



# Global Environment Facility

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GEF Council Meeting  
June 6-9, 2006

Agenda Item 12

## RELATIONS WITH CONVENTIONS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS

## **Recommended Council Decision**

The Council having reviewed document GEF/C.28/3, *Relations with Conventions and Other Institutions*, and welcomes the progress made in supporting the international environmental conventions and GEF collaboration with the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and other international processes relevant to GEF's mandate.

The Council requests the GEF Secretariat and the Implementing and Executing Agencies to continue to seek opportunities to work with recipient countries to develop and implement projects consistent with the decisions of the Conventions.

The GEF Secretariat is requested to maintain its consultations with the Implementing Agencies, Executing Agencies and Convention Secretariats to promote continued responsiveness to convention guidance and to keep the Council informed of the progress that is being made.

The Council approves the *Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Convention on to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Council of the Global Environment Facility*.

The Council welcomes the *Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management* (SAICM) adopted at the International Conference on Chemicals Management in Dubai, UAE, in February 2006. The Council requests the Secretariat, working with the Implementing and Executing Agencies, to prepare a report for Council review on how GEF's current activities can support SAICM implementation. In this context, Council requests the GEF Secretariat to clarify how paragraph 3 of the GEF Instrument that refers to the eligibility of activities that "achieve global environmental benefits concerning chemicals management" related to the GEF focal areas can be operationalized.

## Table of Contents

<b>I. INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II. CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>III. CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>IV. UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>V. STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>VI. UN CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>VII. MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>VIII. STRATEGIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT (SAICM). ....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>IX. FOURTH WORLD WATER FORUM.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>X. COMMISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CSD) .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>XI. UN INTERNATIONAL YEAR ON DESERTS AND DESERTIFICATION (IYDD). ....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>ANNEX I.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>ANNEX II .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>ANNEX III .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>ANNEX IV .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>ANNEX V .....</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>ANNEX VI.....</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>ANNEX VII .....</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>ANNEX VIII .....</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>ANNEX IX.....</b>	<b>63</b>

## **Executive Summary**

This document reports on developments of interest to the GEF within the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and its Multilateral Fund.

The report also includes updated information on the International Conference on Chemicals Management and the fourth World Water Forum.

Highlights reported include:

- (a) The third Meeting of the Parties (COP/MOP-3) to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety held in Curitiba, Brazil in March 2006.
- (b) The eighth Conference of the Parties (COP-8) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) convened in Curitiba, Brazil.
- (c) The eleventh Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held from November 2005 in Montreal, Canada.
- (d) GEF activities undertaken in response to guidance received from the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.
- (e) The seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Desertification convened in Nairobi, Kenya, in October, 2005 is included.
- (f) The Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Seventeenth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer held jointly in Dakar, Senegal, in December 2005.
- (g) The International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in February 2006 that finalized and adopted the "Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management" (SAICM). .
- (h) A report on GEF participation in the fourth World Water Forum held in Mexico City, Mexico, in March 2006.
- (i) The activities planned by the GEF for the upcoming meeting of the Commission for Sustainable Development in New York in May, 2006.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. This document reports on developments of interest to the GEF occurring since the GEF Council meeting in November 2005 within the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (the Stockholm Convention), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa (UNCCD), and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the Montreal Protocol).

2. In addition, the document includes information on GEF's participation at the Third World Water Summit held in Mexico in March 2006 and plans for GEF participation at the Commission for Sustainable Development scheduled for May 2006.

3. Pursuant to a decision of the Council at its meeting in November 2005, the report also includes information on the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM). Council also requested information on the status of National Implementation Plans under The Stockholm Convention.

## **II. CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

4. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was held in Rome, Italy, in November 2005. The group considered the nature and scope of existing approaches to risk assessment based on national experiences and existing guidance materials, evaluated the relevance of existing approaches and guidance materials to risk assessment under the Protocol, and identified gaps in those existing approaches and guidance materials.

5. The second Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing or Funding Biosafety Capacity-Building Activities was held in Tromso, Norway, in January 2006. Participants shared information about the ongoing and planned biosafety capacity-building initiatives, and adopted an Interim Guiding Framework for Promoting Practical Synergies and Complementarities Between Biosafety Capacity-Building Initiatives at the Country Level. They also provided input into the comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol.

6. The Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety met in Tromso, Norway, in January 2006. The Group noted the need to update the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol based on experiences gained and lessons learned during its initial implementation phase, and developed a number of recommendations for improving the implementation of the Action Plan.

7. The outcomes of these meetings were forwarded for consideration by the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity Serving as the Meeting

of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety held from 13 to 17 March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil. A detailed report of MOP-3 will be provided to the Council at the next meeting. In the meantime, draft decisions related to GEF are being attached in Annex I.

8. COP/MOP-3 considered several reports on ongoing activities within the Protocol's mandate and adopted 18 decisions on: requirements for the handling, transport, packaging and identification (HTPI) of living modified organisms (LMOs) destined for contained use or for intentional introduction into the environment; documentation requirements of LMO shipments for food, feed and processing (LMO-FFPs); risk assessment and risk management; liability and redress; compliance; the need to establish subsidiary bodies; monitoring and reporting; and assessment and review of implementation.

#### *Decision of CBD COP/MOP-3 on Guidance to the Financial Mechanism*

9. In the decision COP/MOP-3 notes that the CBD COP did not provide guidance on the development of the GEF's Resource Allocation Framework (RAF), and expresses concern about the impact of the RAF on developing countries' capacity to develop and implement national biosafety frameworks. It requests the CBD COP to seek an assurance from the GEF that the RAF will not jeopardize access to funding for biosafety-related activities.

10. The decision requests the GEF to base its resource allocation for biosafety on country needs and priorities, and to support as a priority the establishment of a base level of capacity in all eligible developing country parties, in particular the least developed countries (LDCs) and SIDS, and Economies In Transition (EITs). It also requests the GEF, *inter alia*, to support: capacity building in risk assessment and management, as well as on detection techniques for identifying LMOs; the Biosafety Clearing House (BCH); development and implementation of national biosafety frameworks; technology transfer in risk assessment and management; and LMO monitoring and detection.

### **III. CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

11. The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention was held in Montreal, Canada in September 2005. The meeting adopted nine recommendations related to implementation of the Convention and Strategic Plan. Under the agenda item on financial resources and mechanisms, Governments recommended an in-depth review of funding matters and development of a resource mobilization strategy at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

12. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change met in Helsinki, Finland, in September 2005, and undertook a supplementary assessment of the integration of biodiversity considerations in the implementation of adaptation activities to climate change, and on the promotion of synergies among activities to address climate change and land degradation and desertification.

13. A meeting on Business and the 2010 Biodiversity Challenge, held in Sao Paulo, Brazil in November 2005, formulated a collection of generally agreed ideas for strengthening business engagement.
14. The Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technical Cooperation met in Montreal, Canada in November, 2005. It considered proposals on options to apply measures and mechanisms to facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies and explored possibilities and mechanisms of cooperation with processes in other conventions and international organizations. The Group suggested that more work is needed to develop a set of guidelines on enabling environments for technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation.
15. The eleventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice took place in Montreal, Canada in November/December, 2005. The meeting conducted an in-depth review of programs of work on dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity and the Global Taxonomy Initiative, and developed fifteen recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.
16. The fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity was held in Granada, Spain, in January 2006. The meeting reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the work program, and adopted nine recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, including draft criteria for the operation of a voluntary funding mechanism.
17. The fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing was held in Granada, Spain in January / February 2006. The working group consolidated in a single document the outcomes of the negotiations on the international regime and further addressed related issues, such as use of terms, international certificate of origin/source/legal provenance, measures to support compliance with prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms, and the need and possible options for indicators for access and benefit-sharing.
18. The eighth Conference of the Parties (COP-8) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was convened in March 2006, in Curitiba, Brazil, immediately following the third Meeting of the Parties (COP/MOP-3) to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
19. COP-8 adopted 36 decisions on a range of priority issues, including: island biodiversity; access and benefit-sharing (ABS); Article 8(j) and related provisions (traditional knowledge); and communication, education and public awareness.
20. A detailed report on the outcomes of COP-8 relevant to the GEF will be provided to the next Council meeting. Draft decisions related to GEF are attached in Annex I.

*Current status of national reports from countries that are eligible to receive GEF funds for this purpose*

21. Reports received during the period between September 2005 to February 2006 for which the GEF provided financial assistance are: one first national report, four second national reports, forty-eight third national reports, one thematic report on access and benefit-sharing, one thematic report on alien invasive species, one thematic report on Global Taxonomy Initiative, one thematic report on mountain ecosystems, and one thematic report on protected areas.

#### **IV. UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

34. The eleventh session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC took place in November/December 2005 in Montreal, Canada. Relevant decisions are included in Annex II. The following is a summary of those decisions. Table 1 summarizes proposed GEF responses to the guidance of the COP.

##### *Decision on Additional Guidance to the Financial Mechanism*

35. There are three elements in this decision. The first requests the GEF to include in its regular report information on the initial application of the RAF and on how the RAF is likely to affect funding available to developing countries for the implementation of their commitments under the Convention.

36. The second requests the GEF to assist, if so requested, Non-Annex I Parties in formulating and developing project proposals identified in their national communications.

37. The third requests the GEF to consider whether supporting capacity-building activities relating to carbon capture and storage would be consistent with its strategies and objectives.

38. The COP requested that information be provided on specific steps taken to implement the guidance at its twelfth session.

##### *Decision on National Communications*

39. Decision 8/CP.11 on a four-year period for completion of national communications was approved. It also decided that an “extension of up to one year may be provided, after having informed the secretariat.”

40. The consultative Group of Experts for Non-Annex I Parties was encouraged to cooperate with the GEF-funded National Communications Support Program in the development of a cost-effective and comprehensive training strategy and other technical support for the preparation of national communications of non-Annex I Parties.



