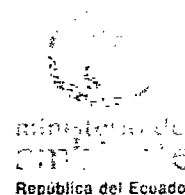




REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR



Subject: GEF Focal Point Letter of Endorsement for PDF-B Funding in support of: *Design and Implementation of Pilot Climate Change Adaptation Measures to Meet the Challenges to Agriculture, Food Security, Public Utilities, and Human Health in the Andean Region*

Date: August 1, 2005

Jocelyn Albert, Sr. Regional GEF Coordinator, LAC region
The World Bank, 18501 1st. Street NW
Washington D.C., 20433, USA
jalbert@worldbank.org
Room Number: I 6-171; Mail Stop: I 6-600
Work Phone: (202) 473-3458
Fax: 202-676-9373

Dear Ms. Albert:

The Andean Region faces a range of serious socio-economic and environmental challenges relating to the impact of climate extremes and variability on glacial melt and watersheds, agricultural productivity and food security, human health, and public utilities.

Our country in particular is facing drastic and irreversible changes in the capacity of the Andes to deliver environmental services, due to the accelerating impacts from climate change. These impacts challenge the prospects for sustainable development.

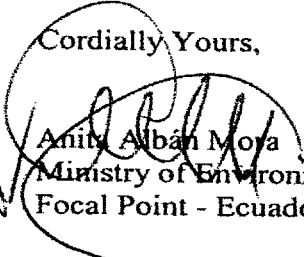
Furthermore, the imminent effects of climate change on Andean developing countries are increasingly being recognized as a decisive factor in achieving host-national Poverty Reduction Strategic Plans (PRSPs), and in meeting the regions Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Currently, there are no intra-regional, host national, nor community-level initiatives to effectively adapt to these transborder climate change threats in a coordinated fashion.

As such, in collaboration with our neighboring countries of Bolivia, Peru, Venezuela, the Ministry of Environment on behalf of the Government of Ecuador, and acting as the GEF National Focal Point, supports the implementation of this programme entitled: *Design and Implementation of Pilot Climate Change Adaptation Measures to Meet the Challenges to Agriculture, Food Security, Public Utilities, and Human Health in the Andean Region.*

We therefore endorse this pioneering and innovative regional Andean initiative as a GEF supported enabling activity for vulnerability and adaptation assessment, in accordance with decisions 5/CP.7 and 6/CP.7 of the Conference of Parties (COP) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which makes particular emphasis on country-driven Stage II adaptation activities originating from adoption of the Marrakesh Accords.

We trust that the GEF will provide the requisite funding for the execution of this Pan-Andean adaptation initiative to ensure that human settlements will be safer, infrastructure and eco-systems are better managed, and livelihoods will be more sustainable.

Cordially Yours,



Anity Alban Moya
Ministry of Environment
Focal Point - Ecuador

cc. Mr. Walter Vergara, Lead Engineer
Latin America Environment Department, The World Bank

