



GEF COUNCIL DECISIONS 2007

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Decision by Mail – April 2007

Decision 1/2007 Report to the third session of the CoP to the Stockholm Convention

1. The Council, having reviewed the draft Report of the GEF to the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants¹, approves the report for submission to the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention

31st Council Meeting – June 2007

Decision 2/2007 Relations with Conventions and other Institutions

1. The Council considered document GEF/C.31/3, [*Relations with Conventions and Other Institutions*](#), and welcomes the proposed activities to implement the guidance and decisions that have been approved by the Conferences of the Parties to the global environmental conventions. The Council requests the Secretariat and the GEF agencies to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities and stresses that countries, working with the GEF Secretariat and the GEF agencies, have the primary role in determining priorities for use of their indicative allocation of GEF resources.

Decision 3/2007 Annual Performance Report

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.31/1, [*GEF Annual Performance Report 2006*](#), and document GEF/ME/C.31/2, [*Management Response to GEF Annual Performance Report 2006*](#), takes notes of the recommendations and the management response and decides that:
 - (a) UNDP and UNEP should involve social and institutional expertise in project supervision where appropriate.
 - (b) Special attention is required to ensure continued and improved supervision by the GEF agencies during implementation of projects and adequate funding should be provided for this supervision from the project fees.
 - (c) UNEP should develop a systemic approach to supervision of its GEF portfolio.

¹ The report is part of the documents discussed at [COP3 of the Stockholm Convention](#)

- (d) All GEF agencies should ensure that terminal evaluation reports include adequate information on sustainability of outcomes, quality of monitoring and evaluation systems and reporting on co-financing, in line with the minimum requirements for project evaluation in the GEF M&E Policy.
- 2. The Council notes that negligible progress has been made in developing a management information system and requests the Secretariat to make this a priority activity for completion before the end of the calendar year.
- 3. The GEF Evaluation Office is encouraged to continue developing the Annual Performance Report, so that in future years it will include an Agency Performance Matrix as required in the GEF-4 policy recommendations.

Decision 4/2007 Country Portfolio Evaluation: Philippines

- 1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.31/4, [GEF Country Portfolio Evaluation: the Philippines \(1992-2007\)](#), and document GEF/ME/C.31/6, [Management Response to the GEF Country Portfolio Evaluation: the Philippines](#), takes notes of the recommendations of the evaluation and the management response. The Council requests the Secretariat to prepare for Council consideration in November 2007 a proposal for development of country assistance strategies leading to better coordination and programming at the country level. The Secretariat is also requested to ensure transparency of, and better access to, information on GEF procedures and the status of projects in the GEF project cycle.
- 2. The Council welcomes the response of the Philippines to the evaluation.

Decision 5/2007 Country Portfolio Evaluation: Samoa

- 1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.31/5, [GEF Country Portfolio Evaluation: Samoa \(1992-2007\)](#), and document GEF/ME/C.31/6, [Management Response to the GEF Country Portfolio Evaluation: Samoa \(1992-2007\)](#), takes note of the recommendations of the evaluation and the management response and requests the Secretariat to take into account Samoa's experience with the GEF in its further development of the proposed GEF-Pacific Alliance for Sustainability, including the following:
 - (a) The need for support for establishing an environmental framework in national policies, laws and regulations, and where this has been achieved, the need for support for implementation of the framework so as to achieve global environmental benefits.

- (b) Recognition of the importance of marine resources.
 - (c) Recognition of the need to strengthen resilience to climate change to sustain global environmental benefits.
 - (d) Recognition of the high transaction costs in the region.
 - (e) The need for involving more GEF agencies in the region, as well as harmonization with recipient countries and other donors.
2. The Council welcomes the response of Samoa to the evaluation and invites the Secretariat to take this into account when preparing the programmatic alliance.

Decision 6/2007 Four year rolling work plan and budget of the Evaluation office

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.31/7, [*Four-Year Work Program and FY08 Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office*](#), approves the proposed principles underlying the work program for the next four years, and in particular the principle that OPS4 will be managed and implemented by the Evaluation Office, except for case studies where this would pose a conflict of interest. Council notes that the revised budget includes funding for preparing OPS4 and an increased number of country portfolio evaluations. Council approves a revised and integrated budget of \$3,793,366 for FY08 to cover the cost of operating the GEF Evaluation Office and implementing its work plan.
2. Regarding FY09 through FY10, Council takes note of the proposed work program and activities and requests the Evaluation Office to prepare annual budgets for Council consideration and approval in each of its June meetings.
3. The Evaluation Office will also prepare for Council consideration a detailed proposal and budget for the RAF mid-term evaluation. The Evaluation Office is requested to circulate for comment, prior to the next Council meeting, a draft terms of reference for the mid-term evaluation so that a revised proposal and a budget can be approved by the Council at its meeting in November 2007.

