



26 May 2022

Dear Mr. Nghitila,

RE: REQUEST FOR THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE MID TERM EVALUATION FOR THE NILALEG PROJECT

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 24 February 2022 regarding the above subject.

The rules for the MTR milestone, both in UNDP and at GEF, are very strict. The GEF secretariat tracks this milestone as one of the key performance indicators for agencies and reports to the Council on it.

It is important to note that the MTR is an important process in the project life cycle - to evaluate project performance including understanding the factors behind poor delivery and suggesting corrective measures going forward. MTRs are mandatory regardless of delivery/performance.

In light of this, the internal UNDP rule for revision of MTR dates is that a project's MTR has to be conducted within 42 months of approval (i.e. CEO endorsement) by the GEF regardless of delivery status. This project was CEO endorsed on 11-Jul-2019. The 42-month mark is 10-Jan-2023. In the case of NILALEG, the MTR should be done by this date to inform adaptive management and design means to accelerate the project implementation. Therefore, we will be able to allow the official deadline for submission of the MTR report to be revised to 10-Jan-2023 which shall to some extent accommodate the request.

Given the December and New Year holidays, the review needs to be undertaken between July and November 2022. The TOR for the MTR should therefore be finalized in June 2022. It is important to ensure that an advanced draft report is available by end of November 2022 and the final report by December 2022. By 10 January 2023 we should have uploaded the report and presented a management response onto the Evaluation Resource Centre platform.

We look forward to hearing from you and we stand ready to render support in the development of the MTR TORs and recruitment of the Evaluation Consultants. UNDP remains committed to supporting Government in its programmes and we look forward to the continued collaboration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alka Bhatia', is written over the typed name.

Alka Bhatia
Resident Representative

Mr. Teofilus Nghitila

Executive Director

Ministry of Environment Forestry & Tourism