



Global Environment Facility

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GEF Council
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Agenda Item 10

**CEO NOTE ON GEF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO
THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed the *CEO Note on GEF Activities related to the World Summit on Sustainable Development*, notes the significance of the World Summit and welcomes the proposals of the CEO aimed at ensuring that the GEF makes an important contribution to the preparations and deliberations of the Summit. The Council fully supports the active participation of the GEF in the Summit and its preparations, and approves the proposed budget to cover the costs of this special initiative. The budget of US\$1,398,918 should be included in the FY02 Corporate Budget of the GEF Secretariat. The CEO is invited to seek, in a spirit of partnership, the collaboration and contributions of the GEF family and other appropriate organizations and entities in organizing events leading to the World Summit, and is further encouraged to seek bilateral and other contributions to assist in offsetting the cost to the GEF corporate budget.

1. At its fifty-fifth session, the U.N. General Assembly agreed to organize the 10-year review of progress in the implementation of UNCED as the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The Summit will be hosted by South Africa, September 2-12, 2002.
2. The preparatory process for the Summit will begin in late April 2001, where the meetings of the 10th session of the CSD will be transformed into an open-ended preparatory committee. This will be followed by the “first” and “second” substantive preparatory sessions in January and March 2002, and a “third” and final preparatory session to be convened at the Ministerial level in May 2002 in Indonesia.
3. The GEF, its contributions to the implementation of the outcome of UNCED, and its third replenishment, were specifically included in five separate paragraphs of the General Assembly Resolution. The GEF and other international organizations were invited to participate fully in the 10-year review “in order to reflect their experiences and lessons learned as well as to provide ideas and proposals for the way forward for further implementation of Agenda 21 in relevant areas.”
4. At its meeting in December 1999, the GEF Council requested the CEO/Chairman to reflect upon, and to consult with interested parties, on how the GEF could make a substantial contribution to the process as well as the events connected with the 2002 review.
5. The following are some thoughts and proposals for Council consideration on how the GEF can contribute substantively to the World Summit on Sustainable Development and its preparations.
6. It is important to view GEF’s contribution to the Summit in the context of its Second Assembly in Beijing in October 2002, as well as the third replenishment which should conclude prior to the Summit and Assembly. Accordingly, some, if not most, of the work to be done in these regards can serve the dual purposes of the Summit and Assembly.
7. The third replenishment will test our collective credibility. Additional resources are absolutely essential to the continued viability of the GEF as the principal entity for addressing global environmental concerns. The shortfall in resources for recent work programs has raised concerns among some of our important constituencies that the GEF is running out of money.
8. The GEF should be at the center of discussions on global environmental and sustainable development governance. It should play an active role, both separately as well as in collaboration with the Summit “secretariat,” in convening a number (3-5) of workshops, seminars, and/or panels of prominent individuals, and in producing a number of publications on key global environmental issues in relation to sustainable development. Some could be viewed in the context of the “Global Thematic Round Tables,” envisaged by the Summit organizers for late 2001. The outcome of all events, however, would be integrated into the Summit process.
9. If the World Summit on Sustainable Development is to produce concrete results, it should be forward-looking, focusing on key challenges of environment and development facing the world. Proposed issues/challenges of greatest interest to both North and South and where the GEF family and

its partners have gained significant experience include: (i) sustainable energy; (ii) forests and biodiversity; (iii) land and water¹; (iv) institutional mechanisms for global environmental governance²; and (v) innovative financial mechanisms. Cross-cutting issues could include: capacity building; technology transfer; poverty and sustainable development; and food security.

10. In convening these meetings the GEF would, in addition to its family, seek out other partners as necessary and appropriate such as: conventions secretariats, bilaterals, other UN organizations, NGOs, academics and the private sector.

11. Each workshop, seminar, or panel on one or more of these issues would be invited to prepare a statement of the challenges and opportunities of the last decade as well as recommendations for the next decade. For each meeting, the GEF and its partners would prepare a background paper based on their broad knowledge and experience. The meetings' venues would mostly be held on the margins of key international meetings (e.g., UN Forum on Forests, International Conference on Freshwater - Dublin+10) and the Summit preparatory process, including the regional preparatory meetings. The background papers and the panel results would provide much of the input for a special publication to be produced for the Summit and the Assembly. The panels would also be used as the basis for a number of panels and workshops at the Assembly (see GEF/C.17/10, *Note on the Second GEF Assembly*.)

