following:</p> <p>a) Measures & arrangements to determine the potential of water resources From rivers of common interest;</p> <p>b) Reasonable demand for water from common resources;</p> <p>c) Establishing the criteria for allocation & utilisation of common water;</p> <p>d) Prevention & control of aquatic weeds and pollution.</p>

Title of Agreement, signatories and date	Primary objectives
<p>Permanent Water Commission (PWC) between Namibia and South Africa.</p> <p>(and a specific agreement on The Vioolsdrift and Noordoewer Joint Irrigation Scheme)</p> <p>(Signed : 14/09/1992)</p>	<p>Advise both Parties on the following:</p> <p>a) Measures & arrangements to determine the potential of water resources from rivers of common interest;</p> <p>b) Reasonable demand for water from common resources;</p> <p>c) Establishing the criteria for allocation & utilisation of common water;</p> <p>d) Investigations relating to the development of waters, Including Construction, operation & maintenance of works;</p> <p>e) Prevention & control of aquatic weeds and pollution;</p> <p>f) Measures to alleviate short-term problems from water shortages during droughts, taking into account stored water and requirements in respective territories at the time</p>
<p>Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM) between Angola, Botswana and Namibia.</p> <p>(Signed : 15/09/1994)</p>	<p>Advise all Parties on the following:</p> <p>a) Measures and arrangements to determine the long term safe yield of the water available from all potential resources in the Okavango River</p> <p>b) The reasonable demand for water from consumers in the Okavango R.</p> <p>c) Criteria for conservation, equitable allocation and sustainable utilisation of water in the Okavango River</p> <p>d) Investigations relating to development of waters, including construction, operation & maintenance of works;</p> <p>e) Prevention & control of aquatic weeds and pollution;</p> <p>f) Measures to alleviate short-term problems from water shortages during droughts, taking into account stored water and requirements in respective territories at the time</p>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Past and on-going activities related to climate change

54. In 1998, Namibia completed a greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory based on 1994 data. A climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessment of the water, agriculture, health, fishing, and wildlife/tourism sectors were also undertaken, including an assessment of potential GHG mitigation options related to these sectors. The results of these preliminary studies were published as Namibia's three-volume country study in 1999. A National Forest Inventory was initiated in 1998/99. However, a comprehensive inventory of GHG sinks has not yet been undertaken. Past work, funded by GtZ, is outlined in Annex I (Activity Matrix).

Project objectives

55. Article 12.5 of the UNFCCC requires that "*Parties that are least developed countries may make their initial communication at their discretion.*" The Government of Namibia is fully committed to the implementation of the UNFCCC, and intends to submit its initial National Communication within seven months of the approval date of this project.

56. The main objective of this proposed project is to enable the country to fulfil its commitments and obligations as required by Articles 4.1 and 12.1 of the Convention, especially the preparation and the reporting of its initial National Communication as cited in Article 12.1 (a), (b) and (c) of the UNFCCC based on the recommended COP2 guidelines and format for non-Annex 1 Parties. The project will fill in the gaps and build on the past and ongoing activities related to climate change.

Objective 1: Establishment of the project management and implementation teams

Output 1A: National Committee on Climate Change (NCCC) is established under the chairmanship of the Directorate of Environmental Affairs (DEA) as client and executing agency. A subsidiary project management team (PMT) is established within NCCC, and a project implementation team (PIT) appointed by open tender.

Output 1B: PMT and PIT are provided with background on Namibia's climate change country study and jointly agree on degree of synthesis and updating of country study material.

Objective 2: Synthesis and updating of material from Namibia's climate change country study

Output 2A: PIT provides a succinct review of Namibia's climate, environment, demography, geography and socio-economic background.

Output 2B: PIT provides a review of existing relevant policies.

Output 2C: PIT summarises Namibia's Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

Output 2D: PIT provides an updated analysis of Namibia's vulnerability to climate change.

Output 2E: PIT provides an updated overview of strategies Namibia should adopt to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Output 2F: PIT provides an overview of capacity-building and institutional requirements to help Namibia cope with climate change.

Output 2G: PIT provides a review of Namibia's research, monitoring and public awareness needs with respect to climate change.

Objective 3: Preliminary identification of priority gaps and financial needs for 10-year climate change strategic plan

Output 3A: PIT provides a review of Namibia's existing financial and other capacity to meet climate change challenges.

