



STATEMENT BY THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

ON THE REPORT OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

TO THE TWENTY-FIRST SESSION

OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION

ON CLIMATE CHANGE

1 December 2015

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to present the Report of the Global Environmental Facility to the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The report, document number FCCC/CP/2015/4 and addendum, summarizes GEF's activities from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

Parties provided guidance to the GEF in Lima on several important subjects, such as support for Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, finance, including support for mitigation and adaptation, continued support to least developed countries, Biennial Update Reports, National Communications, among others.

Regarding the COP guidance on INDCs, we are pleased to report that the GEF supported the INDC preparations in 46 countries. Among them, 21 are LDCs and 10 are SIDS. Of these 46 countries, 44 have communicated their INDC. Also, the GEF provided capacity building and information sharing in support of INDC preparations through its Global Support Program, to assist all countries to contribute to the success of the Paris agreement.

On the subject of enabling activities, the GEF continues to provide full-cost funding for National Communications and BURs. During the reporting period, 52

additional countries received GEF support for BURs. To date, 94 countries in total have GEF support for BURs. The document FCCC/SBI/2014 provides information on the status of National Communications and BURs.

On financing for climate change mitigation, the GEF allocated \$401 million to 52 projects during the reporting period, responding to national priorities in areas such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable forest management, land-based actions, city-based actions, among others. These GEF investments leveraged \$3.5 billion in co-financing. In addition, since July 2015, 19 more projects have been approved, with \$234 million in GEF resources.

On financing for adaptation, we are very pleased that pledges totaling \$248 million to LDCF were announced on the first day of the COP, from 11 countries. These new contributions will provide adaptation support to some of the most vulnerable countries on the planet. For the reporting period, LDCF resources of \$100 million were approved for 12 projects and programs. The SCCF Adaptation Program provided \$46 million for nine projects.

Capacity building continues to feature as an integral element of GEF-financed projects. During the reporting period, the GEF supported 136 projects with

components cutting across eleven UNFCCC-defined priority areas for capacity building. The total resources allocated to capacity building totaled \$396 million.

Regarding technology transfer, 14 projects with technology transfer objectives were approved with \$221 million of GEF funding and \$2 billion of co-financing. For the LDCF and SCCF, 23 projects with technology transfer objectives were approved with \$151 million of GEF funding. Collaboration with the Technology Mechanism and Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) continued.

We are continuing along the innovative path for GEF-6, focusing on tackling the underlying drivers of global environmental degradation in synergy. This is aligned with requests from a growing number of countries that seek to utilize GEF resources across climate change, land degradation, biodiversity, forest, and other domains to address sustainable development priorities in an integrated manner. This is consistent with GEF's medium-term strategy called "GEF 2020" to support transformational change and achieve global environmental benefits at scale.

In particular, three new integrated pilot programs were approved by the GEF Council in June 2015. They are: (i) Taking Deforestation out of the Commodity Supply Chains; (ii) Sustainable Cities; and (iii) Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa. Each of these programs will generate global environmental benefits in an

integrated fashion, and deliver significant climate change mitigation benefits and enhance resilience. These programs and other innovative initiatives are catalyzing new partnerships and voluntary action from partners, some of which are featured in the Lima-Paris Action Agenda.

Mr. Chair, regarding accreditation, we are pleased to announce that the pilot process was completed in May 2015 with eight new GEF agencies accredited.

These eight agencies are: Development Bank of Southern Africa; Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade (FUNBIO); Foreign Economic Cooperation Office of China (FECO); West African Development Bank (BOAD); Development Bank of Latin America (CAF); World Wildlife Fund-US; Conservation International; and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). This brings the total number of GEF Agencies to eighteen. Already, several of these new Agencies have projects and programs approved by the GEF Council.

My colleagues from the GEF Secretariat and I are present to provide additional information and to respond to questions. We look forward to contributing to the successful outcomes of COP 21.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.