12. It is proposed that, in addition to these seminars/panels, the GEF convene a cross-cutting roundtable dialogue between Ministers of Development Cooperation/Finance and Environment Ministers from developed and developing countries. A roundtable consisting of 16-18 ministers would address key global environment and development issues and may be convened twice prior to the Summit. The results of its deliberations would be shared widely before and at the Summit.

Outreach

13. A focused outreach effort about the GEF and the issues it addresses, its current efforts, and how it can serve the interests and expanded agenda of the international community would be undertaken with countries, with UN missions in New York, and with NGOs. The GEF would need to present itself as the financial mechanism for the global environment that is capable of offering integration, coherence, and positive impacts on the ground. The GEF should be seen as highly adaptable and uniquely positioned to take on additional responsibilities to help close the recurring gaps in the evolving multilateral environmental regime.

14. At the country-level, we need to enlist Council Members, particularly those from LDCs. This will require additional communication as well as travel to meet and coordinate with the members of their constituencies. It is proposed that resources be provided to each of the five African constituencies comprising many of the LDCs and the two SIDS constituencies to convene a constituency meeting. In

¹ Possible panel title: "Land Degradation and Food and Water Security."

² At this time, it is not clear what is contemplated as an agenda or process for UNEP's Open-Ended Intergovernmental Group on International Environmental Governance and, accordingly, how our own work may contribute to UNEP's efforts.

addition, we would implement the proposal included in the last GEF Corporate Business Plan to convene regional meetings of national GEF focal points to exchange best practices. This would provide a useful opportunity to promote the involvement of GEF focal points in their national preparations for the Summit and Assembly. Consistent with the Corporate Business Plan submitted to the Council last November, one such regional meeting is provided for in the proposed FY02 Corporate Budget. Additional meetings could be organized in FY02 or early FY03 if the necessary resources are provided.

15. The effort with the U.N. missions in New York, which are bound to be instrumental in shaping the outcome of the Summit, would build on the initiative already begun by the CEO/Chairman for regular consultations with the Group of 77 in New York. It is proposed that a GEF-financed, Secretariat staff member be posted in New York during this period to ensure regular contact with the U.N. missions and Summit Secretariat.

16. We also need to enhance our communications and consultations with NGO partners – both in the accredited GEF/NGO network as well as those who are involved in GEF activities at the country level. We need to strengthen our direct contacts with NGOs between Council consultations on the crucial issues related to the replenishment, Summit, and Assembly. It is proposed that a one-day regional consultation of NGOs be held in the margin of the five regional Prepcoms being held for the Summit.³

17. The outreach effort of the Summit and Assembly would be backstopped by a number of publications (including the final report of the Second Overall Performance Study), videos, displays at the key events, and media coverage. The publications would seek to: (a) illustrate the results of what the GEF has done – a major success story; (b) show that the GEF is an innovative, flexible entity that can respond to new challenges and responsibilities; (c) portray GEF as a learning organization (“lessons” are one of our products/results); (d) show that we can provide leadership in identifying way forward in addressing global environmental issues; and (e) demonstrate linkages and contributions to sustainable development.

18. We would focus on a small number of forward-thinking publications and strive for maximum quality, dissemination, and demonstration of impacts on sustainable development. Specifically, it is proposed that the following publications and material be prepared:

- (a) for each of the regional Prepcoms, a report on the GEF and the region about what has been achieved in the region and priorities for future action;

³ At present, the following regional prepcoms are planned:

- (a) African Regional Prepcom, Nairobi, Kenya, August 28-31, 2001
- (b) European Regional Prepcom, Geneva, Sept. 24-25, 2001
- (c) Regional Prepcom for Latin American and the Caribbean, Oct. 23-24, 2001
- (d) West Asia Regional Prepcom, Cairo, Egypt, Oct. 28-30, 2001
- (e) Regional Prepcom for Asia and Pacific, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Nov. 2001

- (b) a targeted display of GEF activities for each regional Prepcom;
- (c) a special publication that is based to a large extent on the preparatory work and outcome of the panels that will be published for dissemination at the Summit and the Assembly (the costs of this publication are included in the proposed budget for the Assembly);
- (d) background papers and recommendations of the panels to be published as contributions to the Prepcoms in 2002; and
- (e) a GEF display prepared specifically for the Summit.

19. The Summit will be an excellent forum for journalists to understand what the GEF is, the context in which it was established, and the link between its operations and the real needs of people in developing countries. Supporting the travel of a small number of developing country environmental journalists to the Summit will provide a two-fold chance for coverage. The large developed country press corps expected in Johannesburg will offer developing country journalists both educational and networking opportunities. It is hoped that news emanating from the GEF Assembly a few weeks later will resonate with them. Ideally, we will also facilitate attendance by some developing country journalists at the GEF Assembly as well.