Output 3B: PIT proposes to the PMT and public new policies, programmes, plans and projects (with costing) which Namibia should initiate so as to reduce its contributions to climate change, increase adaptability, and improve capacity to record and predict local impacts of climate change.

Output 3C: Based on these proposals, PIT prepares a detailed draft appendix to the first national communication, as a draft 10-year climate change strategic plan, with elements relating to sustainable development, research and systematic observation, education and public awareness, training, etc.

Objective 4: National review and evaluation

Output 4A: PIT and PMT conduct a national roundtable or workshop with key stakeholders and decisionmakers to review the draft report.

Objective 5: Presentation of the first national communication

Output 5A: PIT, after approval by DEA of the content of the report, provides proposed layout, selection of illustrative materials, final layout and all proof-reading.

Output 5B: PIT prepares tender specifications for printing and binding, obtains tenders in consultation with the client, and commissions the printing and binding.

Output 5C: PIT delivers product to the client as: (a) 15 hard copies of the printed report in full colour, (b) 1 electronic version of the final-format report on CD, (c) 1 hard-copy list of all documents consulted and their source and (d) one electronic version of this list.

Objective 6: Presentation of popular summaries for public and political awareness

Output 6A: In close consultation with the PMT and NCCC, the PIT develops and presents a concise, attractive popular booklet aimed at political and public awareness (particularly in high-vulnerability regions and sectors) of the causes of climate change, Namibia's vulnerability to climate change, mitigation and adaptation options open to Namibia, and appropriate development options.

Output 6B: In close consultation with the PMT and NCCC, the PIT develops and presents an illustrative, large poster depicting the above.

Institutional framework, project management and coordination

57. The DEA under the MET has overall responsibility on matters related to the environment, and will be the executing agency for this project.

58. An experienced NGO, the Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF) will be the Collaborating Agency, and will, under the supervision of the DEA, be responsible for financial administration of the project, including the disbursement of funds, financial reporting and the preparation of audited accounts, as well as assistance with the preparation of tenders.
59. The DEA, via the steering committee (NCCC) will guide implementation, with support from, inter alia, a broader, open-ended interest group informally known as the Contact Group on Climate Change (CGCC) to ensure the participation of various sectors of society in the project, including industry, academia, and coastal communities, in a wider and more flexible medium than the NCCC.
60. The NCCC will represent a broad range of Government ministries including the National Planning Commission, Ministries of Environment and Tourism; Health and Social Services; Agriculture, Water and Rural Development; Trade and Industry; Fisheries and Marine Resources; Mines and Energy; Works, Transport and Communication; as well as parastatal agencies dealing with water and energy supply; academics; NGOs, and civil society members with expertise in this area.

Proposed work schedule

61. The proposed timetable for start-up and completion of all activities described is summarized in Annex III.

Appropriate sequencing

62. The above project activities will be undertaken in appropriate sequence based on good practice. Established guidelines will be followed, while established tools and methodologies will be used. Lessons learned from the past studies and other enabling activities projects will be taken into consideration, ensuring no duplication of effort or activities.

National level support

63. This project enjoys a very high level and a wide range of national support. The proposal has been reviewed by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and has been endorsed by the national GEF Operational Focal Point (letter accompanying the proposal). The project will be implemented by the executing agency, DEA, with the guidance of the Namibian Committee on Climate Change (NCCC) which has broad representation from both the public and private sectors.

Project financing and budget

64. As the proposed activities are standard Enabling Activities as defined by the GEF Operational Guidelines, so the incremental cost for undertaking these activities are also full cost. The requested GEF funding of US\$ 130,000 reflects the current needs and concerns of the country in order to fulfill its commitments for the preparation of its initial national

communication, taking into account the level of work already conducted.

65. As an extremely arid, developing African country with a fast growing population in the continent identified as most vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change, "*with areas prone to natural disasters*" (Article 4.8 (d)) and "*with areas with fragile ecosystems*" (Article 4.8 (g)), Namibia deserves special consideration under Article 4.8 of the Convention. This includes necessary actions related to funding, insurance and the transfer of technology, to meet its specific needs and concerns arising from the adverse effects of climate change and/or the impact of the implementation of response measures.
66. The in-kind contribution of the Government of Namibia, which will amount to US\$ 10,000 over the period of the project, will include salaries for administrative and support staff, vehicles for field trips and their maintenance, office rentals, library and information facilities and other costs.

