Global Environment Facility



Leonard GoodChief Executive Officer
and Chairman

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February 6, 2004

Dear Council Member,

At its meeting in November 2003, the Council agreed, after having reviewed a proposal for the preparation of the Third Study of GEF's Overall Performance (OPS3),

"that the study should be prepared by an independent team of evaluators as was done for OPS1 and OPS2. The Council also agree[d] that the terms of reference for OPS3 should be concluded as early as possible in 2004 and should include information on the process for selecting the independent team of evaluators and on how the study should be conducted. The Council welcome[d] the offer of the Council Member from Canada to take a lead in preparing the terms of reference. The Canadian Council Member [was] requested to consult with the other Council Members, the GEF monitoring and evaluation unit, and the GEF Secretariat in carrying out this task. The Council request[ed] the Secretariat to circulate the proposed terms of reference to all Council Members for approval by mail by February 1, 2004."

I am pleased to attach the proposed Terms of Reference for the Third Overall Performance Study for your approval. The TORs were developed by the Canadian Council Member based on an initial consultation with Council Members in early December. A draft document was then circulated to Council Members at the beginning of January, and comments received on this draft were then integrated into the final document. Steps were also taken to analyze the process and substance of OPS2 and to draw lessons from that experience.

The Council is invited to approve the following decision:

The Council, having reviewed the proposed terms of reference for an independent monitoring and evaluation unit dated February 6, 2004, approves the terms of reference for the Third Overall Performance Study (OPS3) of the GEF. The Council also approves US\$2,035,605 to be included in the budget of the independent monitoring and evaluation unit to cover the costs of OPS3.

The Council requests the Operations and Evaluation Department of the World Bank to expeditiously undertake the steps proposed in the Terms of Reference for recruiting the team to undertake the study.

In accordance with rule 45 of the Rules of Procedure for the GEF Council, as amended by the Council at its meeting in November 2000, since the proposed decision has financial implications, approval of the proposed decision will require affirmative replies from at least two-thirds of the Council Members.

I would urge you to give this proposal your utmost consideration, and I would appreciate receiving *a written reply* from you by February 23, 2004.

Sincerely,

Leonard Good CEO and Chairman

c.c. Alternates, invitees to Council Meeting