



25 May 2015

Dear Ato Admassu,

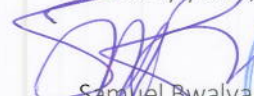
**Subject: Institutional Strengthening for the Forest Sector Development in Ethiopia Project**

Reference is hereby made to the above captioned project and the resolutions made during our tripartite meeting of UNDP, Norway and MoFED on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015. It was agreed, among others that measures should be taken to enhance the implementation capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry and ensure adequate absorption of the first tranche of funds provided into the Facility by the Norwegian Government. In this regard UNDP has decided to advance USD 700,000.00 to support implementation and absorption of funds already in the CRGE Facility National Account disbursed for this project.

As per the signed AWP, MEF and UNDP have identified the most critical and immediate project activities that need to be implemented with the funds already disbursed and capacity initiatives that have to be frontloaded to support project implementation. This is therefore, to bring to your kind attention that this recommendation is now underway and we look forward to receive feedback on the other two proposals on the government cost-sharing agreement (National Bank to transfer funds to the UNDP account) and/or on the process to disburse the capacity building funds to UNDP through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF).

UNDP and MEF remain committed to ensure full and timely implementation of all project activities and look forward to your usual support.

Sincerely yours,

  
Samuel Bwalya  
Country Director



**Ato Admassu Nebebe**  
Director, UN Agencies and Regional Economic Cooperation  
and Head of CRGE Facility  
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development  
Addis Ababa

CC:

H.E. Ato Kebede Yimam,  
State Minister,  
Ministry of Environment and Forrest  
Addis Ababa