



**REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AND PHYSICAL PLANNING  
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Zagreb, 10. July 2003.

Mr. Andrew Vorkink  
Regional Country Director  
Croatia, Bulgaria and Romania  
The World Bank ✓

*Subject: Transboundary Water Resource Management and Environmental Protection in the Neretva and Trebisjnica River Basin – Regional project for Bosnia Herzegovina and Croatia*

Dear Mr. Vorkink:

We would like to request World Bank support to develop a project concept for which we would request grant funding from the GEF. The proposed project, "Transboundary Water Resource Management and Environmental Protection in the Neretva and Trebisjnica River Basin – Regional project for Bosnia Herzegovina and Croatia," addresses key environmental priorities of Croatia including water management and biodiversity conservation. It also addresses transboundary water resource and environmental concerns we have identified as priorities in the Southeast Europe Regional Environmental Reconstruction Program. I am very pleased to see that the GEF Secretariat approved the inclusion of this project into their pipeline on June 17, 2003.

I have discussed this project with the authorities in Bosnia Herzegovina and we have agreed on the regional approach it utilizes. The Ministers of Environment from both the Federation of Bosnia Herzegovina and the Republic of Srpska, Messrs. Ramiz Mehmedagic and Mensur Sehagic, respectively, as well as the Bosnia Herzegovina GEF focal point, Mr. Jadranko Prlic, have all officially endorsed the project and requested World Bank assistance in its preparation.

We elect the World Bank as an implementing agency for the project.

Sincerely,



Cc.: Indira Konjhodzic, Country Manager, Croatia, The World Bank  
Ms. Jane Holt, Environment Sector Manager, Europe and Central Asia, The World Bank