Rationale for GEF support

67. This is a standard Enabling Activities proposal which will assist Namibia to meet its reporting requirements under the UNFCCC. As GEF is the international entity entrusted to operate the financial mechanism for the UNFCCC on an interim basis, the proposed activities are eligible for GEF funding.

Sustainability and participation

68. The Government of the Republic of Namibia is fully committed to implementing the UNFCCC, and hence the goals and objectives of this project. The strengthening of scientific, technical and institutional capacity of Namibia in the proposed activities, as well as the leading role taken by the DEA to execute the project, would enable us to fulfil our obligations to the UNFCCC. The project management structure is designed to secure full participation of local experts in all aspects of activities to achieve sustainability.

Issues and risks

69. **Issues:** In order to successfully implement the project, close coordination between the DEA, the NCCC, PMT, PIT and the NNF is essential to ensure the success of the project. The head of DEA will serve as the chair of the NCCC. Also, the DEA needs to consult with all relevant stakeholders in both the public and private sectors, including NGOs and research organizations.
70. **Risks:** Potential risks which may mask the objectives and goals of the project are:
 - (a) Longer time period than expected for the preparation of the national communication.
 - (b) Irregular consultations among various stakeholders.
 - (c) Lack of involvement of key policymakers in the formulation of strategy and the national communication.

71. Necessary actions within the DEA and the NCCC will be undertaken to minimise all the risks identified above.

Monitoring and evaluation

72. The PIT will provide progress reports at regular meetings to the DEA, via the NCCC and its PMT. These will be shared with UNDP. If possible, these reports may be compiled into an electronic newsletter distributed to all participating institutions. These reports will enable the DEA and NCCC to evaluate the implementation of the project on an ongoing basis and identify difficulties and shortcomings at an early stage.

73. The PMT and NCCC will meet regularly to provide policy and strategic guidance to the project. The minutes of these meetings will be shared with all participating institutions and recommendations identified. The NCCC will meet on a periodic basis to review overall project implementation and provide scientific and technical guidance to the PIT, as well as to DEA as the client.

74. The NNF will provide quarterly financial reports to the DEA and UNDP in UNDP formats.

75. UNDP will provide its monitoring and evaluation guidelines and assessment procedures, which will be used to evaluate project progress at mid-term and upon completion. The project will rely on common UNDP monitoring and evaluation practices.

Annex I. Standard activity matrix for climate change enabling activities in Namibia

ENABLING ACTIVITY COMMITMENT	TYPE OF ACTIVITY			
	Planning/ execution	Capacity building		
		Data gathering & research	Institutional strengthening	Training & education
1. National circumstances	X	NA	NA	NA
2. Greenhouse gas inventory	GTZ*	GTZ	GTZ	GTZ
* <i>All Energy Sources</i>	"	"	"	"
* <i>Industrial Processes</i>	"	"	"	"
* <i>Agricultural Processes</i>	"	"	"	"
* <i>Land Use Change & Forestry</i>	"	"	"	"
* <i>Other(s)</i>	X	X	X	X
3. General description of steps				
(a) <i>Sustainable development, research, public awareness</i>	X	X	X	X
(b) <i>Assessment of impacts</i>	GTZ	GTZ	GTZ	GTZ
(c) <i>adaptation measures and response strategies</i>	X	NA	X	X
(d) <i>Integration of climate change concerns into planning</i>	GTZ	GTZ	GTZ	GTZ
(e) <i>Abatement programmes</i>	GTZ	GTZ	GTZ	GTZ
4. Other Information				
(a) <i>Global emission trends</i>	X	X	X	X
(b) <i>Financial, technological Needs and constraints</i>	X	X	X	X
(c) <i>Projects for financing</i>	X	X	X	X
5. Compilation and production of the initial national communication	X	X	X	X

* Activities funded through GTZ.