**Table 2: Follow-up to the Guidance of the UNFCCC COP 11**

SUBSTANTIVE ASPECT	RELEVANT PROGRAM AND STRATEGIC PRIORITY	PROPOSED RESPONSE
<b>RAF</b>		
GEF to include in its regular report information on the initial application of the RAF, and how the RAF is likely to affect funding available to developing countries for the implementation of their commitments under the Convention.	Resource Allocation Framework	Information from the progress reports submitted to the Council on RAF implementation to be incorporated in the GEF report to the Conference of Parties.
<b>PROJECT SUBMISSION</b>		
Requests the GEF to assist, if so requested, Non-Annex I Parties in formulating and developing project proposals identified in their national communications.	All operational programs, capacity building, SPA	Proposals are encouraged from the countries based on the indicative list included in their national communications and funded based on standard GEF criteria.
<b>CARBON CAPTURE</b>		
Requests the GEF to consider whether supporting capacity-building activities relating to carbon capture and storage would be consistent with its strategies and objectives.		STAP has been requested to provide its technical assessment on the cost-effectiveness of carbon capture and storage technology in developing countries in the short and medium term
<b>NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS</b>		
Agreed to a four-year period for completion of national communications. Also agreed that an extension of up to one year may be provided, after having informed the secretariat.”	Enabling Activities	The GEF Operational Criteria to be revised to allow extending project duration from the current 3 years to 4 years with the possibility of an extension of an additional year without additional cost implications.

### *Update on Enabling Activity Funding for National Communications*

41. In response to the request of the Council, Annex III presents information on enabling activity funding for preparation of national communications and the status of those communications.

### **V. STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS**

42. As of April 21, 2006, eight of the 131 countries that had received GEF assistance to develop their National Implementation Plan (NIP) had submitted their NIP to the secretariat of the Stockholm Convention. Countries are required to submit a NIP two years after becoming a Party. As the Convention entered into force on May 17, 2004, no NIPs are formally due before May 17, 2006. 38 countries that received GEF assistance are expected to submit their NIPs by June 2006, and a further 15 countries by December 2006. (see Annex IV)

43. The second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention is to be convened in Geneva, Switzerland in May, 2006. The next report to the Council on relations with conventions will report on the outcomes of the second COP.

### **VI. UN CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION**

44. The seventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-7) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (UNCCD) took place in Nairobi, Kenya, in October 2005. The decision of the COP related to the GEF is attached as Annex V to this paper.

45. The proposed *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Global Environment Facility*, outlining arrangements to facilitate collaboration between the GEF and the UNCCD was approved by the GEF Council at its June 2005 meeting. Council requested that the MOU be transmitted to the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD for consideration and adoption by the COP.

46. The Conference of the Parties approved the proposed Memorandum of Understanding at COP-7 as submitted to it by the CEO. Attached as Annex VI is a copy of the MOU with a cover letter from Hama Arba Diallo, the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD. Council is requested to approve the MOU, thereby bringing the MOU into effect.

47. The Conference of the Parties welcomed a number of Council decisions related to projects and policies in the land degradation focal area.

48. The COP also invited the GEF to facilitate coordination between the GEF and UNCCD focal points at the country level to enable the GEF to better respond to the needs of the UNCCD process.

49. The COP invited GEF donors to strive for a successful replenishment.

#### *Global Mechanism of the UNCCD*

50. The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD (GM) is a brokering and partnership-building institution that helps to mobilize financial and technical resources to combat land degradation. The GM has supported thirty-one countries to prepare National Action Programs. The GM has also facilitated integration of 20 GEF projects on sustainable land management into national and sub-regional processes by mobilizing co-financing. In February 2006 the GM signed a memorandum of understanding with the GEF Small Grants Program to mobilize grant and non-grant funding for projects that target sustainable land management.

### **VII. MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER**

51. The Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Seventeenth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer were held jointly in Dakar, Senegal, 12-16 December 2005.

52. Delegates adopted a number of decisions, including the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol at a level of \$470 million for the period 2006-2008. The Parties also initiated further study on the destruction of ozone depleting substances, including reviewing possible synergies with, inter alia, the Stockholm Convention on POPs.

### **VIII. STRATEGIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT (SAICM).**

53. The International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM) held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in February 2006, finalized and adopted the "Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management" (SAICM). Initiated by UNEP Governing Council in 2002, the development of SAICM was undertaken by a multi-sectoral Preparatory Committee. SAICM is a non-legally binding policy framework to support achievement of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation goal that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that minimize significant adverse effects on human health and the environment.

54. The SAICM is comprised of:

- (a) The *Dubai Declaration on International Chemicals Management*, which expresses high-level political commitment to SAICM. Annex VII to this document excerpts paragraphs from the Dubai Declaration with particular relevance to the GEF's current mandate and activities;
- (b) The *Overarching Policy Strategy*, which sets out the scope of SAICM, the needs it addresses, and its objectives in the areas of risk reduction, knowledge and information, governance, capacity-building and illegal international traffic in

chemicals, together with underlying principles and approaches and financial and implementation arrangements. Annex VIII to this document provides an extract of Section IV, Subsection D: *Capacity-building and technical cooperation*. Annex IX to this document provides an extract of Section V, *Financial Considerations*. Section V, Paragraph 19(d) states, “Making more effective use of and building upon existing sources of relevant global funding, including by inviting the Global Environment Facility and the Montreal Protocol and its Multilateral Fund within their mandates to consider whether and how they might support implementation of appropriate and relevant Strategic Approach objectives and to report”; and

- (c) The *Global Plan of Action*, a working tool or guidance document subject to further refinement, which lists 36 work areas and 273 associated activities that stakeholders, may wish to address in their efforts to implement SAICM.

55. As part of cooperative efforts to improve capacities for the sound management of chemicals, the Strategic Approach establishes a Quick Start Program (QSP) to support initial capacity-building activities to implement Strategic Approach objectives in developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing states, and countries with economies in transition. The QSP will include a trust fund established in UNEP and multilateral, bilateral and other forms of cooperation. The ICCM requested that the Executive Director of UNEP establish the QSP trust fund to be voluntary and time limited for purposes of providing seed money to support the objectives of the overall Program in accordance with the terms of reference for the QSP adopted as part of the Strategic Approach.

56. The terms of reference for the QSP identified the following strategic priorities:

- (a) development or updating of national chemical profiles and the identification of capacity needs for sound chemicals management;
- (b) development and strengthening of national chemicals management institutions, plans, programs and activities to implement the Strategic Approach, building upon work conducted to implement international chemicals-related agreements and initiatives; and
- (c) undertaking analysis, interagency coordination, and public participation activities directed at enabling the implementation of the Strategic Approach by integrating – i.e., mainstreaming – the sound management of chemicals in national strategies, and thereby informing development assistance cooperation priorities.

57. The Executive Board established to oversee the QSP will provide further operational guidance on these strategic priorities as required.

58. Successful implementation of SAICM will entail greater recognition of chemical safety as a cross-cutting sustainable development issue and the acceleration of capacity building to assist developing and transition economy countries to achieve the sound management of chemicals.

59. The ICCM commends the Strategic Approach to the attention of the governing bodies of relevant intergovernmental organizations encouraging them “to endorse or otherwise appropriately acknowledge the Strategic Approach with a view to incorporating its objectives into their programs of work within their mandates and to report thereon to the International Conference on Chemicals Management”. The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Program/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, at its 9th Special Session held in Dubai, in February 2006, was the first of these governing bodies to endorse the Strategic Approach.

60. The GEF Secretariat was one of 11 organizations that participated in an inter-agency steering committee to guide the SAICM development process. Council was briefed regularly about the development of the SAICM through the Relations with Conventions papers of November 2004 and November 2005.

61. At the Second Meeting of the SAICM Preparatory Committee, the GEF issued the information paper, “GEF’s role in support of the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention: Opportunities for Advancing Global Sound Management of Chemicals”<sup>1</sup>, which outlines how the GEF can support countries’ implementation of SAICM through activities in various focal areas, and particularly through capacity building activities in the POPs focal area. The information paper is a constructive start for responding to Section V, *Financial Considerations*, paragraph 19(d) of the SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy quoted above, in particular with respect to bringing attention to the concept of foundational capacity building in the POPs focal area (i.e. capacity building with a primary focus on enhancing POPs management capacities but which is done with an effort to have broader, positive capacity building results for the sound management of chemicals more generally).

62. A more fulsome response to paragraph 19(d) of the SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy would require further consideration of relevant areas of the GEF’s current activities that could support SAICM implementation, including clarification of the operationalization of paragraph 3 “to achieve global environmental benefits concerning chemicals management” as they relate to the current GEF focal areas.

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<sup>1</sup> GEF/C.24/Inf.4

## **IX. FOURTH WORLD WATER FORUM**

63. The fourth World Water Forum took place in Mexico City in March, 2006. The meeting involved over 200 thematic sessions and drew an estimated 11,000 participants, including 140 ministers responsible for water and high-level country officials. Participants engaged in multi-stakeholder participation and dialogue aimed at influencing water policy making at a global level. The forum's main theme, "Local actions for a global challenge," was addressed through five main framework themes: water for growth and development; implementing integrated water resources management (IWRM); water supply and sanitation for all; water management for food and the environment; and risk management. A Ministerial Declaration was adopted, calling for international action on water and sanitation issues.

64. The GEF co-sponsored four GEF sessions at which country officials from ten GEF international waters projects shared their experiences and information. GEF and Implementing Agency staff spoke or served as session co-chairs in a number of other sessions. The forum included a World Water Expo and other exhibitions. The GEF organized its own exhibition and disseminated publications on its projects.

## **X. COMMISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CSD)**

65. The GEF will participate in the fourteenth session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 14) in New York in May. GEF staff will participate in various panels and side events related to the main themes of the Energy and Sustainable Development, Industrial Development, Air Pollution/Atmosphere, and Climate Change.

66. In addition, a GEF training event for Pacific SIDS and an exhibit on GEF activities will be organized and a range of GEF publications will be distributed to CSD participants.

67. GEF staff will also participate in a workshop on National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS) in Pacific Island States during the CSD in May 2006. The workshop is an important step in the implementation of the UNDESA project on NSDS in Pacific Island States and contributes to the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The workshop will review the status of NSDS development in 14 Pacific Island States and discusses best practice in implementation and ways to advance the work already undertaken. This activity links to ongoing capacity building activities of the GEF in Pacific Island States and to the GEF National Dialogue Initiative which is aimed at enhancing the capacity of countries to incorporate global environmental activities into national sustainable development plans and strategies.