Decision 7/2007 STAP

1. The Council reviewed the [*Proposal of the Executive Director of UNEP on Enhancing the Impact of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel*](#) (document GEF/C.31/4) and approves the revised Terms of Reference for the STAP presented in the annex to the document. In particular, the Council agrees that:

- (a) STAP should develop and maintain a broader global network of scientific and technical expertise.
- (b) STAP should provide more effective strategic advice at both the programmatic and project level.
- (c) UNEP should take steps to reconstitute STAP as described in the revised Terms of Reference and should propose new membership to the Council for approval by mail.
- (d) The STAP Secretariat should be strengthened, within the approved budget, to deliver more effective operational advice and support to the Panel.

Decision 8/2007 Comparative advantages of GEF agencies

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.31/5, [*Comparative Advantages of the GEF Agencies*](#), notes the description of the comparative advantages of the GEF agencies presented in the document as guidance for moving forward and requests the Secretariat, in agreement with the country concerned, to assess the comparative advantage of the GEF agency proposed to manage a project during the PIF review. In assessing an agency's comparative advantage, an agency's national or regional presence and the national context of the proposed project should be taken into account.
2. GEF agencies are requested to focus their involvement in GEF project activities within their respective comparative advantages as described in document GEF/C.31/5. In specific cases of integrated projects that include components where the expertise and experience of a GEF agency is lacking or weak, the agency should be invited, on the basis of paragraph 28 of the Instrument and previous Council decisions, to partner with another agency and to establish clear complementary roles so that all aspects of the project can be well managed.
3. The Council agrees that the criteria and description of comparative advantages presented in the document should be regularly reviewed by the Council based on an analysis of additional information and assessments of agency and project performance to be generated through the performance and outcome matrix and other reports of the GEF Evaluation Office. The Council also agrees that the comparative advantages of the agencies will need to be reviewed in light of any changes in an agency's mandate or the conclusions of the UN reform process.

Decision 9/2007 Proposed policy on fiduciary standards and financial accountability

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.31/6, [*Recommended Minimum Fiduciary Standards for GEF Implementing and Executing Agencies*](#), takes note of the minimum

fiduciary standards recommended by Trustee and requests the GEF agencies to implement them.

2. The Council requests each agency within one year, to implement the recommended minimum fiduciary standards or otherwise equivalent relevant procedures or policies, or to have in place a monitorable program that includes a specific target date for implementation.
3. The Council requests each agency to present a report to the GEF Secretariat on its compliance with the fiduciary standards and, as necessary, plans to remedy any shortfall. The GEF Secretariat is requested to consolidate the ten agency reports as an information document for submission to the Council at its meeting in April 2008. Council will then determine whether further assessment is appropriate.
4. Recognizing that international practices will evolve over time, Council agrees to review the standards every four years.

Decision 10/2007 GEF project cycle

1. The Council reviewed the [GEF Project Cycle](#) (document GEF/C.31/7) (and [GEF Project Cycle – Corrigendum](#)) and approves the project cycle as revised by the Council for immediate application. The Council notes that the project cycle ensures: (a) Council oversight of the implementation of GEF focal area strategies and programs; (b) GEF CEO executive authority to determine the composition of the work programs, including clearance of all concepts entering the work program, and cost effective use of GEF resources; and (c) Council review of final project documents prior to GEF CEO endorsement.
2. The Council requests the Secretariat, in consultation with the GEF agencies, the Trustee and the Evaluation Office, to prepare an operational manual to support the implementation of the project cycle and to facilitate access to GEF resources.
3. The Council requests the Secretariat to prepare a report on the operation of the project cycle management procedures for Council consideration at its meeting in November 2008. 28. The Council requests the Secretariat to submit to it for information an annual report on proposed project concepts submitted as PIFs that are not approved.

Decision 11/2007 Work program

1. The Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) submitted to Council in document GEF/C.31/8 and approves² the work program comprising the following twenty-nine programs and project proposals, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted to the Secretariat by June 29, 2007.

