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17 October 2005

**Re: Letter of institutional support for the project IBISCA, 2007-2011
TOWARDS A CENSUS OF TROPICAL RAINFOREST LIFE (CTRL)**

To whom it may concern,

This is to confirm that the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom, strongly supports the IBISCA project "Towards a Census of Tropical Rainforest Life" for 2007-2011. This programme is a huge step towards documenting the distribution of tropical biodiversity and understanding how it relates to ecosystem functioning and contributes to ecosystem services.

The University of Aberdeen has been engaged for several decades in studies of tropical ecosystems and their organisms, in particular plants, parasites and mammals. The IBISCA project is a unique opportunity for the School to expand and strengthen its research focus on the tropics, by including insects, the major component of biodiversity. The staff participating in the IBISCA project will have full access to the University's facilities and be fully supported in their research work.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Chris Secombes
Head of School



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