## **XI. UN INTERNATIONAL YEAR ON DESERTS AND DESERTIFICATION (IYDD)**

68. At the GEF Council meeting in November, 2005, Council approved US\$275,000 to support activities to contribute to the International Year on Deserts and Desertification (IYDD). The following reports on the progress in implementing those activities.

### *Study on resource mobilization and status of funding of activities related to desertification*

The GEF in collaboration with the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and the Implementing and Executing agencies are undertaking a major analytical review on "resource mobilization and the status of funding of activities related to deserts and desertification". The final report is expected in June 2006. The output of the analysis will be a joint GEF-GM publication, which will be presented and discussed at the Forum on Land Degradation, Desertification and Deforestation to be held in Cape Town South Africa, prior to the third GEF Assembly in August, 2006. The report will also be part of the background for the final policy conference to be held in Algiers, in December 2006. The study is being prepared by a small team of experts.

### *Scientific Conference on the future of the Drylands, Tunis, Tunisia*

69. The Future of Drylands Conference is an international scientific conference on desertification and dry lands research commemorating 50 years of dry land research which is being organized by UNESCO in partnership with a number of international and national organizations including the GEF. This conference will be held under the auspices of the President of Tunisia and take place from June 19-21st 2006 in Tunis, Tunisia. The conference will focus on dry lands research, conservation, policy and sustainable dry lands development.

70. The overall objectives of the conference is to base dry land management decisions on solid science, raise global awareness on dry lands and their specific challenges, and define future paths of dry lands research. A steering committee has already held several meetings in preparation for this activity.

71. The GEF is organizing a side event on indicators for sustainable land management at the local, national and global levels, and is inviting personnel from three GEF-financed projects to share their experiences and challenges regarding monitoring and impact evaluation of sustainable land management projects.

### *Forum on Land Degradation, Desertification and Deforestation, Cape Town, South Africa, August 28, 2006*

72. In association with the Third GEF Assembly, a global forum ("Sustainable Land Management: Combating Environmental Degradation and Reviving Ecosystem Productivity"). on the GEF's contribution to best practices on desertification control and integrated approaches to sustainable land and water management will be organized. The forum will highlight achievements of GEF support for land degradation since its establishment in 1991 and review

progress made to implement the decision taken at the second GEF Assembly in China to make land degradation a focal area of the GEF.

73. The forum will consist of three consecutive symposia followed by a round table discussion in the afternoon. The first symposia will review the progress towards sustainable land management in drylands, humid and sub-humid zones and transboundary water systems; the second will focus on the role of science and community knowledge and action in the process of knowledge management for sustainable land management; and the third symposia will deal with the role of partnerships, institutional development, resource mobilization and investment. Panelists will include experts in the sustainable land management with participation from STAP and CGIAR.

74. The round table will consist of leaders and globally recognized individuals involved in sustainable land management activities. Nobel prize winner, Wangari Maathai, has been invited to participate as have the new Executive Director for UNEP, Achim Steiner, and Lennart Båge, the President of IFAD.

*Desertification and the International Policy Imperative Conference, Algiers, Algeria*

75. The United Nations University (UNU) is taking the lead role in the organization of this conference which will focus on key policy challenges for combating desertification at the national and international levels. A number of national case studies will be presented to highlight the specific problems and issues and it is expected that the conference discussions will lead to the development of specific recommendations to address these challenges.

76. The GEF will facilitate the participation and contribution of non-traditional partners in the conference. The paper on resource mobilization will be presented at this conference and it is anticipated that the outcome of the Tunis Conference and the Forum on Sustainable Land Management in Cape Town, South Africa, will feed into the deliberations at the conference.



## Annex I

### **Draft Decisions relevant to GEF taken at the eight Meeting of the Convention on Biodiversity**

#### ***VIII/13. Review of implementation of Article 20 (Financial resources) and Article 21 (Financial mechanism)***

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Bearing in mind* Articles 20 and 21,

*Noting* with regret the lack of voluntary contributions for the implementation of decision VII/22, on arrangements for the third review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism,

*Recalling* Article 21, paragraph 3 and decision II/6, paragraph 2, and *emphasizing* the need to review the financial mechanism on a regular basis,

*Realizing* that synergy between the Rio conventions can offer opportunities to increase the effectiveness of the use of financial resources, and should be undertaken consistent with the decisions, scopes and mandates of their respective conferences of the parties,

*Noting* the progress toward implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity at the national level,

*Taking note of* the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility as contained in the document UNEP/CBD/COP/8/10,

*Aware* that the Council of the Global Environment Facility has adopted a new system of allocating resources to countries in the focal areas of biodiversity and climate change, known as the Resource Allocation Framework,

*Realizing* that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity did not provide guidance on the development of the Resource Allocation Framework,

*Recognizing* the grave concerns expressed by developing countries, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, about the implications of the Resource Allocation Framework in limiting the allocation of resources to them in support of the implementation of the Convention,

*Welcoming* the hosting by South Africa of the third Assembly and associated meetings of the Global Environment Facility, to be held in Cape Town, from 27 August to 1 September 2006,

*Recognizing* the need to explore all possible options to mitigate funding gaps and to maximize the availability of financial resources in support of the implementation of the Convention, including through, *inter alia*, environmental funds,

1. *Urges* donor Parties and Governments to contribute to the Global Environment Facility to

achieve a timely and substantial fourth replenishment with a view to ensuring adequate and predictable resources necessary for advancing the various programmes of work of the Convention;

2. *Affirms* that Parties and Governments should determine their own funding priorities for national biodiversity activities based on the Strategic Plan, and national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and taking into account relevant elements of the Convention's programmes of work;

3. *Decides* to conduct an in-depth review of the availability of financial resources, including through the financial mechanism, at its ninth meeting. This review should:

(a) Build on past reviews;

(b) Focus on what action has been taken or needs to be taken to address identified obstacles;

(c) Examine how financial resources from the financial mechanism and from other relevant sources are being used to support the achievement of the objectives of the Convention;

(d) Examine how the Resource Allocation Framework adopted by the Global Environment Facility would affect the availability of resources given the individual and group allocations to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of the Convention;

(e) Examine the effectiveness of the GEF Benefits Index for Biodiversity (GBI<sub>Bio</sub>) for determining the potential of each country to generate the global biodiversity benefits for the purposes of this Convention;

(f) Identify opportunities available to Parties from all sources for the implementation of the Convention, including through innovative mechanisms such as environmental funds as referred to in paragraph 6 below;

(g) Explore options on how the synergy among the financial mechanisms of the three Rio conventions can be promoted, taking fully into account the respective guidance and priorities of their respective conferences of the parties, each Convention's scope and mandate, while ensuring the integrity of resources available to each convention through its respective financial mechanism;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with Parties, Governments and relevant partners, to explore all options for resource mobilisation including innovative financial mechanisms and to develop a draft strategy for resource mobilisation in support of the achievement of the objectives of the Convention, taking into account the elements of the in-depth review, and to present a report on these options and the draft strategy to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties through the Ad Hoc Open Ended Working Group on the Review of the Implementation;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary and invites the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to further collaborate on data collection and to provide regular reports on the status and trends of biodiversity finance to the Conference of the Parties,

6 *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to explore opportunities for collaborating with the Development Assistance Committee Network on Environment and Development Co-operation of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, with a view to enhancing the understanding

of the Convention on Biological Diversity and promoting consideration of biodiversity-related financial issues through the Development Assistance Committee Network;

7. *Recommends* to Parties, Governments and funding institutions, as appropriate, the promotion, and fostering of new national and regional environmental funds and strengthening / expanding such existing funds, and further to encourage knowledge transfer and exchange about these mechanisms, through the creation and / or strengthening of national and international learning networks or communities, and that information on these initiatives be considered in the in-depth review to be conducted by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting, through the Ad Hoc Open Ended Working Group on the Review of the Implementation;

8. *Invites* Parties to give due consideration to biodiversity in their development-planning systems, including in poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist, in order to maximise opportunities for mobilizing financial resources;

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue updating information on funding activities and sources for the effective implementation of the threefold objective of the Convention and make that information regularly available to Parties;

10. *Decides* that financial resources and the financial mechanism will continue to be a standing agenda item for meetings of the Conference of the Parties;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, taking into account the comments made during the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to make the necessary arrangements for an evaluation of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism to be conducted in time for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The evaluation should be carried out according to the guidelines contained in the annex to decision VII/22 with the following adjustments:

(a) The review will cover all the activities of the financial mechanism for the period from July 2001-June 2007;

(b) The review should take account of any relevant sources of new information to those identified in paragraph 3 of the annex to decision VII/22;

(c) The criteria for effectiveness should also include actions taken in response to decision VII/20;

12. *Decides* to undertake the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism every four years and that this review should coincide with the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

### ***VIII/18. Guidance to the financial mechanism***

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Bearing in mind* Articles 20 and 21,

*Taking note of* the report of the Global Environment Facility as contained in the document UNEP/CBD/COP/8/10,

*Recalling* the relevant provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its decisions I/2,

II/6, III/5, III/8, IV/11, IV/13, V/12, V/13, VI/16, VI/17 and VII/20,

1. *Decides* to adopt the updated list of developed country Parties and other Parties that voluntarily assume the obligations of developed country Parties in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 2 of the Convention, as contained in the annex to the present decision;

2. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, as the institutional structure to operate the financial mechanism of the Convention, to include in its regular report to the Conference of the Parties information on:

(a) The initial application of the Resource Allocation Framework to resources allocated in the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility that is operational from July 2006, focusing on the biodiversity focal area;

(b) How the Resource Allocation Framework is likely to affect funding available to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of their commitments under the Convention;

3. *Urges* the Global Environment Facility to further simplify and streamline its procedures, in consideration of the special conditions within developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and the small island developing States as referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 of Article 20 as well as those conditions within Parties with economies in transition;

4. *Urges* the Global Environment Facility to develop responses to the capacity and access challenges faced by the small island developing States, the least developed countries and the less developed countries with economies in transition, as identified in the third Overall Performance Study of the Global Environment Facility;