Biodiversity

- **Global (Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Brazil):** Conservation & Management of Pollinators for Sustainable Agriculture through an Ecosystem Approach (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 7.81 m)
- **Global (Peru, Chile, China, Tunisia, Philippines, Algeria):** Conservation and Adaptive Management of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) (FAO) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.50 m)
- **Brazil:** Effective Conservation and Sustainable Use of Mangrove Ecosystems in Brazil (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **Costa Rica:** Overcoming Barriers to Sustainability of Costa Rica's Protected Areas System (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.80 m)
- **Guatemala:** Improvement of Management Effectiveness in the Maya Biosphere Reserve (MBR) (IADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.10 m)
- **Nicaragua:** Strengthening and Catalyzing the Sustainability of Nicaragua's System of Protected Areas System (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 1.80 m)
- **Seychelles:** Mainstreaming Prevention and Control Measures for Invasive Alien Species into Trade, Transport and Travel Across the Production Landscape (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.00 m)
- **South Africa:** National Grasslands Biodiversity Program (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 8.30 m)

² The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of national legislation regarding its country's voting position for development projects financed by certain development institutions, opposed the following projects: *Global: Building Partnerships to Assist Developing Countries to Reduce the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water* (UNDP), *Regional: World Bank-GEF Investment Fund for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Partnership, Tranche 1, Second Installment* (World Bank), *Regional: Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives to DDT and Strengthening of National Vector Control Capabilities in Middle East and North Africa* (UNEP), and *Regional: Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems – Regional Component: Implementation of Agreed Actions for the Protection of the Environmental Resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its Coastal Areas* (UNEP/UNIDO).

Climate Change

- **Regional (Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam):** Barrier Removal to the Cost-Effective Development and Implementation of Energy Efficiency Standards and Labeling Project (BRESL) (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 6.80 m)
- **Brazil:** Market Transformation for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (UNDP/IADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 13.50 m)
- **China:** China/GEF/World Bank Urban Transport Partnership Program (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 21.00 m)
- **China:** Energy Efficiency Financing (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 13.50 m)
- **Russian Federation:** Renewable Energy Project (RREP) (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 10.00 m)
- **South Africa:** Sustainable Public Transport and Sport: A 2010 Opportunity (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 11.00 m)

International Waters

- **Global (China, Brazil, India, Mexico, Turkey, South Africa, Iran, Argentina, Venezuela, Chile, Algeria, Egypt, Ukraine, Peru, Morocco, Libya, Croatia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Angola, Sudan, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, Yemen, Jordan, Ghana):** Building Partnerships to Assist Developing Countries to Reduce the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water (GloBallast Partnerships) (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.64 m)
- **Regional (Cambodia, China, East Timor, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Lao PDR, Thailand, Vietnam, Brunei):** Implementation of Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 10.88 m)
- **Regional (El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua):** Integrated Ecosystem Management of the Gulf of Fonseca (IADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **Regional (Albania, Montenegro):** Lake Skadar-Shkodra Integrated Ecosystem Management (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.55 m)
- **Regional (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam):** World Bank/GEF Partnership Investment Fund for Pollution Reduction in the Large Marine Ecosystems of East Asia (Tranche 1, 2nd Installment) (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 10.00 m)
- **Regional (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Egypt, Macedonia, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Serbia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey):** World

Bank-GEF Investment Fund for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Partnership, Tranche 1, 2nd Installment (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 15.00 m)

Land Degradation

- **Regional (Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Gambia, Zambia):** Strategic Investment Program for SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa (SIP) (phased project) (World Bank/UNDP/ UNEP/ AfDB/ IFAD/ FAO) (GEF Grant : \$ 137.30 m)

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

- **Regional (Sudan, Morocco, Yemen, Djibouti, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iran):** Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives to DDT and Strengthening of National Vector Control Capabilities in Middle East and North Africa (UNEP) (GEF Grant: \$ 4.91 m)
- **China:** Environmentally Sustainable Management of Medical Waste in China (UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 11.65 m)
- **China:** Strengthening Institutions, Regulations and Enforcement Capacities for Effective and Efficient Implementation of the National Implementation Plan (NIP) in China (UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.41 m)
- **India:** Development of a National Implementation Plan in India as a First Step to Implement the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). (UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.24 m)

