



BWAIO/00034738

Botswana

15 December 2009

Dear Mr Rathedi,

RE: ENVIRONMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMME (ESP)

Thank you for your letter of 7th December 2009 received on 11 December 2009 on the above matter and more specifically, the request for an extension of the Environment Support Programme (ESP).

In reviewing the request, we note that the ESP has had two successive extensions, the last of which was for the full year of 2009 - considered by the Project Steering Committee as final. The need for an additional six (6) months indicates that the programme has serious low delivery performance. We also note that the financial resources committed by UNDP for the ESP for the extension of January-December 2009 are not transferable across financial years as these are capped annual allocations. Using the funds allocated for the 2010 Annual Work Plan for the entire Environment and Climate Change programme component of the new GoB-UN Programme towards ESP extension costs will have serious implications to the start up activities of the new programme.

Considering the valid needs expressed for the extension, we suggest that:

- (i) the extension be kept to a minimum of three months;
- (ii) the emphasis be placed on project closure processes;
- (iii) the contractual extension of 3-months be limited to the CTA ;
- (iv) the extension be financed through the existing Government-Country Programme co-financing;
- (v) carry-over activities for project closure be included in the 2010 Joint Annual Work Plan currently under preparation by the Component Coordination Group for Environment and Climate Change.

I trust you will find this proposal in-order and look forward to your concurrence. *Best wishes for the holiday season!*

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Khin-Sandi Lwin', is positioned above the printed name.

Khin-Sandi Lwin
Resident Representative

Mr Samuel Rathedi
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism
Gaborone