5. *Invites* the third Assembly of the Global Environment Facility to include in its high-level political discussions the opportunities and challenges of the GEF in its role as financial mechanism for the Convention;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Parties, to explore opportunities for streamlining the guidance provided to the Global Environment Facility taking into account the framework for goals and targets in decision VII/30 as well as indicators for assessing progress toward the achievement of the 2010 target and to present the results to the Conference of the Parties through the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of the Implementation of the Convention;

7. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to consult with the Executive Secretary in relevant review processes undertaken by the Global Environment Facility that affect the financial mechanism of the Convention;

8. *Decides* to provide the following additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility in the provision of financial resources, in accordance with, Article 20 and Article 21 paragraph 1 of the Convention and in conformity with decisions I/2, II/6, III/5, IV/13, V/13, VI/17 and VII/20 of the Conference of the Parties;

*Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*

9. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide an assurance that the introduction of

the Resource Allocation Framework will not in any way jeopardize eligible Parties' access to funding for biosafety-related activities including regional activities where appropriate;

10. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to base their allocation of resources to support the implementation of the Protocol on country needs and priorities, and as a priority to support the establishment of a base level of capacity in all eligible developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States, and Parties with economies in transition;

11. *Urges* the Global Environment Facility to support in-country, regional and sub-regional stock-taking studies to enable:

(a) The better planning and customizing of future assistance to the respective needs of eligible countries, given the fact that a "one-size-fits-all" approach to biosafety has been demonstrated to be inappropriate;

(b) The identification of clear and realistic targets;

(c) The identification and provision of technical and adequately experienced expertise for the implementation of national biosafety frameworks;

(d) The development of effective coordination which facilitates the support, ownership and involvement of all relevant national ministries and authorities, to ensure synergy and continuity;

12. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to support:

(a) The provision of longer-term support for building, consolidating and enhancing sustainable human resource capacity in risk assessment and risk management, and also in developing detection techniques for identifying living modified organisms;

(b) Awareness-raising, public participation and information sharing, including through the Biosafety Clearing-House;

(c) Coordination and harmonization of national biosafety frameworks at regional and subregional levels, where appropriate;

(d) Sustainable national participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House, including capacity building, to take into account the need for Parties to be able to provide summary information in the common formats for reporting information (particularly keywords for categorizing records) in an official language of the United Nations to enable registration of such information with the Central Portal;

(e) Transfer and joint development of technology in risk assessment, risk management, monitoring and detection of living modified organisms;

(f) Development and implementation of national biosafety frameworks;

(g) Development of technical, financial, and human capacity including postgraduate education, biosafety-related laboratories and relevant equipment;

(h) Implementation of the revised Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective

## Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

(i) Facilitation of the consultative information-gathering process leading to the preparation of national reports under the Protocol for those developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, and Parties with economies in transition, which lack sufficient capacity in this regard;

13. *Invites* the Global Environmental Facility, developed country Parties and Governments, as well as relevant organizations to take into account the revised Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and increase their financial and technical support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for its implementation;

## *Island biodiversity*

14. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies to recognize the programme of work on island biodiversity and its relevance to developing countries, and in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, and to provide support for its implementation;

15. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to further simplify their procedures so as to take into account the special circumstances of small island developing States in implementing the programme of work on island biodiversity;

## *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*

16. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility, in coordination with the Executive Secretary, to identify gaps and needs in relation to existing financial resources, until 2010, to meet the unprecedented additional efforts needed to significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss and maintain the provision of ecosystem goods and services;

17. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to conduct national and other sub-global assessments making use of the conceptual framework and methodologies of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, as appropriate, and *invites* the Global Environment Facility and bilateral and multilateral funding organizations, as appropriate, to provide funding for these assessments;

## *Implementation of the Convention*

18. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to provide information on its contribution and experience regarding the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan;

19. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility and bilateral and multilateral funding organizations to provide funding for the review and update of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

## *Technology transfer and cooperation*

20. *Invites* the Global Environmental Facility to provide financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of the programme of work;

### *Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness*

21. *Urges* the Global Environment Facility and other bilateral and multilateral institutions to make available the necessary financial resources especially for developing countries, particularly the least developed and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, to implement the identified Communication, Education and Public Awareness priority activities at national and regional levels in support of biodiversity strategies and action plans and any other information, education, and communication awareness strategies;

### *National reporting*

22. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility and other bilateral and multilateral financial instruments as appropriate, to provide financial support to eligible Parties for the preparation of their fourth national reports, in a timely fashion and preferably no later than 1 January 2007;

23. *Further invites* the Global Environment Facility to explore and establish easier and expeditious mechanisms for the provision of funds to eligible countries for preparing their future national reports;

### *Global Taxonomy Initiative*

24. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to continue to support the implementation of the planned activities contained in the programme of work on the Global Taxonomy Initiative, including taxonomic needs assessments, projects with a taxonomic focus or clearly identified taxonomic components, and regional activities on taxonomic capacity development and access to technology;

25. *Further requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide financial resources to developing countries, in particular the small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, for projects which help to establish and operationalize their national focal points for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, as well as financial resources to support capacity-building activities such as, *inter alia*, taxonomic training related to specific taxa and information technologies;

26. *Requests* the secretariats of the Convention and the Global Environment Facility to conduct a joint analysis of funded projects related to the Global Taxonomy Initiative and relevant project information contained in national reports, including analysis of the resources directed specifically to capacity-building, with a view to extracting best practices and sharing information and experience in promoting financial support for the Initiative;

### **Invasive Alien Species**

27. *Notes* the need for the provision of additional funding by the financial mechanism of the Convention to support capacity-building for developing countries, in particular the least developed and small island developing states, and countries with economies in transition, to prevent or minimize the risks of the dispersal and establishment of invasive alien species at the national, sub-regional, or regional levels;

### **Protected areas**

28. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the United

Nations Environment Programme and other Implementing Agencies of the Global Environment Facility, along with other relevant organizations, to help facilitate and financially support the protected-area financing roundtables referred to in paragraph 18 (a) of decision VIII/24, on protected areas, in accordance with their mandates;

29. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility:

- (a) To support early action activities of the programme of work, taking into account the identified national needs at a scale to sufficiently support developing countries, particularly the least developed and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition;
- (b) To support national and regional systems of protected areas taking into account the targets and timetables in the programme of work;
- (c) To maintain the proportion of funding for protected areas in the biodiversity envelop of the business plan of the fourth phase of the Global Environment Facility, taking into account the goals and targets in the programme of work and the niche of the Global Environment Facility in providing system-wide protected-areas support;
- (d) To review and revise, as appropriate, its protected areas' policies in relation to indigenous and local communities; and
- (e) To support community conserved areas, ensuring the immediate, full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the development of relevant activities;

30. *Invites* the Implementing Agencies of the Global Environment Facility to treat requests for access to funding for the projects mentioned in 22 (a) and (b) of draft decision UNEP/CBD/COP/8/L.25, on protected areas in an expeditious manner.

#### *Annex*

### **UPDATED LIST OF DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTIES AND OTHER PARTIES THAT VOLUNTARILY ASSUME THE OBLIGATIONS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (2006)**

Australia	Austria
Belgium	Canada
Czech Republic	Denmark
Finland	France
Germany	Greece
Iceland	Ireland
Italy	Japan
Luxembourg	Monaco
Netherlands	New Zealand
Norway	Portugal
Slovenia	Spain
Sweden	Switzerland
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	



## **Annex II**

### **Decisions relevant to GEF taken at the eleventh Meeting of the UN Framework Convention Climate Change**

#### **Decision -/CP.11**

#### **Additional guidance to an operating entity of the financial mechanism**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* Article 3, Article 4, paragraphs 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9, Article 11, paragraphs 1 and 5, and Article 12, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Convention,

*Recalling also* its decisions 13/CP.1, 10/CP.2, 11/CP.2, 12/CP.2, 1/CP.4, 2/CP.4, 8/CP.5, 10/CP.5, 2/CP.7, 3/CP.7, 5/CP.7, 6/CP.7, 7/CP.7, 5/CP.8, 7/CP.8, 3/CP.9, 4/CP.9 and 9/CP.9,

*Recalling further* that, in accordance with decision 11/CP.1, the Conference of the Parties is to give guidance on policies, programme priorities and eligibility criteria to an operating entity of the financial mechanism,

1. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention, to include in its regular report to the Conference of the Parties information on:

(a) The initial application of the Resource Allocation Framework to resources allocated in the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility that is operational from July 2006, focusing on the climate change focal area;

(b) How the Resource Allocation Framework is likely to affect funding available to developing countries for the implementation of their commitments under the Convention;

2. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with Article 12, paragraph 4, of the Convention, and decision 11/CP.1, to assist, if so requested, Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in formulating and developing project proposals identified in their national communications, when Parties are formulating their national programmes to address climate change issues;

3. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to consider whether supporting carbon capture and storage technologies, in particular related capacity-building activities, would be consistent with its strategies and objectives, and if so, how they could be incorporated within its operational programmes;

4. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to include in its report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth session (November 2006) information on specific steps undertaken to implement decisions relating to paragraphs 2 and 3 above.

## Decision -/CP.11

### **Submission of second and, where appropriate, third national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention<sup>2</sup>**

*The Conference of the Parties*

*Recalling*, in particular, Article 4, paragraphs 1, 3 and 7, Article 10, paragraph 2 (a), and Article 12, paragraphs 1, 5 and 7, of the Convention,

*Recalling also* its decisions on national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), in particular its decisions 10/CP.2, 2/CP.4, 12/CP.4, 8/CP.5, 31/CP.7, 32/CP.7 and 17/CP.8,

*Reaffirming* that, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the developed country Parties and other developed Parties included in Annex II to the Convention shall provide new and additional financial resources to meet the agreed full costs incurred by developing country Parties in complying with their obligations under Article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention,

*Noting* that guidelines for the preparation of national communications were adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session,

*Noting also* that in accordance with decision 17/CP.8, non-Annex I Parties should use the guidelines contained in the annex to that decision, together with the guidance to an operating entity of the financial mechanism provided in decision 6/CP.8, for the preparation of second and, where appropriate, third national communications and, where appropriate, initial national communications, except where Parties had initiated the process of preparing second national communications and received funding under the expedited procedures or on an agreed full-cost basis prior to the approval of the guidelines,

*Recognizing* that the preparation of national communications is a continuing process,

*Recognizing also* that the submission of national communications is very important for Parties to better understand climate change issues,

*Recognizing further* the difficulties that non-Annex I Parties have had in preparing their initial national communications and the need to build capacity for using the new guidelines for the preparation of national communications from non-Annex I Parties, and the need to allocate adequate time to non-Annex I Parties for preparing their national communications,

*Acknowledging* the importance of updating national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol and the importance of measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change,

*Acknowledging* that although the majority of non-Annex I Parties have submitted their initial national communications and some have also submitted their second national communications, a number of non-Annex I Parties are still having difficulties with the preparation and submission of their initial national communications due to both technical and resource constraints,

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<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBI/2005/L.9 (see also FCCC/SBI/2005/10, para. 11).