Multi-focal Areas

- **Global:** GEF Public-Private Partnership Initiative (Lead agency: World Bank/IFC; other agencies: UNEP, FAO, UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 50.00 m)
- **Global:** Small Grants Programme, 4th Operational Phase (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 123.65 m) • **Regional (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Serbia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Algeria) :** Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem--Regional Component: Implementation of Agreed Actions for the Protection of the Environmental Resources of the Mediterranean Sea and Its Coastal Areas (UNEP/UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 12.89 m)

- **Regional (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay):** Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin with Respect to the Effects of Climate Variability and Change (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 10.73 m)
- 2. With respect to the following three proposals approved as part of the work program, the Council requests the Secretariat to arrange for Council Members to receive draft final project documents submitted to the CEO for endorsement. Council Members may transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concerns they may have prior to the CEO endorsing a project document for final approval by the GEF agency. Such projects may be reviewed at a further Council meeting at the request of at least four Council Members.
 - China: China/GEF/World Bank Urban Transport Partnership Program (World Bank)
 - Russian Federation: Renewable Energy Project (RREP) (World Bank)
 - South Africa: Sustainable Public Transport and Sport: A 2010 Opportunity (UNDP)
- 3. With respect to the *Strategic Investment Program for Sustainable Land Management in Sub-Saharan Africa*, the Council requests the Secretariat to arrange for Council Members to receive draft final project documents for projects to be financed under the program submitted to the CEO for endorsement. Council Members may transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concerns they may have prior to the CEO endorsing a project document for final approval by the GEF agency. Such projects may be reviewed at a further Council meeting at the request of at least four Council Members.
- 4. With respect to the *GEF Public Private Partnership Initiative*, the Council:
 - (a) Requests the GEF Secretariat to collaborate with the Trustee in establishing the PPP Trust Fund.
 - (b) Allocates \$50 million for the PPP, drawing upon resources that have been identified through the Trustee's project data reconciliation and savings in the corporate budget resulting from the termination of the corporate budget for the Implementing Agencies.
 - (c) Requests the CEO in the coming months to consult with the Council in constituting the PPP Board.
- 5. With respect to the remaining twenty-six proposals approved as part of the work program, the Council finds that each project proposal presented to it as part of the work program is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and

procedures and may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF agency, provided that the CEO circulates to the Council Members, prior to endorsement, draft final project documents fully incorporating the Council's comments on the work program accompanied by a satisfactory explanation by the CEO of how such comments and comments of the STAP reviewer have been addressed and a confirmation by the CEO that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

6. The Council also requests the Evaluation Office to include in its on-going evaluation of the Small Grants Programme (SGP), to be considered by the Council at its next meeting, an analysis of the graduation policy of the SGP, and in particular, the impact of the policy on LDCs and SIDS.

Decision 12/2007 GEF Business Plan FY08-10 and FY08 Corporate Budget

1. The Council, after having reviewed the [GEF Business Plan for FY08 and the FY08 Corporate Budget](#), documents GEF/C.31/9 and GEF/C.31/9/Corr.1 ([GEF Business Plan FY08-10 and FY08 Corporate Budget – Corrigendum](#)), takes note of the business plan and approves³ a FY08 Corporate Budget of \$15.868 million comprising:
 - (a) \$13.249 million for the GEF Secretariat
 - (b) \$1.989 million for the STAP
 - (c) Special initiatives for the Review of *GEF-related Administrative Expenses in the Implementing Agencies* in the amount of \$0.380 million and for the *Development of Tools to Assess the Impact of Climate Change on Project Results and Sustainability* in the amount of \$0.250 million.
2. The Council approves the *Terms of Reference for the Review of GEF-related Administrative Expenses in the Implementing Agencies* in Annex 10 of document GEF/C.31/9 ([GEF Business Plan for FY08 and the FY08 Corporate Budget](#)).
3. The Council, having reviewed the [FY08 Budget for the Trustee](#), document GEF/C.31/13, takes note of the expected services to be provided in FY08 by the Trustee and approves a total of \$2.4 million:
 - (a) \$1,986,000 for core Trustee services

³ The Council Member representing Japan expressed his opposition to the approval of the budget, noting his government's policy to maintain, in principle, zero growth budgets in international organizations.

- (b) \$100,000 for external audit of the GEF Trust Fund
 - (c) \$314,000 as a special initiative for the conversion of the financial statements from special purpose reporting to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
4. The Council requests the Secretariat, STAP, the Evaluation Office and the Trustee collectively to aim to operate during the GEF-4 commitment period within the GEF-4 administrative costs cap of \$93.5 million and to present their proposals in a consolidated plan beginning next year.