ANNEX II
BUDGET FOR EXPEDITED PROCESSING OF THE ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL
FOR PREPARING THE INITIAL NATIONAL COMMUNICATION OF NAMIBIA

Information to be included into the national communication	Enabling activity to produce the information needed	Type of Activity			Total Costs in US\$
		Planning/ Execution	Capacity Building		
			Inst.	Training	
1. National circumstances	Compilation of the info from existing sources	-	-	-	-
2. Greenhouse gas inventory	Data gathering and an inventory of GHG emissions (Updating)	35,000	5,000	5,000	45,000
3. General description of steps (a) programs related to sustainable development, research, public awareness, etc.; (b) policy options for monitoring systems and response strategies for impacts; (c) policy frameworks for implementing adaptation measures & response strategies; (d) building capacity to integrate climate change concerns into planning; (e) programs to address climate change and its adverse impacts, including the abatement of increase in GHG emissions and enhancement of sinks	An assessment of potential impacts of climate change in the country (Updating)	5,000	2,000	3,000	10,000
	An analysis of potential options to adapt to the impacts of climate change	-	-	-	-
	An analysis of potential options to abate the increase in GHG emissions and enhance sinks.	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
	Formulation of programs and policy frameworks for implementing the identified response measures and public awareness.	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
4. Other information: a) Financial and technological needs & constraints associated with the implementation of the Convention under art. 4 and 12 b) projects for financing c) material for calculation of global emission trends	Based on the results of the studies, compilation and preparation of the additional information that the country wants to present in its national communication	10,000	-	-	10,000
5. Compilation and production of national communication	Preparation, translation, and publication of national communication.	10,000	5,000	5,000	20,000
Project management		10,000	-	-	10,000
Monitoring/Evaluation		5,000	-	-	5,000
GRAND TOTAL		85,000	22,000	23,000	130,000

Annex III. Proposed work schedule for Namibia

Objective	1	2	3	4	5	6	PM	M&E	
Month	1	X	X				X		
	2	X	X	X			X		
	3		X	X			X	X	
	4		X	X		X	X		
	5		X	X	X	X	X		
	6					X	X	X	X
	7					X	X	X	X

Some activities are expected to run concurrently as indicated.

PM = Project management

M&E = Monitoring & evaluation

ANNEX IV

COP GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF INITIAL COMMUNICATIONS BY PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION

[Source: FCCC/CP/1996, decision 10/CP.2, Annex.]

1. The guidelines for the preparation of initial communications by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-annex I Parties) have five principle objectives, taking into account Article 4.7:

(a) To assist non-Annex I Parties in meeting their commitments under Article 12.1;

(b) To encourage the presentation of information in ways that are, to the extent possible, consistent, transparent and comparable as well as flexible, and to take into account specific national situation and requirements for support to improve the completeness and reliability of activity data, emission factors and estimations;

(c) To serve as policy guidance to the interim operating entity of the financial mechanism for the timely provision of financial support needed by the developing country Parties to meet the agreed full costs in complying with their obligations under Article 12.1, as referred to in decision 11/CP.2;

(d) To facilitate the process of preparation, compilation and consideration of the communications, including the preparation of compilation and synthesis documentation; and

(e) To ensure that the Conference of the Parties has sufficient information to carry out its responsibilities to assess the overall aggregated effects of the steps taken by the Parties in the light of the latest scientific assessments concerning climate change, and to assess the implementation of the Convention.

Scope

2. In accordance with Article 12.1, the communication should include:

(a) a national Inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, to the extent its capacities permit, using comparable methodologies to be promoted and agreed upon by the Conference of the Parties;

(b) A general description of steps taken or envisaged by the Party to implement the convention; and

(c) Any other information that the Party considers relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention and suitable for inclusion in its communication, including, if feasible, material relevant for calculations of global emission trends.

National Circumstances

3. In presenting the information, non-Annex I Parties should specify their national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances on the basis of which they will address climate change and its adverse impacts. The description of these circumstances can cover a wide range of information. In addition to information which can be conveniently presented in a table, Parties may present basic economic, geographic and climatic information, as well as other factors relevant to climate change of any nature, such as, for example, features of their economy which may affect their ability to deal with climate change.

4. Parties may provide a brief description of existing institutional arrangements which are relevant to the preparation of the inventory on a continuing basis, or a list of perceived deficiencies in this area.