20. A proposed budget is attached.

ANNEX A

PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Event	Cost	One Event	Multiple Events
Prepcoms			
Travel of GEF Staff			
Prepcom I - Two staff members			
Flight(s) 2 @ \$215.00 each (New York)	430		
Subsistence: 3 days @ \$370.00 per day x 2 people	2,220		
Prepcom II - Three staff members			
Flight(s) 3 @ \$215.00 each (New York)	645		
Subsistence: 12 days @ 370.00 per day x 3 people	13,320		
Precom III - Three staff members			
Flight(s) 3 @ \$215.00 each (New York)	645		
Subsistence: 12 days @ 370.00 per day x 3 people	13,320		
Prepcom IV -Two staff members			
Flights(s) 2 @ \$5,940 each (Indonesia)	11,880		
Subsistence: 12 days @ \$210.00 per day x 2 people	5,040		
World Summit for Sustainable Development - Four staff members			
Flight(s) 4 @ \$6,520 each (Johannesburg)	26,080		
Subsistence: 12 days @ \$250.00 per day x 4 people	12,000		
Site Visits in Indonesia and WSSD	100,000		
GEF Display	10,000		
Subtotal for Prepcoms			195,580
Panel(s) 1/			
Consultants			
Consultant to work on background paper: 25 days @ 450.00 per day	11,250		
Staff Travel 2/			
Travel for 2 staff: 2 flights @ \$4850.00	9,700		
Subsistence at \$314.00 per night x 4 days x 2 staff	2,512		
Panelists - 3 per panel			
Travel for 3 panelists: 3 flights @ \$4850.00	14,550		
Subsistence at \$314.00 per night x 3 days x 3 panelists	2,826		
Interpretation: English + Regional language			
\$800.00 per day per interpreter x 4 interpreters (two per language)	3,200		
Translation of Document(s)			
Background paper in two languages	3,000		
Logistical Support			
AV equipment, computers, etc. (on usage basic, estimate \$1,000)	1,000		
Post-Panel Report			
3 Languages @ \$10,000 per language	30,000		
Cost for one panel		78,038	
Panel on Energy 3/		50,000	
Subtotal for four panels			284,114
1/ Costs for 3 panels (land & water, forests, innovative financial instruments).			
2/ MTE & panel organizer.			
3/ Panel on energy will require fewer resources since background papers already financed.			

Regional Meetings - 5			
NGO Regional Consultations ^{4/}			
10 NGOs' regional flights @ \$1,000 per flight	10,000		
Subsistence: 10 NGOs x 2 nights at \$314.00 per night	6,280		
Logistical arrangements	5,000		
GEF Display	10,000		
Regional Report (English/Regional language)	13,000		
Staff Travel ^{5/}			
Travel for 3 staff: 3 flights @ \$4850.00	14,550		
Subsistence at \$314.00 per night x 4 days x 3 staff	3,768		
Cost for One regional meeting		62,598	
Subtotal for Five regional meetings			312,990
Human Resource			
Staff time: 10 weeks per panel @ 5,000 per week ^{6/}	50,000		200,000
Intern for 3 months			10,000
Staff member based in New York @ \$75,000 + 50% benefit			112,500
Subtotal for four panels of staff time			322,500
Ministerial Roundtables (2)			
Lunch and Logistics @ \$3,500 per event	7,000		
Two days per diem @ \$300.00 x 10 Ministers = \$6,000 per event	12,000		
Journalist travel	30,000		
Council member meetings with constituencies (LDCs/SIDS only)			
Africa - 5 constituencies with 39 countries @ \$1,000 per flight	39,000		
Per diem: two days @ 220.00 per day x 39 countries	17,160		
Logistics (including room and refreshments)	5,000		
SIDS - 2 constituencies with 15 countries each @ \$1,000 per flight	30,000		
Per diem: two days @ \$240.00 per day x 15 countries x 2 constituencies	14,400		
Logistics (including room and refreshments)	2,000		
			156,560
Total			1,271,744
Contingency 10%			127,174
Total with four Panels and Five Regional Meetings			1,398,918
4/ Travel for 10 NGOs familiar with GEF			
5/ 1 senior staff to cover meeting, 1 external, 1 NGO			
6/ Secretariat staff time for 4 four panels			