*Acknowledging* that the Global Environment Facility, as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention, has agreed to fund, and has approved the funds for, the preparation of national communications, and has agreed on the Operational Procedures for Expedited Financing of National Communications from non-Annex I Parties,

1. *Invites* Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) that have not prepared project proposals for the financing of second and, where appropriate, third national communications to do so, even in advance of substantially completing their previous national communications, in order to avoid a lack of continuity in project financing;
2. *Decides* that non-Annex I Parties that have submitted their national communications should apply for the financing of their subsequent national communications at any time between three to five years of the initial disbursement of financial resources for the actual preparation of their previous national communications, except for those Parties that had this initial disbursement for the previous national communication more than five years ago, which should apply before 2006; this applies to the financing of second and, where appropriate, third national communications;
3. *Decides* that non-Annex I Parties shall make all efforts to submit their second and, where appropriate, third national communication, within four years of the initial disbursement of financial resources for the actual preparation of the national communication, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Convention, under the expedited procedures or standard approved procedures, on an agreed full cost basis;
4. *Decides also* that Parties, if necessary and based on their national circumstances, may use an extension of up to one year for submission, after having informed the secretariat;
5. *Decides* that any extensions shall not imply additional financial resources from the Global Environment Facility;
6. *Decides* that Parties that are least developed countries may submit their second national communication at their discretion;
7. *Decides* to discuss the further implementation of Article 12, paragraph 5, of the Convention at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (December 2009).

### Annex III

#### GEF enabling activity projects and status of national communications (SNC) from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

The GEF has funded 138 countries to prepare their initial national communications until now. Out of this 124 countries have already submitted their initial national communications while 14 countries are in different stages of preparation and submission. Nine eligible countries have not requested GEF funding.

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Albania	UNDP	13 Sep 2002	x		x		x	4 Feb 2005
Algeria	UNDP	30 Apr 2001	x		x		x	12 Dec 2005
Antigua and Barbuda	UNDP	10 Sep 2001	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Argentina	WB	25 July 1997						

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Armenia	UNDP	4 Nov 1998	x		x		x	29 Jul 2005
Azerbaijan	UNDP	23 May 2000	x		x		x	21 Jul 2005
Bahamas	UNDP	5 Nov 2001	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Bahrain	UNEP	20 Apr 2005	x		x			
Bangladesh	UNDP	12 Nov 2002	x	x				
Barbados	UNDP	30 Oct 2001	x	x				
Belize	UNDP	16 Sep 2002	x		x		x	24 Mar 2006
Benin	UNDP	21 Oct 2002	x	x				
Bhutan	UNDP	13 Nov 2000	x	x				
Bolivia	UNDP	16 Nov 2000	x		x		x	10 Jun 2005

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Botswana	UNDP	22 Oct 2001	x		x		x	23 Dec 2005
Brazil <sup>3</sup>	UNDP	10 Dec 2004					x	8 Nov 2005
Burkina Faso	UNDP	16 May 2002	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Burundi	UNDP	23 Nov 2001	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Cambodia	UNDP	8 Oct 2002	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Cameroon	UNEP	31 Jan 2005						
Cape Verde	UNDP	13 Nov 2000	x	x				

<sup>3</sup> Brazil followed GEF full-cycle procedures for its SNC.

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Central African Republic	UNEP	10 Jun 2003	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Chad	UNDP	29 Oct 2001	x	x				
Chile	UNDP	8 Feb 2000	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
China <sup>4</sup>	UNDP	10 Dec 2004						
Colombia	UNDP	18 Dec 2001	x	x				
Comoros	UNEP	5 Apr 2003	x		x			
Congo	UNDP	30 Oct 2001	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval

<sup>4</sup> China is following GEF full-cycle procedures for its SNC and has requested PDF-B funding. This PDF-B funding request entered GEF pipeline 22.

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Cook Islands	UNDP	30 Oct 1999	x		x		x	22 Dec 2005
Costa Rica <sup>5</sup>	UNDP	18 Nov 2000	x		x		x	12 Apr 2006
Côte d'Ivoire	UNEP	2 Feb 2001	x			x	x	8 Jun. 2005
Cuba	UNDP	28 Sep 2001	x	x				
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	UNEP	7 May 2004	x			x		
Democratic Republic of the Congo	UNEP	21 Nov 2000	x			x	x	11 Oct. 2005

<sup>5</sup> Costa Rica had received approval of GEF funds for its SNC on the basis of previous procedures in March 2004. However, Costa Rica received self-assessment funds in 2005 to update its project proposal on the basis of GEF current procedures.



Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Djibouti	UNEP	6 June 2002	x			x		Undergoing IA approval
Dominica	UNDP	4 Dec 2001	x		x		x	16 Feb 2006
Dominican Republic	UNDP	4 June 2003	x		x		x	11 Nov 2005
Ecuador	UNDP	15 Nov 2000	x		x		x	8 Feb 2006
Egypt	UNDP	19 Jul 1999	x		x		x	7 Nov 2005
El Salvador	UNDP	10 Apr 2000	x	x				
Eritrea	UNDP	16 Sep 2002	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Ethiopia	UNDP	16 Oct 2001	x	x				
Gabon	UNDP	22 Dec 2004	x	x				

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Gambia	UNEP	6 Oct 2003	x		x	x		
Georgia	UNDP	10 Aug 1999	x		x		x	5 May 2005
Ghana	UNDP	2 May 2001	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Grenada	UNDP	21 Nov 2000	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Guatemala	UNDP	1 Feb 2002	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Guinea	UNDP	28 Oct 2002	x	x				
Guinea-Bissau	UNDP	1 Dec 2005	x	x				
Guyana	UNDP	16 May 2002	x	x				

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Haiti	UNEP	3 Jan 2002	x			x	x	29 Sep. 2005
Honduras	UNDP	15 Nov 2000	x		x	x	x	2 Dec 2005
India <sup>6</sup>	UNDP	22 Jun 2004	x	x			x	Undergoing IA approval
Indonesia	UNDP	27 Oct 1999	x	x				
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	UNDP	31 Mar 2003	x		x		x	22 Dec 2005
Israel		18 Nov 2000						
Jamaica	UNDP	21 Nov 2000	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval

<sup>6</sup> India is following GEF full-cycle procedures for SNC funding. India received PDF-B funds for preparation of SNC project proposal, which was submitted to the February 2006 GEF work program.

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Jordan	UNDP	6 Mar 1997	x		x		x	29 Dec 2005
Kazakhstan	UNDP	5 Nov 1998	x		x		x	3 Mar 2005
Kenya	UNEP	22 Oct 2002	x			x	x	26 Oct. 2005
Kiribati	UNDP	30 Oct 1999	x	x				
Kyrgyzstan	UNDP	31 Mar 2003	x		x		x	2 Jun 2005
Lao People's Democratic Republic	UNDP	2 Nov 2000	x	x				
Lebanon	UNDP	2 Nov 1999	x		x		x	8 Jul 2005
Lesotho	UNEP	17 April 2000	x		x			
Madagascar	UNEP	22 Feb 2004	x			x	x	7 Nov. 2005

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Malawi	UNDP	2 Dec 2003	x		x		x	8 Feb 2006
Malaysia	UNDP	22 Aug 2000	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Maldives	UNDP	5 Nov 2001						
Mali	UNDP	13 Nov 2000	x	x				
Malta	UNDP	16 Jun 2004	x	x				
Marshall Islands	UNDP	24 Nov 2000	x	x				
Mauritania	UNEP	30 Jul 2002	x			x		14 Jul 2005
Mauritius	UNEP	28 May 1999	x		x			
Mexico <sup>7</sup>	UNDP	9 Dec 1997					x	20 Jun 2005

<sup>7</sup> Mexico is preparing its Third National Communication. Mexico did not request self-assessment funds

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Micronesia (Federated States of)	UNDP	4 Dec 1997	x	x				
Mongolia	UNEP	1 Nov 2001	x		x			
Morocco <sup>8</sup>	UNDP	1 Nov 2001					x	2 Mar 2005
Namibia	UNDP	7 Oct 2002	x		x		x	14 Dec 2005
Nauru	UNDP	30 Oct 1999	x	x				
Nepal	UNEP	1 Sep 2004						
Nicaragua	UNDP	25 Jul 2001	x		x		x	4 Feb 2005
Niger	UNDP	13 Nov 2000	x		x		x	12 Dec 2005

<sup>8</sup> Morocco did not request self-assessment funds.

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Nigeria	UNDP	17 Nov 2003	x		x		x	3 Apr 2006
Niue	UNEP	2 Oct 2001	x		x		x	11 Nov 2004
Pakistan	UNEP	15 Nov 2003						
Palau	UNEP	18 Jun 2003	x			x	x	9 Dec 2005
Panama	UNDP	20 Jul 2001	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Papua New Guinea	UNDP	27 Feb 2002	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Paraguay	UNDP	10 Apr 2002	x		x		x	8 Dec 2005
Peru <sup>9</sup>	UNDP	21 Aug 2001					x	20 Jul 2005

<sup>9</sup> Peru followed GEF full-cycle procedures for SNC funding. Peru received PDF-A funds for preparation of SNC project proposal.