Decision 13/2007 Focal area strategies and Strategic Programming for GEF-4

1. The Council reviewed document GEF/C.31/10, [Focal Area Strategies and Strategic Programming for GEF-4](#), and agrees that the approved strategies should provide a basis for guiding the programming of resources during GEF-4. The Council agrees that the structure of long-term strategic objectives and strategic programs for a replenishment period should replace the previous operational programs and strategic priorities.
2. The Council agrees that Council Members may submit written comments on the strategies to the Secretariat by July 2, 2007. The Secretariat is requested to revise the strategies presented in document GEF/C.31/10, taking into account the Council Members' comments, and to circulate the revised strategies to the Council for approval by mail.
3. The Council requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with the GEF agencies, to operationalize the approved strategic programs and objectives in alignment with the ongoing development and implementation of the results-based management framework.
4. The Council requests the Secretariat to initiate work on the development of strategic objectives and programs for GEF-5 in 2008 with a view to presenting proposed strategic programming for GEF-5 to the Council at its first meeting in 2009.

Decision 14/2007 Results-based Management Framework

1. The Council reviewed the [results-based management framework](#) proposed in document GEF/C.31/11 and supports the proposed approach to monitoring performance and achievement of outputs, outcomes and impacts of GEF-financed activities and for annual reporting to the Council. The Council requests the GEF Secretariat, in consultation with the GEF agencies and the Evaluation Office, to further elaborate the specific elements of the results-based management framework necessary to fully

operationalize it, and to submit to the Council at its meeting in June 2008 the first annual monitoring review.

Decision 15/2007 Operational guidelines for the application of the incremental cost principle

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.31/12, [Operational Guidelines for the Application of the Incremental Cost Principle](#), approves the guidelines as a basis for a simplified demonstration of the “business-as-usual” scenario, incremental reasoning, fit with the focal area strategies and co-funding. The Council requests the Secretariat, the GEF agencies and the Evaluation Office to ensure that the guidelines and information requirements are followed in project design and implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Decision 16/2007 Other Business

1. The Council confirms the following [constituency groupings](#):
 - (a) Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Moldova, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia and the Ukraine;
 - (b) Cook Islands, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.
2. The Secretariat is requested to prepare an information note on country level programming, including its relationship to the RAF, focal area strategies, and strategic programs.

Decision by Mail – September 2007

Decision 17/2007 Intersessional Work Program

1. The Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) posted on August 2, 2007, and approves the work program comprising the following projects, subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by August 30, 2007:

Biodiversity

1. **Regional (India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand):** Conservation and Sustainable Use of Cultivated and Wild Tropical Fruit Diversity: Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods, Food Security and Ecosystem Services (UNEP) (GEF Grant: \$3.65 m)

2. **China:** Ningxia Integrated Ecosystem and Agricultural Development Project (ADB) (GEF Grant: \$5.00 m)

International Waters

3. **Regional (Burundi, Congo DR, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda)⁴:** Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Project, Phase II (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$6.7 m)
 4. **Regional (Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Morocco, Senegal):** Protection of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) (UNEP/FAO) (GEF Grant: \$8.09 m)
 5. **Mexico:** Integrated Assessment and Management of the Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem (UNIDO) (GEF Grant: \$4.503 m)
2. The Council finds that each project presented to it as part of the work program: (i) is or would be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures; and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the Implementing Agency, provided that the CEO circulates to the GEF Council Members, prior to endorsement, draft final project documents fully incorporating the Council's comments on the work program accompanied by a satisfactory explanation by the CEO of how such comments and comments of the STAP reviewer have been addressed and a confirmation by the CEO that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

Decision by Mail – October 2007

Decision 18/2007 Focal Area Strategies and Strategic Programming for GEF-4

1. The Council reviewed and approves the [Focal Area Strategies and Strategic Programming for GEF-4](#), circulated for approval by mail on September 12, 2007, and agrees that the approved strategies should be provide a basis for guiding the programming of resources during GEF-4. The Council agrees that the structure of long-term strategic objectives and strategic programs for a replenishment period should replace the previous operational programs and strategic priorities.
2. The Council requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with the GEF agencies, to operationalize the approved strategic programs and objectives in alignment with the

⁴ The Council Member representing the United States, in light of national legislation regarding its country's voting position for development projects financed by certain development institutions, opposed the project proposal, "Regional (Burundi, Congo DR, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda): Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Project (NTEAP), Phase 2".

ongoing development and implementation of the results-based management framework.