5. Parties may also present information on their specific needs and concerns arising from the adverse effects of climate change and/or the impact of the implementation of response measures, especially on:

- (a) Small island countries;
- (b) Countries with low-lying coastal areas;
- (c) Countries with arid and semiarid areas, forested areas and areas liable to forest decay;
- (d) Countries with areas prone to natural disasters;
- (e) Countries with areas liable to drought and desertification;
- (f) Countries with areas of high urban atmospheric pollution;
- (g) Countries with areas with fragile ecosystems, including mountainous ecosystems;
- (h) Countries whose economies are highly dependent on income generated from the production, processing and export, and /or on consumption of fossil fuels and associated energy-intensive products;
- (i) Landlocked and transit countries; and
- (j) Other special considerations foreseen in Article 4.9 (least developed countries) and Article 4.10 (fossil-fuel dependency), as appropriate.

6. In presenting the information, wherever applicable, Parties should present numerical indicators. For example, they might present data expressed in terms of affected percentage of land area, population, gross domestic product (GDP), etc.

Inventory

7. There is a clear need for adequate and additional financial resources, technical support and technology transfer to supplement the efforts towards capacity building for preparation of the national inventories.

8. The Guidelines for the National Greenhouse Gas Inventories and Technical Guidelines for Assessing climate Change Impacts and Adaptation or the simplified default methodologies adopted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) should be used by non-Annex I Parties, as appropriate and to the extent possible, in the fulfillment of their commitments under the Convention.

9. Information should be provided on the following greenhouse gases: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O), to the extent the Party's capacities permit. In addition, Parties are encouraged to include in their national inventories the full-fluorinated compounds, as appropriate. Other greenhouse gases included in the IPCC methodology may be included at the discretion of the Parties. Emissions from bunker fuels should be reported separately from national emissions.

10. Parties should strive to present the best available data in table, to the extent their capacities permit, and try to identify the areas where the data may be further improved in future communications through national capacity building. Additional information, such as, for example, expression of the results in terms of socio-economic, geographical indicators deemed relevant by each country, may also be provided.

11. As recognized by the IPCC in its Second Assessment Report there is still great uncertainty associated with net anthropogenic emissions resulting from activities other than combustion of fossil fuels. Such activities include, inter alia, methane emissions from agriculture and waste sectors, coal mining, biomass burning; carbon dioxide emissions from land use change and forestry; and nitrous oxide emissions from all sectors. Since the emissions resulting from these activities depend on local circumstances, and make up a large proportion of the national emissions of non-annex I Parties, such Parties should make efforts to obtain field observation data to decrease the uncertainties associated with the inventory of these emissions, taking into account the further development of the IPCC methodology.

12. It is further recognized that such improvement of the quality of emission data, in addition to improving the transparency and comparability of national emissions inventories, also improves knowledge of the relationship between global emissions and resulting atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases, and therefore aids significantly the task of estimating the emission limitations or reductions required to achieve a given concentration level of greenhouse gases, the ultimate objective of the Convention.

13. Non-Annex I Parties are thus encouraged to formulate cost-effective national, and where appropriate regional, progress aiming at the improvement of the quality of local emission factors and appropriate data gathering, and to submit requests for financial and technical assistance to the interim operation entity of the financial mechanism of the convention in addition to their request for the preparation of their initial communications.

14. Non-Annex I Parties should provide the best available data in their inventory. To this end such data should be provided for the year 1994. Alternatively, non-Annex I Parties may provide such data for the year 1990.

General description of steps

15. In accordance with Article 12.1, each non-Annex I Party should communicate a general description of steps taken or envisaged by the Party to implement the Convention. Taking into account the chapeau of Article 4.1, the initial communication should seek to include, as appropriate:

(a) Programs related to sustainable development, research and systematic observation, education and public awareness, training, etc;

(b) Policy options for adequate monitoring systems and response strategies for climate change impacts on terrestrial and marine ecosystems;

(c) Policy frameworks for implementing adaptation measures and response strategies in the context of coastal zone management, disaster preparedness, agriculture, fisheries, and forestry, with a view to integrating climate change impact information, as appropriate, into national planning processes;

(d) In the context of undertaking national communication, building of national, regional and /or sub-regional capacity, as appropriate, to integrate climate change concerns in medium and long-term planning;

(e) Programs containing measures the Party believes contribute to addressing climate change and its adverse impacts, including the abatement of increase in greenhouse gas emissions and enhancement of removals by sinks.

Other Information

16. In accordance with Article 12.7 the Conference of the Parties should use the information in initial communication in arranging for the provision to developing country Parties of technical and financial support, on request, in compiling and communicating information under Article 12, as well as in identifying the technical and financial needs associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4.

