



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION, PHYSICAL PLANNING
AND CONSTRUCTION

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Class: 018-04/11-09/3

Reg. No: 531-16-1-11-5

Zagreb, 13 December 2011

Ms. Valerie Hickey
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. Hickey,

As the GEF Focal Points for the Government of Croatia, we endorse the investment strategy outlined in the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Ecosystem Profile for the Mediterranean Basin 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 Mediterranean Basin 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,

Nikola Ružinski
GEF PFP

State Secretary



Gordana Ruklić
GEF OFF

Head of International Relations
Department

Ministry of Environmental Protection,
Physical Planning and Construction, Croatia

cc: CEPF Executive Director, fax: +1 703 553 0721