3. The Council requests the Secretariat to initiate work on the development of strategic objectives and programs for GEF-5 in 2008 with a view to presenting proposed strategic programming for GEF-5 to the Council at its first meeting in 2009.

32nd Council Meeting – November 2007

Decision 19/2007 Relations with Conventions and other Institutions

1. The Council considered document GEF/C.32/4, [*Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions*](#), and welcomes the proposed guidance and decisions that have been approved by the Conferences of the Parties to the global environmental conventions. The Council requests the Secretariat and the GEF Agencies to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities.

Decision 20/2007 Adaptation Fund of the Kyoto Protocol

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.32/5/Rev.1, [*Note on the Adaptation Fund*](#), takes note of the information included in it and endorses the recommendation that the GEF continue to adopt a flexible approach to the establishment and operationalization of the Adaptation Fund in response to decisions by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP).
2. The Council notes the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in negotiating an agreement on the Adaptation Fund.
3. The Council authorizes the GEF CEO and Chair to communicate to the Conference of the Parties, serving as the meeting of the Parties of the Kyoto Protocol at its Third session to be held in Bali in December 2007, based on the principles in the decision 5/CMP.2, the GEF's flexibility, including as to the governance of the Adaptation Fund, and the GEF's willingness to support a COP/MOP decision, should one be made, requesting the GEF Secretariat to function as the Secretariat of the Adaptation Fund.

Decision 21/2007 Evaluation Office Progress Report

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.32/1, [*GEF Evaluation Office: Progress Report of the Evaluation Director*](#), takes note of the on-going work on the

evaluation of Capacity Development and requests the Office to incorporate appropriate methodology in the upcoming focal area evaluations. On the International Workshop on Evaluating Climate Change and Development, the Council requests the Office to take into account the comments of the Council in its further preparations of the Workshop.

Decision 22/2007 Evaluation of the Small Grants Programme and Management Response

1. The Council, having reviewed Document GEF/ME/C.32/2, [*Joint Evaluation of the Small Grants Programme – Executive Version*](#), as well as Document GEF/ME/C.32/3, [*Management Response to the Joint Evaluation of the Small Grants Programme*](#), takes note of the conclusions and recommendations and requests the SGP Steering Committee to implement the recommendations by:
 - (a) Proposing a level of management costs on the basis of services rendered and cost-efficiency rather than on the basis of a stated percentage.
 - (b) Starting a process to change SGP's central management system suitable for the new phase of growth and to address the risks of growing complexity.
 - (c) Strengthening country programme oversight.
 - (d) Further strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation.
 - (e) Proposing a revision of the current criteria for access to SGP resources to maintain cost efficiency.
 - (f) Further developing a graduation policy for the SGP country programmes which takes into account the identified risks to GEF achievements and cost effectiveness, especially in SIDS and LDCs.
2. Council requests the SGP Steering Committee to report for decision of the Council on the actions taken to implement the recommendations at the April 2008 Council Meeting.

Decision 23/2007 GEF Annual Report on Impact 2007 – Executive Version

1. The Council, having reviewed Document GEF/ME/C.32/4, [*GEF Annual Report on Impact 2007 – Executive Version*](#), as well as GEF/ME/C.32/5 *Management Response to the GEF Annual Report on Impact 2007*, takes note of the Annual Report's conclusions and requests the GEF Secretariat to incorporate its recommendations into project preparation and to ensure adequate monitoring of progress towards institutional

continuity, and requests the Evaluation Office to continue its program of Impact Evaluation as proposed.

Decision 24/2007 Terms of Reference for the mid-term review of RAF

1. The Council having reviewed Document GEF/ME/C.32/6, [*Terms of Reference for the Mid-term Review of the RAF*](#), approves the terms of reference, subject to comments made at the Council meeting, which will be reflected in revised Terms of Reference to be circulated by the GEF Evaluation Office. The Council also approves US\$ 500,000.00 as “special initiative” fund for the GEF Evaluation Office to cover the expenses for the mid-term review.