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Philippines	UNDP	19 May 2000	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Republic of Moldova	UNEP	13 Nov 2000	x			x		12 Oct. 2005
Saint Kitts and Nevis	UNDP	30 Nov 2001	x	x				
Saint Lucia	UNDP	30 Nov 2001	x	x				
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	UNDP	21 Nov 2000	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Samoa	UNDP	30 Oct 1999	x		x		x	21 Jul 2005
São Tomé and Príncipe	UNDP	19 May 2005	x	x				
Saudi Arabia	UNDP	29 Nov 2005	x	x				



Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Senegal	UNEP	1 Dec 1997	x			x		Undergoing IA approval
Seychelles	UNDP	15 Nov 2000	x		x	x		
Singapore		21 Aug 2000						
Solomon Islands	UNDP	29 Sep 2004	x	x				
South Africa	UNEP	11 Dec 2003			x			
Sri Lanka	UNDP	6 Nov 2000	x	x				
Sudan	UNDP	7 Jun 2003	x	x				
Swaziland	UNDP	21 May 2002	x	x				
Rwanda	UNEP	6 Sep 2005	x		x			
Tajikistan	UNDP	8 Oct 2002	x		x		x	26 May 2005

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Thailand	UNDP	13 Nov 2000	x	x		x		Undergoing IA approval
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	UNDP	25 Mar 2003	x		x		x	4 Feb 2005
Togo	UNDP	20 Dec 2001	x	x		x		Undergoing IA approval
Tonga	UNDP	21 Jul 2005						
Trinidad and Tobago	UNDP	30 Nov 2001	x	x		x		Undergoing IA approval
Tunisia <sup>10</sup>	UNDP	27 Oct 2001					x	8 Jun 2005

<sup>10</sup> Tunisia did not request self-assessment funds.

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Turkmenistan	UNEP	11 Nov 2000	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Tuvalu	UNDP	30 Oct 1999	x	x				
Uganda	UNEP	26 Oct 2002						
United Republic of Tanzania	UNEP	4 Jul 2003	x		x			
Uruguay <sup>11</sup>	UNDP	15 Oct 1997					x	5 May 2005
Uzbekistan	UNEP	22 Oct 1999	x			x		10 Feb 2005
Vanuatu	UNDP	30 Oct 1999	x	x				22 Dec 2005
Venezuela	UNDP	13 Oct 2005						

<sup>11</sup> Uruguay is preparing its Third National Communication. Uruguay did not request self-assessment funds

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of submission of initial national communication	GEF funding for self-assessment to prepare project proposals for SNC			Status of SNC project proposals		
			Self-assessment funds approved	Self-assessment ongoing	Self-assessment completed	Draft submitted to IA	SNC proposal Approved by IA	Date of approval by IA
Viet Nam	UNEP	2 Dec 2003	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Yemen	UNDP	29 Oct 2001	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval
Zambia	UNDP	18 Aug 2004	x	x				
Zimbabwe	UNEP	25 May 1998	x		x	x		Undergoing IA approval

GEF enabling activities and status of Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention that have yet to submit initial national communications

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of ratification of the Convention	GEF funding for stocktaking activities to prepare a project proposal			Date of initial disbursement of GEF funds following the stocktaking activities where applicable	Status of INC National Communication
			Funds Approved	Self-assessment Ongoing	Self-assessment Completed		
Afghanistan	UNEP	19 Sep 2002	x	x			
Angola	UNEP	17 May 2000					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	UNDP	7 Sep 2000	x		x		Project proposal approved by IA on 8 Dec 2005
Cyprus		15 Oct 1997					Has not applied for GEF financing
Equatorial Guinea	UNEP	16 Aug 2000					
Fiji	UNDP	25 Feb 1993				Jun 1997	Project ongoing
Kuwait		28 Dec 1994					Not applied for GEF funding

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of ratification of the Convention	GEF funding for stocktaking activities to prepare a project proposal			Date of initial disbursement of GEF funds following the stocktaking activities where applicable	Status of INC National Communication
			Funds Approved	Self-assessment Ongoing	Self-assessment Completed		
Liberia	UNEP	5 Nov 2002	x		x	31 Aug. 2005	
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	UNEP	14 Jun 1999				Feb 2002	Project ongoing
Mozambique	UNDP	25 Aug 1995				Sep 1997	Project completed, awaiting submission
Myanmar	UNEP	25 Nov 1994			x		Project proposal under preparation
Oman	UNDP	8 Feb 1995					Project document being finalized
Qatar		18 Apr 1996					GEF funding not requested
San Marino		28 Oct 1994					GEF funding not requested
Serbia and Montenegro	UNDP	12 Mar 2001	x	x			Project proposal being prepared

Party	Implementing Agency	Date of ratification of the Convention	GEF funding for stocktaking activities to prepare a project proposal			Date of initial disbursement of GEF funds following the stocktaking activities where applicable	Status of INC National Communication
			Funds Approved	Self-assessment Ongoing	Self-assessment Completed		
Sierra Leone	UNDP	22 Jun 1995					Project ongoing
Suriname	UNDP	14 Oct 1996				Dec 1999	Project completed, awaiting submission
Syrian Arab Republic	UNDP	4 Jan 1996	x	x			INC project proposal under preparation
Turkey*	UNDP		x		x		Project proposal approved by IA on 21 Jun 2005
United Arab Emirates	UNEP	29 Dec 1995					Project ongoing without GEF funding

\* *Annex I Party*

## Annex IV

### NATIONAL PLANS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION : STATUS OF GEF APPROVAL AND SUBMISSION TO THE CONVENTION

Country	Agency	NIP proposal approval date	Date of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Stockholm Convention	Date of NIP submission
Albania	UNDP	25-Sep-2003	4-Oct-2004	
Algeria	UNIDO	14-Nov-2001		
Antigua And Barbuda	UNEP	3-Mar-2003	10-Sep-2003	
Argentina	UNEP	10-Feb-2003	25-Jan-2005	
Armenia	UNIDO	14-Nov-2001	26-Nov-2003	29-Apr-2006
Azerbaijan	UNIDO	25-Aug-2004	13-Jan-2004	
Bahamas	UNEP	27-Oct-2005	3-Oct-2005	
Bangladesh	UNDP	27-Mar-2002		
Barbados	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	7-Jun-2004	
Belarus	World Bank	28-May-2004	3-Feb-2004	
Belize	UNDP	17-Feb-2005		
Benin	UNEP	22-Nov-2002	5-Jan-2004	
Bolivia	UNIDO	22-Feb-2002	3-Jun-2003	19-Sep-2005
Botswana	UNIDO	1-Jul-2003	28-Oct-2002	
Brazil	UNEP	17-Jun-2006 (PDF-B)	16-Jun-2004	
Bulgaria	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	20-Dec-2004	
Burkina Faso	UNDP	10-Apr-2003	31-Dec-2004	
Burundi	UNIDO	20-Nov-2002	2-Aug-2005	28-Mar-2006
Cambodia	UNEP	24-Mar-2003		
Cameroon	UNEP	10-Apr-2003		
Cape Verde	UNEP	18-Oct-2005	1-Mar-2006	
Central African Republic	UNIDO	22-May-2002		



Chad	UNIDO	13-Jun-2002	10-Mar-2006	28-Apr-2006
Chile	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	20-Jan-2005	
China	UNIDO	9-Sep-2004 (CEO end.)	13-Aug-2004	
Colombia	World Bank	10-Jun-2002		
Comoros	UNDP	31-Jul-2003		
Congo, Rep of	UNIDO	19-Apr-2002		
Costa Rica	UNEP	10-Dec-2004		
Cote d'Ivoire	UNEP	9-Oct-2001	20-Jan-2004	
Croatia	UNIDO	14-Nov-2001		
Cuba	UNEP	8-Jul-2003		
Czech Republic	UNIDO	31-Jul-2001	6-Aug-2002	
Djibouti	UNIDO	22-Nov-2002	11-Mar-2004	
Dominica	UNEP	3-Mar-2005	8-Aug-2003	
Dominican Republic	UNDP	30-Mar-2006		
Ecuador	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	7-Jun-2004	
Egypt	UNIDO	3-Sep-2002	2-May-2003	16-Mar-2006
El Salvador	UNDP	13-Mar-2006		
Ethiopia	UNIDO	29-Jul-2002	9-Jan-2003	
Fiji	UNEP	20-Dec-2001	20-Jun-2001	
Gabon	UNIDO	20-Nov-2002		
Gambia	UNEP	22-May-2002	28-Apr-2006	
Georgia	UNDP	10-Feb-2003		
Ghana	UNIDO	29-Oct-2001	30-May-2003	
Guatemala	UNIDO	19-Apr-2002		
Guinea	UNEP	29-Apr-2002		
Guinea-Bissau	UNEP	7-Jul-2004		
Haiti	UNEP	3-Sep-2002		
Honduras	UNDP	22-Mar-2004	23-May-2005	
Hungary	UNIDO	1-Aug-2001		
India	UNIDO	23-Sep-2002 (PDF-B)	13-Jan-2006	
Indonesia	UNIDO	14-Nov-2001		
Iran	UNDP	13-Feb-2002	6-Feb-2006	
Jamaica	UNDP	22-Nov-2002		
Jordan	UNEP	13-Jun-2002	8-Nov-2004	

Kazakhstan	UNDP	21-Dec-2001		
Kenya	UNEP	9-Oct-2001	24-Sep-2004	
Kiribati	UNEP	22-Nov-2002	7-Sep-2004	
Korea DPR	UNDP	8-Dec-2003	26-Aug-2002	
Kyrgyzstan	UNEP	5-Aug-2003		
Lao PDR	UNIDO	19-Apr-2002		
Latvia	UNDP	30-Jul-2002	28-Oct-2004	7-Jun-2005
Lebanon	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	3-Jan-2003	
Lesotho	UNIDO	19-Apr-2002	23-Jan-2002	
Liberia	UNIDO	27-Jan-2003	23-May-2002	
Lithuania	UNDP	10-Mar-2003		
Macedonia	UNIDO	14-Nov-2001	27-May-2004	2-Sep-2005
Madagascar	UNEP	24-Mar-2003	18-Nov-2005	
Malaysia	UNEP	29-Apr-2002		
Malawi	UNIDO	3-Sep-2002		
Mali	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	5-Sep-2003	
Marshall Islands	UNEP	10-Apr-2003	27-Jan-2003	
Mauritania	UNEP	20-Dec-2001	22-Jul-2005	
Mauritius	UNDP	3-Sep-2002	13-Jul-2004	
Mexico	World Bank	3-Jun-2004	10-Feb-2003	
Micronesia	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	15-Jul-2005	
Moldova	World Bank	25-Apr-2002	7-Apr-2004	25-Aug-2005
Mongolia	UNIDO	30-Jul-2002	30-Apr-2004	
Morocco	UNDP	19-Apr-2002	15-Jun-2004	
Mozambique	UNEP	22-May-2002	31-Oct-2005	
Nauru	UNEP	3-Jul-2003	9-May-2002	
Nepal	UNIDO	22-May-2002		
Nicaragua	UNDP	13-Aug-2003	1-Dec-2005	29-Apr-2006
Niger	UNIDO	6-May-2002	12-Apr-2006	
Nigeria	UNIDO	14-Nov-2001	24-May-2004	
Niue	UNDP	28-Aug-2002	2-Sep-2005	25-Jan-2005
Oman	UNEP	31-Jul-2003	19-Jan-2005	
Pakistan	UNDP	28-Aug-2002		
Palau	UNEP	6-May-2003		

