



Republic of Serbia  
**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

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**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF "BAČKO  
PODUNAVLJE" UNESCO/MAB BIOSPHERE RESERVE**

Director, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences  
Secretary, Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme  
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Ministers responsible for environmental protection in Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Serbia and Slovenia signed in March 2011 a Ministerial Declaration to join their individual protected riverine areas and to establish a UNESCO Transboundary Biosphere Reserve to protect their shared nature and wildlife along the Mura, Drava and Danube rivers. This agreement was based on the initial initiative of Croatia and Hungary and a respective agreement signed in 2009. As contribution to the initiative and already established biosphere reserves in Hungary and Croatia, the preparation of the national nomination dossier for "Bačko Podunavlje" Biosphere Reserve was organized in Serbia.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection whole heartedly endorses the national nomination of the "Bačko Podunavlje" Biosphere Reserve as a step towards protecting Europe's pristine riverine ecosystems. We will further support the process of establishing the Biosphere Reserve as it harmonizes conservation of biological and cultural diversity, encourages strong involvement and cooperation of local communities and is aligned with the principles of sustainable development.

Yours sincerely,

State Secretary *Prof. Zoran Rajić, PhD*

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