Decision 25/2007 Work Program

1. The Council reviewed the proposed [*work program*](#) submitted to Council in document GEF/C.32/6/Rev.1 and approves it (with a total in GEF financing of \$237.46 million), subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted to the Secretariat by November 30, 2007.
2. The approved work program is comprised of 26 free-standing Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and three programmatic approaches, which contain 14 PIFs as follows:

Free-Standing PIFs

Biodiversity

- **Regional (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam):** Development and Application of Decision-support Tools to Conserve and Sustainably use Genetic Diversity in Indigenous Livestock and Wild Relatives (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 1.98 m)
- **Brazil:** Rio Grande Do Sul Biodiversity Conservation (World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$ 5.00 m)
- **Brazil:** Espirito Santo Biodiversity and Watershed Conservation and Restoration Project (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.00 m)
- **Chile:** Building a Comprehensive National Protected Areas System: A Financial and Operational Framework (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **Ecuador:** Management of Chimborazo's Natural Resources (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.90 m)
- **Indonesia:** Citarum Watershed Management and Biodiversity Conservation Project (ADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.75 m)

- **Peru:** Strengthening Biodiversity Conservation through the National Protected Areas Program (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 8.89 m)
- **Ukraine:** Strengthening Governance and Financial Sustainability of the National Protected Area System (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 1.80 m)

Climate Change

- **Global:** Global Market Transformation for Efficient Lighting (UNEP/UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **China:** Enabling China to Prepare Its Second National Communications to UNFCCC (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **China:** Market Transformation of Energy-Efficient Bricks and Rural Buildings (MTEBRB) (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 7.00 m)
- **China:** Thermal Power Efficiency (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 19.70 m)
- **India:** Sustainable Urban Transport Project (World Bank/UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 22.50 m)
- **Indonesia:** Geothermal Power Generation Development Program (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.00 m)
- **Indonesia:** Micro-turbine Cogeneration Technology Application Project (MCTAP) (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.59 m)
- **Thailand:** Promoting Renewable Energy in Mae Hong Son Province (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.99 m)
- **Global (Yemen):** Adaptation to Climate Change Using Agrobiodiversity Resources in the Rainfed Highlands of Yemen (World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$ 4.00 m)

International Waters

- **Regional (Angola, Namibia, South Africa) :** Implementation of the Benguela Current LME Action Program for Restoring Depleted Fisheries and Reducing Coastal Resources Degradation (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.14 m)
- **Regional (Antigua And Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago) :** Sustainable Management of the Shared Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 7.08 m)

- **Regional (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela):** Integrated and Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources in the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 7.00 m)

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

- **Ghana:** Capacity Building for PCB Elimination (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.50 m)
- **Mexico:** Environmentally Sound Management and Destruction of PCBs (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.63 m)
- **Morocco:** Safe Management and Disposal of PCBs (UNDP/UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.76 m)
- **Russian Federation:** Building the Capacity of the Russian Federation to Implement the Stockholm Convention on POPs and Develop a National Implementation Plan (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 1.44 m)⁵
- **Tunisia:** Demonstrating and Promoting Best Techniques and Practices for Managing Healthcare Waste and PCBs (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.50 m)
- **Vietnam:** Building Capacity to Eliminate POPs Pesticides Stockpiles (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.30 m)

Programmatic Approaches

1. The Council, having reviewed the three Programmatic Approaches, identified below, endorses the overall objectives and scope of the Approaches and approves the associated PIFs presented in this work program as follows:

China Biodiversity Partnership Framework for Action

- **China:** CBPF Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Headwaters of the Huaihe River Basin (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.73 m)
- **China:** CBPF Priority Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Development to Implement the China Biodiversity Partnership and Framework for Action (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.54 m)
- **China:** CBPF Shaanxi Qinling Mountains Integrated Ecosystem Development (ADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.27 m)

⁵ This project will not be CEO endorsed until Russia deposits its Instrument of Ratification to the Stockholm Convention with the United Nations in New York.

Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

- **Brazil:** SFM Catalyzing the Contribution of Indigenous Lands to the Conservation of Brazil's Forest Ecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 6.00 m)
- **Mongolia:** SFM Forest Landscapes Development and Conservation (World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$ 1.73 m)
- **Russian Federation:** SFM - Strengthening Protected Area System of the Komi Republic to Conserve Virgin Forest Biodiversity in the Pechora River Headwaters Region (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 4.50 m)
- **Tanzania:** SFM Extending the Coastal Forest Protected Area Subsystem (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 3.55 m)
- **Global:** SFM Carbon Benefits Project (CBP): Modeling, Measurement, and Monitoring (UNEP/World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$ 5.00 m)
- **Regional (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Brunei):** SFM Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in South-East Asia (IFAD) (GEF Grant: \$ 4.51 m)
- **Indonesia:** SFM Strengthening Community Based Forest and Watershed Management (SCBFWM) (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 7.00 m)
- **Iran:** SFM Rehabilitation of Forest Landscapes and Degraded Land with Particular Attention to Saline Soils and Areas Prone to Wind Erosion (FAO) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.67 m)⁶
- **Paraguay:** SFM Improving the Conservation of Biodiversity in Atlantic Forest of Eastern Paraguay (World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$ 4.50 m)