17. Developing country Parties may, in accordance with Article 12.4, on a voluntary basis, propose projects for financing, including specific technologies, materials, equipment, techniques or practices that would be needed to implement such projects, along with, if possible, an estimate of all incremental costs, of the reductions of emissions and increments of removals of greenhouse gases, as well as an estimate of the consequent benefits.

18. Non-Annex I Parties may provide any other information relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention, including, if feasible, materials relevant for calculation of global emission trends, constraints and obstacles, etc.

Financial and technological needs and constraints

19. Non-Annex I Parties may describe the financial and technological needs and constraints associated with the communication of information. In particular, and following the evolving recommendations of the conference of the Parties through its subsidiary bodies, the description may cover needs and constraints associated with the further improvement of national communications, including reduction of the margin of uncertainty in emission and removal variables through appropriate institutional and capacity-building.

20. According to national priorities, non-Annex I Parties may include a description of financial and technological needs associated with activities and measures envisaged under the Convention.

21. Information on national technological needs related to measure to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change may be included in the communication.

22. Information on relevant financial and technological needs relating to the assessment of national, regional and/or sub-regional vulnerability to climate change may be added in the communication. This may include, where appropriate, information related to data-gathering systems to measure climate change effects in particularly vulnerable countries or regions or to strengthen such systems; and identification of a near-term research and development agenda to understand sensitivity to climate change.

Timing of submission of the initial communication

23. There is a need to take into full consideration the circumstances and vulnerabilities of developing country Parties, keeping in mind that the extent to which developing countries will effectively implement their commitments under Convention will depend on the effective implementation by developed countries of their commitments under the Convention related to financial resources and transfer of technology.

24. In accordance with Article 12.5, the timing of submission of the initial communication is within three years of entry into force of the Convention for that Party or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4.3

Structure and executive summary

25. The information provided in accordance with these guidelines should be communicated by a Party to the Conference of the Parties in a single document. Any additional or supporting information may be supplied through other documents such as a technical annex.

26. The initial communication should include an executive summary that would present the key information and data from the full document. The executive summary will be translated and distributed widely. It would be useful to envisage an executive summary of no more than 10 pages.

Language

27. The communications may be submitted in one of the official languages of the United Nations. Non-Annex I Parties are also encouraged to submit, to the extent possible and where relevant, a translation of their communication into English.

United Nations Development Programme
Sustainable Human Development



FACSIMILE

TO: Dr Ademola Salau
Regional Coordinator for Climate Change,
Global Environment Facility - GEF

FAX No.: 1-212-906-⁶⁶⁹⁰~~6262~~

FROM: *Jr* Jacqueline Badock
Resident Representative

FAX No 264-61- 2046203

DATE: June 1, 2001

PAGES: 2 (including this page)

Subject: Namibia's Proposal for Climate Change Enabling Activities – Focal point endorsement letter

We are pleased to forward you an endorsement letter from the GEF national focal point for the above mentioned proposal. The Proposal has been sent to you by e-mail.

Thank you very much for your kind assistance. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards,



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Our ref: N 24/4/27/4

Dr Jacqui Badcock
Resident Representative
United Nations Development Programme
Private Bag 13329, Windhoek

19 May 2001

Dear Dr Badcock,

Submission of Namibia's Proposal for Climate Change Enabling Activities

On behalf of the Namibian Climate Change Committee, I am pleased to enclose Namibia's application to UNDP/GEF for enabling activities to support our first national communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

As you know, Namibia is behind in this important obligation to the UNFCCC and has identified a lack of financial and human resources as the chief constraint up to now preventing us from fulfilling this obligation. The proposal covers the updating and conversion of Namibia's three-volume country study on climate change, completed in 1999, into a comprehensive national report with popular products for the public and political decisionmakers.

Should financial support be available quickly, we should be in a position to submit the report to UNFCCC at or around the end of December 2001.

As the GEF operational focal point for Namibia, and the chairman of the Namibian Climate Change Committee, it is both my pleasure to endorse this application by the committee and my conviction that this will be a significant jump-start to our climate change activities in Namibia, an extremely vulnerable country to climate change.

Yours sincerely,


Teofilus Nghitla

Acting Head: Environmental Affairs
Operational GEF National Focal Point
Chair: Namibia's Climate Change Committee