



Global Environment Facility

GEF/ME/C.31/4/Add.1

June 6, 2007

GEF Council
June 12-15, 2007

Agenda Item 7

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO GEF COUNTRY PORTFOLIO EVALUATION: THE PHILIPPINES (1992-2007)

ADDENDUM

1. Since the publishing of document GEF/ME/C.31/4, *Management Response to GEF Country Portfolio Evaluation: The Philippines (1992-2007)*, the Secretariat has received the attached letter from the Government of the Republic of the Philippines providing feedback on the Evaluation Office's Country Portfolio Evaluation. This letter should be annexed to the document.

ANNEX 1. LETTER FROM THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel Nos. 929-6626 to 29; 929-6633 to 35
926-7041 to 43; 929-6252; 929-1669
Website: <http://www.denr.gov.ph> / E-mail: web@denr.gov.ph

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GEF SECRETARIAT

15 May 2007

MS MONIQUE BARBUT

CEO and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility
1818 H Street NW
Washington D.C 20433, USA
Email: Secretariat@TheGEF.org

Subject : **GEF Country Portfolio Evaluation-Philippines
(1992-2007)**

Dear **Ms. Barbud**:

Reference to the conduct of the Country Portfolio Evaluation for the Philippines last December 2006 to April 2007, we would like to extend our appreciation for the concern to further improve the implementation and achievements of outputs of GEF assisted programs and projects in the Philippines.

The results of the Country Portfolio Evaluation which include the 30 GEF completed and ongoing national projects, GEF Small Grants Programme with an estimated investment of \$145 million have actually validated our self assessment of the significance and relevance of GEF support to the Country.

We are pleased to note that GEF Evaluation Team finds that GEF Support to the Philippines has been relevant to the objectives and mandates of the GEF and to the national development plans (MTPDP) and environmental priorities.

While we recognized these strengths and impressive results achieved in the focal areas of biodiversity and climate change through GEF support, we certainly agree that in some aspect there are weaknesses and obstacles that we need to properly address to sustain these efforts.

In this regard, we support and concur with the recommendations of the GEF Evaluation Office for the GEF Council to consider and approve the development of Country Strategies for large recipient of GEF support like the Philippines.

The Philippines on its part will strictly enforce the compliance of environmental policies and regulations and will include programs and projects on globally unique small islands, land degradation and improvement of Climate change resilience under the GEF Support for the Philippines.

The government of the Philippines looks forward for a stronger collaboration with the GEF for better implementation of its plans and programs under the GEF4.

Best regards,

Very truly yours,



FRANCISCO S. BRAVO
Senior Undersecretary and
Chief of Staff
GEF Operational Focal Point

cc:

Mr. Rob D. van den Berg
Director, GEF Evaluation Office