India Country Partnership Program: Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management (SLEM)

- **India:** SLEM/CPP-Sustainable Land Management in Shifting Cultivation Areas of Nagaland for Ecological and Livelihood Security (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$3.6 m)
- **India:** SLEM/CPP-Sustainable Rural Livelihood Security through Innovations in Land and Ecosystem Management (World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$10 m)

⁶ The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of its national legislation regarding its country's voting position for development projects financed by certain development institutions, opposed this project.

2. For all programmatic approaches, the Council requests that future PIFs financed under these programmatic approaches be included in work programs submitted to the Council for approval.
3. With respect to any PIF approved in this work program, either under one of the programmatic approaches or as a standalone PIF, the Council requests the Secretariat to arrange for Council Members to receive a copy of the draft final project document that is submitted to the CEO for endorsement. Council Members may transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concern they may have prior to the CEO endorsing a project document for final approval by a GEF Agency.
4. With respect to the ***Regional (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa) : Development and Adoption of a Strategic Action Program for Balancing Water Uses and Sustainable Natural Resource Management in the Orange-Senqu River Transboundary Basin*** project, the Council withholds its approval of the project pending resolution of the project financing issues. When the issues are resolved, the project may be resubmitted.

Decision 26/2007 Operational Policies and Guidelines for the Use of Non- Grant Instruments in the GEF

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.32/7, [The Use of Non-Grant Instruments in GEF Projects: Progress Report](#), requests the Agencies to track by type of financing all projects that provide non-grant financing, and to notify the Secretariat and the Trustee about any project that may generate reflows of funds to them and/or to the GEF Trust Fund.
2. The Council requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Trustee, the World Bank and the Regional Development Banks, and in consultation with the other Agencies, (a) to determine where the use of non- grant instruments would enhance the function of the GEF, with reference to the focal area strategies, and (b) to develop operational policies and guidance for the use of non-grant instruments, and to report to the next Council meeting in April 2008 for decision. Emphasis should be put in particular on (a) the use of GEF grants to provide concessional loans through blending, (b) the listing of non-grant instruments other than loans that can be used with GEF resources and (c) the list of Agencies authorized to use the different kinds of non-grant instruments.
3. The Council endorses the two ground rules specified in paragraphs 23 and 25 regarding the concessionality of non-grant instruments and the requirements for the approval of new projects that include such instruments.

Decision 27/2007 GEF Communications Strategy

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.32/8, [Communications and Outreach Strategy](#), approves the strategy presented in the document.
2. The Council, taking note of the indicative deliverables and budget as a suggested approach for implementation, requests the Secretariat to proceed with implementation of the strategy in full consultation with GEF partners, and asks that the Secretariat report back to the Council on outcomes in November 2009.

Decision 28/2007 Other Business

1. The Council adopts the following revision to paragraph 11 of the project cycle paper GEF/C.31/7/Rev.1 ([GEF Project Cycle](#)) – as approved in June 2007.
2. The revised paragraph 11 will read as follows:

11. Council Approval of Umbrella Programmes. Beginning in FY08, umbrella programmes for GEF funding will only be submitted to Council at its meetings, not intersessionally. Documentation for an umbrella program presented to the Council in a work programme will identify all the projects to be financed under the program and will present the PIFs for the concepts. If a PIF for a project is not ready for presentation as part of the programmatic framework, then: (i) the amount requested for the program will be reduced by the amount of the project; and (ii) when the PIF is ready, and cleared by the CEO, it will be presented for approval, in future work programs. All approved PIFs will be posted on the GEF web site.
3. As proposed in the document GEF/C.32/9/Rev.1, [Confirmation of Participants Joining Constituencies](#), the Council confirms the following constituency groupings: (i) Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Decision by Mail – November 2007

Decision 29/2007 Report of the GEF to the 13th COP to the UNFCCC

1. The Council, having reviewed the draft [Report of the GEF to the Thirteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#), approves the report for submission to the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties.