

Naoko Ishii **CEO** and Chairperson

January 15, 2015

Dear Council Member,

The UNDP as the Implementing Agency for the project entitled: Cook Islands: Conserving Biodiversity and Enhancing Ecosystem Functions through a "Ridge to Reef" Approach in the Cook Island under the Regional: R2R- Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities -Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods, has submitted the attached proposed project document for CEO endorsement prior to final Agency approval of the project document in accordance with the UNDP procedures.

The Secretariat has reviewed the project document. It is consistent with the project concept approved by the Council in June 2013 and the proposed project remains consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures. The attached explanation prepared by the UNDP satisfactorily details how Council's comments and those of the STAP have been addressed.

We have today posted the proposed project document on the GEF website at www.TheGEF.org for your information. We would welcome any comments you may wish to provide by February 12, 2015 before I endorse the project. You may send your comments to gcoordination@TheGEF.org.

If you do not have access to the Web, you may request the local field office of UNDP or the World Bank to download the document for you. Alternatively, you may request a copy of the document from the Secretariat. If you make such a request, please confirm for us your current mailing address.

Sincerely,

Maoko Ishii
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson

Attachment: GEFSEC Project Review Document

cc: Country Operational Focal Point, GEF Agencies, STAP, Trustee