

Ref:

Kristine Blokhuis
Assistant Resident Representative
United Nations Development Programme
Belmopan City, Belize

30th March 2010

Dear Ms. Blokhuis:

Re: Counterpart Funding for Project PIMS 4207, "Strengthening National Capacities for the Operationalization, Consolidation, and Sustainability of Belize's Protected Areas System"

The Protected Areas Conservation Trust (PACT) confirms its commitment to support the national initiative titled, "*Strengthening National Capacities for the Operationalization, Consolidation, and Sustainability of Belize's Protected Areas System*". The PACT is a fund dedicated to encourage and promote the **conservation** and management for sustainable use of Belize's natural resources. The long-term goal of PACT is to support and facilitate activities which ensure the sustainable use of Belize's natural and cultural resources. Annually PACT makes investments of an average of USD 1.5 Million in Belize's National Protected Areas System.

Key programmatic areas outlined in PACT's Multi-year Strategic Plan include Capacity Development for effective Protected Areas management and financing of the National Protected Areas System (NPAS). In line with these strategic priorities PACT confirms its intent of providing grants to PA managers which will complement the delivery of Components 2 and 3 as defined in the project document. Approximately five hundred eighty five thousand dollars (**\$585,000 USD**) will be invested in the NPAS over the course of the 3 years to coincide with project implementation. This investment will be provided as small, medium and full sized grants to PA managers, supporting directly innovative approaches for PA income generation as well as support to implementing the national capacity development programme to be developed under Component 3 of the proposed initiative.

Respectfully,



Sharon Perera
Executive Director
Protected Areas Conservation Trust

c.c. Diane Wade-Moore, Environmental Programme Analyst, UNDP- Belize

Promoting Sustainable Management and Development of Belize's Protected Areas

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