Panama	UNEP	21-Apr-2005	5-Mar-2003	
Papua New Guinea	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	7-Oct-2003	
Paraguay	UNEP	12-Nov-2003	1-Apr-2004	
Peru	UNEP	19-Dec-2003	14-Sep-2005	
Philippines	UNDP	22-Oct-2001	27-Feb-2004	
Poland	UNIDO	1-Aug-2001		
Romania	UNIDO	4-Oct-2001	28-Oct-2004	12-Apr-2006
Russian Federation	UNEP	16-Mar-2005 (PDF-B)		
Rwanda	UNIDO	8-Jan-2003	5-Jun-2002	
Samoa	UNDP	18-Sep-2001	4-Feb-2002	
Sao Tome and Principe	UNIDO	20-Nov-2002	12-Apr-2006	
Senegal	UNEP	24-Mar-2003	8-Oct-2003	
Serbia and Montenegro	UNEP	10-Apr-2003		
Seychelles	UNIDO	20-Nov-2002		
Sierra Leone	UNIDO	7-Feb-2006	26-Sep-2003	
Slovak Republic	UNDP	4-Oct-2001	5-Aug-2002	
Slovenia	UNEP	29-Apr-2002	4-May-2004	
South Africa	UNEP	3-Sep-2002	4-Sep-2002	
Sri Lanka	UNEP	13-Jun-2002	22-Dec-2005	
St. Lucia	UNEP	8-Jul-2003	4-Oct-2002	
Sudan	UNDP	8-Jan-2003		
Suriname	UNDP	7-Feb-2006		
Syria	UNEP	3-Sep-2002	5-Aug-2005	
Tajikistan	UNEP	13-Aug-2003		
Tanzania	UNIDO	14-Nov-2001	30-Apr-2004	
Thailand	UNEP	6-May-2003	31-Jan-2005	
Togo	UNIDO	14-Nov-2001	22-Jul-2004	
Tonga	UNEP	22-Nov-2002		
Trinidad and Tobago	UNDP	7-Feb-2006	13-Dec-2002	
Tunisia	UNEP/UNID O	14-Nov-2001	17-Jun-2004	
Turkey	UNIDO	17-Dec-2002		
Tuvalu	UNEP	17-Feb-2005	19-Jan-2004	
Uganda	UNEP	9-Mar-2005	20-Jul-2004	

Ukraine	UNEP	6-May-2003		
Uruguay	UNEP	13-Jun-2002	9-Sep-2004	
Vanuatu	UNEP	24-Mar-2003	16-Sep-2005	
Venezuela	UNIDO	20-Nov-2002	19-Apr-2005	
Vietnam	UNDP	18-Sep-2001	22-Jul-2002	
Yemen	UNEP	22-May-2002	9-Jan-2004	
Zambia	UNEP	29-Apr-2002		
Zimbabwe	UNEP	22-Nov-2002		

## **Annex V**

### **Decisions relevant to GEF taken at the seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification**

#### **Decision 6/COP.7**

Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Taking note* of the report by the secretariat contained in document ICCD/CRIC(4)/5,

*Recalling* articles 6, 20, in particular paragraph 2(b), and 21 of the Convention,

*Recalling further* its decision 6/COP.6 on collaboration with the GEF, by which it accepted the GEF as a financial mechanism of the Convention,

*Recognizing* the complementary roles of the GEF and the GM in the implementation of the Convention,

*Recalling* the GEF Council decision adopted at its June 2005 meeting, by which it requested the CEO/Chairman of the GEF to transmit a proposed Memorandum of Understanding to the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD for submission to the COP at its seventh session with a view to its consideration and adoption in order to enhance collaboration between the GEF and the UNCCD,

*Having considered* the aforementioned Memorandum of Understanding which is annexed hereto,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the GEF Council for its continued support for the implementation of the Convention and its focus on enhancing sustainable land management policies and initiatives;
2. *Decides* to conclude with the Council and adopt the attached Memorandum of Understanding as proposed by the GEF Council at its meeting in June 2005;
3. *Invites* the GEF and UNCCD secretariats to make appropriate arrangements to implement the Memorandum;
4. *Expresses its understanding* that all eligible affected country Parties are covered by the present Memorandum of Understanding in conformity with the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured GEF;
5. *Welcomes* therefore the Country Pilot Partnerships of the GEF and the TerrAfrica

initiative of the World Bank as potential tools for strengthening partnership building for the implementation of the Convention, and *recommends* coordination between these processes and consideration of their expansion if found to be successful;

6. *Also welcomes* the “Least-Developed Countries – Small Island Developing States Targeted Umbrella Project for Capacity Development and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management” implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the medium-sized project of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on Global Support to Facilitate the Early Development and Implementation of Land Degradation Programmes and Projects;

*Invites* the GEF to take duly into account the relevant decisions taken by the COP when financing activities in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding;

8. *Invites* the GEF to consider supporting activities, within its mandate, undertaken in the framework of the IYDD (2006);

9. *Invites* the GEF to make financial resources available for capacity-building activities in affected country Parties implementing the Convention and to facilitate coordination between the GEF and UNCCD focal points at country level to enable the GEF to better respond to the needs of the UNCCD process;

10. *Invites* GEF donors to strive for a successful replenishment, where possible;

11. *Welcomes* the GEF Council decision taken at its May 2003 meeting, by which it recognized that in the framework of capacity-building projects to be funded under Operational Programme 15 (OP 15), the elaboration of national, subregional and regional action programmes and national reports are considered as components, and *invites* the GEF to implement that decision when assisting developing country Parties;

12. *Also welcomes* the GEF Council decision taken at its May 2003 meeting by which it was agreed that in the implementation of OP 15, the process of determining incremental costs should be made more transparent and its application more pragmatic, and *invites* the GEF to ensure its appropriate application;

13. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the CEO/Chairman of the GEF in his capacity as CEO/Chairman of a financial mechanism of the Convention to report to the COP at its eighth session on the implementation of this decision.

## Annex VI

26/01 2006 TIU 15:41 FAX +49 228 8152898 UNCCD Secretariat

001/009



SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION  
SECRETARIAT DE LA CONVENTION SUR LA LUTTE CONTRE LA DESERTIFICATION



Date: 26 January 2006  
Ref.: MB/sk-30  
cc.: had, gdk,rb,gk,mc,sz,zr,ed,bh,mnd

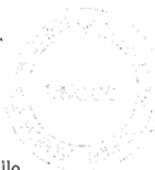
Dear Mr. Good,

I would like to refer to decision 6/COP.7 by which the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD decided to conclude with the Council of the GEF, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as communicated to me by your latest letter on the same matter. I have the pleasure to inform you that the said MOU was adopted, without any amendment, by the Conference of the Parties in its decision 6/COP.7.

Pursuant to the decision titled Memorandum of Understanding between UNCCD and the GEF adopted by the Council in June 2005, please find herewith attached the COP decision and its annex to be submitted to the next Council meeting for approval.

Sincerely yours,

Hama Arba Diallo  
Executive Secretary



Mr. Leonard Good  
Chairman & CEO of Global Environment Facility  
Washington, D.C.  
Fax: (202) 522-3240

UNCCD

Postal address: P.O. Box 260129, Haus Carstanjen, D-53153 Bonn, Germany  
Office Location: Haus Carstanjen, Martin-Luther-King-Strasse 8, 53175 Bonn, Germany  
Tel. (Switchboard): (49-228) 815-2800 Tel. (Direct): 815-2802 Fax: (49-228) 815-2898/99  
E-mail (General): secretariat@unccd.int E-mail (Direct): srastetter@unccd.int Web site: www.unccd.int

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS  
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES  
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION,  
PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA, AND THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT  
FACILITY ON ENHANCED COLLABORATION**

The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the CEO/Chairman of the Global Environment Facility,

*Recalling* Article 21 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification In Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (hereinafter the UNCCD) which provides that "the Conference of the Parties shall promote the availability of financial mechanisms and shall encourage such mechanisms to seek to maximize the availability of funding for affected developing country Parties, particularly those in Africa, to implement the Convention";

*Recalling* Article 20 (b) of the UNCCD which provides that developed country Parties, while giving priority to affected African country Parties without neglecting affected developing country Parties in other regions, undertake to promote the mobilization of adequate, timely and predictable financial resources, including new and additional funding from the Global Environment Facility of the agreed incremental costs of those activities concerning desertification that relate to its four focal areas, in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Instrument establishing the GEF;

*Recalling* the Beijing Declaration of the Second GEF Assembly that confirms that the GEF will be available as a financial mechanism of the UNCCD pursuant to paragraph 21 of the Convention, should the Conference of the Parties so decide;

*Also recalling* the decision of the Second GEF Assembly to amend the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured GEF to include land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation, as one of the six focal areas of the GEF and to include as a function of the GEF Secretariat, coordination, on behalf of the Council, with the Secretariat of the UNCCD;

*Recalling* further decision 61COP.6 of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD at its sixth session that accepts the GEF as a financial mechanism of the UNCCD pursuant to article 20, paragraph 2 (b) and article 21 of the Convention and in accordance with the GEF Instrument as amended;

*Recognizing* the role of the Global Mechanism of the Convention to promote actions leading to the mobilization and channeling of substantial financial resources, including for the transfer of technology, on a grant basis, and/or on concessional or other terms, to affected developing country Parties, and that the Global Mechanism functions under the authority and guidance of the Conference of the Parties and is accountable to it;

*Having consulted* with the Managing Director of the Global Mechanism;

Have agreed as follows:



## Definitions

For the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding:

- (a) "Assembly" means the Assembly of the GEF as defined in the paragraph 13 of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility;
- (b) "Conference of the Parties" means the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa defined in article 22 of the Convention;
- (c) "Convention" means the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
- (d) "Council" means the Council of the GEF as defined in paragraphs 15 to 20 of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility;
- (e) "Focal areas of the GEF" means the focal areas provided in paragraph 2 of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility;
- (f) "GEF" means the Global Environment Facility established pursuant to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility;
- (g) "GEF Instrument" means the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility as amended;
- (h) "Global Mechanism" means the Global Mechanism established in accordance with Article 21, paragraph 4 of the Convention;
- (i) "Implementing and Executing Agencies" means the Implementing Agencies as defined in paragraph 22 of the GEF Instrument and Executing Agencies benefiting from expanded opportunities pursuant to the decisions of the Council;
- (j) "Party" means Party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa; and
- (k) "UNCCD" means the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification. Particularly in Africa.

