THE MINISTER

Beirut, 12/1/2012
Our Ref: 60(2/2

Dr 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 Point for the Government of Lebanon, I 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.

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,

Nazem El-Khoury Minister of Environment

GEF Focal Point

cc: CEPF Executive Director, fax: ++1.703.553.0721

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