



SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

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Chief Executive Officer and Chairman
Global Environment Facility
GEF Secretariat
1818 H Street N.W.
Washington DC
United States of America

16th December 2003

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Letter of Endorsement and Support for SADC Ground Water
Project: Protection and Strategic use of Ground Water Resources in
the Limpopo Basin and Drought Prone Areas in the SADC Region.**

SADC and its Member States developed a comprehensive Water Resources Management and Development Programme in 1998, called the Regional Strategic Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management and Development. This Plan contains about 31 priority projects, one of which, Project Number 6, is the one captioned above. SADC supports and endorses the development and implementation of this project as it was identified by member states as a priority project and is in line with the SADC objectives and goals as outlined in the recently adopted SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP).

SADC Secretariat as the Institution responsible for facilitation, monitoring and Implementation of the Regional Program of Action sees this project as critical for the attainment of the SADC Regional objective of poverty reduction environment protection of the Water Resources and related ecosystems.

We hope that the project brief that has been prepared and is now being presented to the GEF, will receive the favourable consideration of the facility.

Yours sincerely,

T. Mhlongo
Chief Director
SADC Secretariat
for Executive Director

Member States:

Angola
Botswana
République Démocratique du Congo

Lesotho
Malawi
Mauritius

Moçambique
Namibia
Seychelles

South Africa
Swaziland
United Republic of Tanzania

Zambia
Zimbabwe