## Purpose

The purpose of the present Memorandum of Understanding is to enhance collaboration between the GEF and the UNCCD.

#### Coherence between the UNCCD and the GEF

The coherence between the objective of the GEF Operational Programme on Sustainable Land Management<sup>12</sup> and the objective of the UNCCD<sup>13</sup> is recognized as a basis for mutually beneficial collaboration. This coherence of objectives will serve as a basic principle in developing policies, strategies, programs and projects for sustainable land management.

The UNCCD Secretariat and the GEF Secretariat will collaborate on substantive matters that the Conference of the Parties and the Council agree should be pursued to strengthen this coherence and collaboration between the UNCCD and the GEF.

#### Strategies, programmes and projects concerning desertification

In formulating strategies, programs and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification under its focal area of land degradation or through activities that combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in other focal areas, the GEF, through its Secretariat and Implementing and Executing Agencies, will duly take into account the provisions of the LWCCD and the relevant decisions of its Conference of the Parties relating to policies, strategies and programme priorities.

The GEF will prepare a report for information to be submitted to each regular session of the Conference of the Parties through the UNCCD Secretariat on its strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification. This report will include:

- (a) information on discussions within the GEF Council on GEF strategies, programmes and projects for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification;
- (b) a synthesis of projects approved by the Council during the reporting period concerning desertification with an indication of the GEF and other resources allocated to such projects;

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<sup>12</sup> The objective of the Operational Programme on Sustainable Land Management is "to mitigate the causes and negative impacts of land degradation on the structure and functional integrity of ecosystems through sustainable land management practices as a contribution to improving people's livelihoods and economic well-being."

<sup>13</sup> The UNCCD provides in article 2, "Objective", that "the objective of this Convention is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and or desertification, particularly in Africa, through effective action at all levels, supported by international cooperation and partnership arrangements, in the framework of an integrated approach which is consistent with Agenda 21, with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in affected areas, "and that "achieving this objective will involve long-term integrated strategies that focus simultaneously, in affected areas, on improved productivity of land, and the rehabilitation, conservation and sustainable management of land and water resources, leading to improved living conditions in particular at the community level."

(c) a listing of projects approved by the Council concerning desertification, with an indication of the cumulative financial resources allocated in the GEF to such projects;

(d) Information on GEF's experience in integrating activities to address land degradation in other focal areas and synergies among the focal areas;

(e) information on GEF replenishment agreements and the funding programmed for land degradation;

(f) information on GEF monitoring and evaluation activities related to projects concerning desertification.

The UNCCD will prepare a report for information to be submitted to the GEF Council through the GEF Secretariat after each regular session of the Conference of the Parties, on the decisions taken by the Parties of relevance to the GEF. The report shall contain information on discussions within the Conference of the Parties on GEF activities for financing the agreed incremental costs of activities concerning desertification.

#### Cooperation between secretariats

The UNCCD Secretariat and the GEF Secretariat will communicate and cooperate with each other and consult on a regular basis to promote incremental cost funding from the GEF to assist affected developing country parties to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought pursuant to Article 20 (b) and Article 2 1 of the Convention.

The Secretariat of the UNCCD and the Secretariat of the GEF will consult on proposed strategies, programmes and projects concerning desertification. In particular, the Secretariats of the Convention and of the GEF will reciprocally consult with each other on draft texts of documents relevant to the Convention and the GEF prior to issuing the texts of such documents for consideration by the Conference of the Parties or the Council.

In accordance with the GEF project cycle, the UNCCD Secretariat will be invited to comment on project proposals related to desertification under consideration for inclusion in a proposed work programme, especially with regard to advising how such project proposals are consistent with the Convention and the decisions of the Conference of the Parties relating to policies, strategies and programme priorities to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought.

Official documentation of the GEF, including information on project activities, will be made available on its website. Official documentation of the Collection will be made available on its website.

#### Reciprocal representation

On a reciprocal basis, the GEF Secretariat will be invited to attend meetings of the Conference of the Parties and the UNCCD Secretariat will be invited to attend meetings of the Council and Assembly.

#### Cooperation with the Global Mechanism

The GEF Secretariat will be invited to participate as an observer in the Facilitation Committee meetings of the Global Mechanism.

The GEF Secretariat will inform the Facilitation Committee of project proposals concerning desertification that have entered the GEF pipeline with a view to assisting the Global Mechanism to identify opportunities to mobilize and channel co-financing resources for such proposed projects.

#### Monitoring and evaluation

The GEF will provide the Conference of the Parties with the reports of the GEF Office of Monitoring and Evaluation relevant to GEF activities in the area of land degradation.

#### Interpretation

If differences arise in the interpretation of the present Memorandum of Understanding, the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the CEO/Chairman of the GEF will jointly inform the Conference of the Parties and the Council and will invite them to advise on a mutually acceptable solution.

#### Entry into effect

The present Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect after consideration and approval of this text by the Conference of the Parties and the Council.

#### Amendments

Amendments to this Memorandum of Understanding may be approved by the Conference of the Parties and the Council. Proposed amendments will be submitted jointly, for consideration and approval by the Conference of the parties and the Council, by the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD and the CEO/Chairman of the GEF after consultations and agreement between them.

#### Withdrawal

Either the UNCCD Secretariat or the GEF Secretariat may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at any time upon written notification to the other, after approval by the Conference of the Parties or the Council, as appropriate. The withdrawal will take effect six months after notification and will not affect the validity or duration of activities initiated before such termination.

## **Annex VII**

### **Paragraphs from the Dubai Declaration with particular relevance to the GEF's current mandate and activities**

8. We are determined to implement the applicable chemicals management agreements to which we are Party, strengthen the coherence and synergies that exist between them and work to address, as appropriate, existing gaps in the framework of international chemicals policy;
15. We are committed to strengthening the capacities of all concerned to achieve the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes at all levels;
16. We will continue to mobilize national and international financing from public and private sources for the life-cycle management of chemicals;
17. We will work towards closing the gaps and addressing the discrepancies in the capacity to achieve sustainable chemicals management between developed countries on the one hand and developing countries and countries with economies in transition on the other by addressing the special needs of the latter and strengthening their capacities for the sound management of chemicals and the development of safer alternative products and processes, including non-chemical alternatives, through partnerships, technical support and financial assistance;
26. We will promote the sound management of chemicals and hazardous waste as a priority in national, regional and international policy frameworks, including strategies for sustainable development, development assistance and poverty reduction;
27. We will strive to integrate the Strategic Approach into the work programmes of all relevant United Nations organizations, specialized agencies, funds and programmes consistent with their mandates as accorded by their respective governing bodies;

## **Annex VIII**

### **SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy - Extract on “Capacity-building and technical cooperation”**

17. The objectives of the Strategic Approach with regard to capacity-building and technical cooperation are:
- (a) To increase the capacity for the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle in all countries as needed, especially in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
  - (b) To narrow the widening gap in capacities between developed countries on the one hand and developing countries and countries with economies in transition on the other hand;
  - (c) To establish or strengthen partnerships and mechanisms for technical cooperation and the provision of appropriate and clean technology to and among developing countries and countries with economies in transition, maximizing synergies with the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building;
  - (d) To develop and implement sustainable capacity-building strategies in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and to promote cooperation between all countries;
  - (e) To promote coordination of and access to information on capacity-building for the sound management of chemicals and to enhance transparency and accountability;
  - (f) To include capacity-building for the sound management of chemicals as a priority in social and economic development strategies, including national sustainable development strategies, poverty reduction strategy papers and country assistance strategies, and to make chemicals an important part of national policy;
  - (g) To encourage stakeholders to develop and promote programmes on chemical safety and scientific research and analysis and to assist with capacity-building programmes in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
  - (h) To encourage and facilitate appropriate use by developing countries and countries with economies in transition of work already done and chemicals management models already established by other countries and international organizations; and
  - (i) To promote the awareness of donors, multilateral organizations and other relevant actors of the relevance of chemical safety for poverty reduction and sustainable development.

## **Annex IX**

### **SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy – Extract on “Financial Considerations” of particular relevance to the GEF**

19. The Strategic Approach should reflect national, regional and global efforts to advance the sound management of chemicals recognizing Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. This Approach should call upon existing and new sources of financial support to provide additional resources and should build upon, among other things, the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-Building. It should also include the mobilization of additional national and international financial resources, including through the Quick Start Programme and other measures set out in this paragraph, to accelerate the strengthening of capabilities and capacities for the implementation of the Strategic Approach objectives. The extent to which developing countries, least developed countries, small-island developing States and countries with economies in transition can make progress towards reaching the 2020 goal depends, in part, on the availability of financial resources provided by the private sector, bilateral, multilateral and global agencies or donors. Financial arrangements for the Strategic Approach include, among others:
- (d) Making more effective use of and building upon existing sources of relevant global funding, including by inviting the Global Environment Facility and the Montreal Protocol and its Multilateral Fund within their mandates to consider whether and how they might support implementation of appropriate and relevant Strategic Approach objectives and to report