

To: Mr. Michael Keating  
UN Resident Coordinator  
Afghanistan

Date: 11 May 2012

From: Ms. Sophie de Ca  
Director  
MDG-F Secretariat

Subject: No-cost extension request: Amendment-MDGF: 1713 – *“Strengthened Approach for the Integration of Sustainable Environmental Management into the ANDS/PRSP”* – Environment and Climate Change - Thematic Window

## I. Approval Status

Further to the approved memo dated 29 June 2011 granting an initial no-cost extension until 06 July 2012 for the Joint Programme *“Strengthened Approach for the Integration of Sustainable Environmental Management into the ANDS/PRSP”*, we are pleased to inform you that, on an exceptional basis the MDG-F Secretariat has amended the no-cost extension request to grant an additional six (6) months to enable the adequate closure of the joint programme and wrap up the final evaluation process. Thus, the new end date of the Joint Programme is 06 January 2013. Please note that this is a one-time only amendment intended to allow the Joint Programme to complete its activities and achieve its expected results. At this end date, the programme should be operationally closed, so that no new financial commitments are made, only outstanding payments. Any unspent funds within the agreed timeframe (06 January 2013) will have to be reimbursed to the MDG-F.

## II. Recommendations

- Considering the context in which the programme operates as well as the change in its management arrangements, we believe this exceptional amendment to the no cost extension would be helpful for the joint programme in achieving all remaining results.
- Appropriate staffing has been an issue in the past, we appreciate that new recruitments have been made, and we count on the participating agencies’ commitment to ensure proper allocation of human resources dedicated to the implementation and oversight of the joint programme throughout the remaining timeframe of implementation.
- While some activities have been transferred from UNDP to FAO, we trust that all participating agencies will continue to work together in the achievement of results of the programme, including advocacy at national level to foster the sustainability and continuity of the programme’s intervention.

## III. Monitoring and Reporting

Quarterly color-coded annual work plans, and biannual monitoring reports should continue to be prepared and submitted to the MDG-F Secretariat. Please be reminded that each Joint Programme is

responsible for conducting its final evaluation prior to the closure of the programme and sharing the final report with the MDG-F Secretariat.

We would highly appreciate it if you could forward this memo to all participating UN agencies to the joint programme, and each participating UN agency should forward the memo to their corresponding HQs. Further information on the closure of programmes is available on the revised “MDG-F Joint Implementation Guidelines” uploaded on the MDG-F website ([www.mdgfund.org](http://www.mdgfund.org)).

With best wishes.

cc.:

Mr. Bisrat Aklilu, Executive Coordinator, Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office

Mr. Ajay Chhibber, Assistant Administrator and Director Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, UNDP, New York

Ms. Sigrid Kaag, Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant Administrator of the Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP New York

Ms. Deborah Landey, Director, United Nations Development Operations Coordinator Office (DOCO)  
MDG-F Secretariat