

Republic of the Philippines

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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December 15, 2008

David McCauley **GEF Facilitator** Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City **Philippines**

Dear Mr. McCauley.

Subject: Endorsement for Agusan River Basin Integrated Water Resources Management **Project**

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Philippines, I confirm that the above project proposal (a) is in accordance with the government's national priorities and the commitments made by Philippines under the relevant global environmental conventions and (b) has been discussed with relevant stakeholders, including the global environmental convention focal points, in accordance with GEF's policy on public involvement.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of ADB. If approved, the proposal will be prepared and implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and other groups that will be finalized during project preparation. Further, I request ADB to provide a copy of the project document for work program inclusion before it is submitted to the GEF Secretariat for CEO endorsement.

I understand that the total GEF financing being requested for this project is \$3,500,000, inclusive of project preparation grant (PPG) and Agency fee (10%) to ADB for project cycle management services and the requested contribution from the Biodiversity RAF for Philippines is \$1,500,000.

I consent to the utilization of the following indicative allocations available to Philippines in GEF-4 under the RAF to cover the GEF project preparation and implementation as well as associated Agency fees for this project. I also endorse the application for GEF support for this project under the International Waters focal area in support of the Coral Triangle Initiative.

Biodiversity RAF:

\$1,500,000

International Waters: \$2,000,000

Total:

\$3,500,000

Sincerely,

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Assistant Secretary and GEF Focal Point Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Office

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Copy to: UNCBD Philippine Focal Point