



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

01 April 2010

Ms. Claudia Sobrevilla
Task Manager, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
Lead Biodiversity Specialist, Environment Department
The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433, USA

Fax: ++1 202-522-0367

Reference: *Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund*

Dear Ms. Sobrevilla:

As the GEF Focal Point for the Government of South Africa, I endorse the investment strategy outlined in the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Ecosystem Profile for the Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany Biodiversity Hotspot, and the provision of grants to nongovernment and private sector organizations for projects and activities that fulfill the programmatic objectives outlined therein.

We understand that each of the CEPF donor partners (Conservation International, l'Agence Française de Développement, GEF, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation, and the World Bank) has committed funding to the CEPF initiative.

In providing this endorsement, we confirm that the Ecosystem Profile for the Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany Biodiversity Hotspot has been shared with the officials responsible for the Convention on Biological Diversity, and has undergone review in our country. We note that provision of funding for activities outlined in the ecosystem profile will be contingent upon approval by the CEPF Donor Council. We understand that the ecosystem profile will be made publicly available.

Sincerely,



Mr. Zaheer Fakir

CHIEF DIRECTOR: INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE AND GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT

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