

**THIRD MEETING
FOR THE SIXTH REPLENISHMENT OF RESOURCES
SUMMARY OF THE CO-CHAIRS
OF THE GEF TRUST FUND
PARIS, FRANCE
DECEMBER 10-12, 2013**

SUMMARY OF THE CO-CHAIRS

The third meeting of Participants for the GEF-6 Replenishment was held at the World Bank European Office in Paris, France on December 10-12, 2013.

Ms. Sylvie Lemmet, Director for International and European Affairs, Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy of France addressed Participants at the opening of the meeting. The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Joachim von Amsberg, Vice-President, Concessional Finance and Global Partnerships, World Bank, and Ms. Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility.

Contributing participants were joined by non-donor recipient country participants representing Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean, observers from the GEF Agencies, and two NGO/CSO observers representing donor and recipient country-based NGOs/CSOs respectively. Representatives from global environmental Conventions for which the GEF serves as a financial mechanism also attended the meeting as observers.

At this meeting, Participants converged on the key issues for the replenishment, recognized that the mandate of the GEF has increased over time, reinforcing the need for a robust replenishment, and agreed that the convergence reached during the meeting would provide a good basis for finalization of their pledges.

OPS5 - The GEF Evaluation Office presented the final report of OPS5. Participants considered the observations with respect to the GEF business model and confirmed that it remains relevant, but that more work can still be done to improve efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the project cycle. Participants expressed appreciation for the report and requested that in the future these studies be delivered earlier in the replenishment process to increase their value in informing the discussions.

Programming Strategies - Participants expressed broad support for the direction of programming strategies as proposed for GEF-6. Participants recognized the additional demands on the GEF for meeting added obligations by Conventions. Participants also recognize that the proposed allocations (focal areas, set-asides and agreed integrated approach pilots) are indicative.

Policy Recommendations - Participants expressed broad support for the proposed set of policy recommendations for GEF-6 regarding co-financing, expanded use of non-grant instruments while maintaining the grant-based character of the GEF, project cycle enhancements, further work on gender mainstreaming, engagement with the private sector, and strengthening results based and knowledge management. Participants also expressed broad support for the proposed package of adjustment measures to the STAR allocation methodology (to harmonize the allocation ceiling across focal areas at 10%, to increase the weight of the GDP parameter in the STAR allocation formula from 0.04 to 0.08, and to increase the minimum allocation floor for LDCs to US\$6 million), and agreed that the package provided an appropriate framework for meeting the objective of allocating an increased share of resources to lower-income recipient countries.

Financial Issues - Participants recognized the need for a robust replenishment to support the agreed programming strategies. They also recognized the importance of efforts by all contributing participants, regardless of their contribution level, to stretch contributions to the maximum of their abilities. Participants reviewed the early draft of the Replenishment Resolution and accompanying Summary of Negotiations, requesting additional information on process and next steps, and consideration of investment strategy options by the November 2014 Council meeting.

Next steps - Participants agreed to provide comments on the revised Policy Recommendations and the Programming Directions to the Secretariat by December 31, 2013. Both documents will be revised accordingly and re-circulated to all Participants by mid-January to allow sufficient time to prepare for the pledging session at the next, final meeting. Participants agreed that the next meeting, originally scheduled for February 10-12, should be held in mid-March, as many participants indicated that this would be helpful to achieving a successful outcome. The objective at the next meeting will be to confirm agreement on the revised Programming and Policy Recommendation documents and to finalize the financial framework for the replenishment. Switzerland offered to host the meeting, which will be held in Geneva on March 11-12, 2014.