Ms. Kathy Mackinnon  
Task Manager, CEPF  
Lead biodiversity Specialist,  
Environment Department,  
The World Bank  
1818 H Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20433, USA

D.O. No 4(1)/8/2003 – IC & SD. I  
Dated: 26th February 2008

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund: Western Ghats

Dear Ms Mackinnon,

This is in continuation to our letter dated: 4th January 2005. As the GEF Focal Point for India, the Ministry endorse the investment strategy outlined in the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) profile for the Western Ghats, and the provision of grants to non-governmental and private sector organizations for projects and activities that fulfil the programmatic objectives outlined therein. We understand that each of the CEPF donor partners (Conservation International, l’Agence Francaise de Developpement, 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 Western Ghats profile has been shared with the officials responsible for the Convention of Biological Diversity, and has undergone review in our country. We note that the 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.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely

(Sudhir Mital)  
Joint Secretary and GEF Operational Focal Point India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India,  
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi  
Tel: 011-24363956; Fax: 011-24369192

Copy to:  
- Mr. M Prasad, Joint Secretary, DEA, North Block, New Delhi  
- Mr. Malcolm Jansen, the World Bank, Washington DC  
- Mr. Jorgen Thomsen, CEPF Executive Director, the World Bank, Washington DC