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## REPORT OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF STAP IV, 16-19 OCTOBER, 2006

**(Prepared by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel)**

## **Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of STAP IV, 16-19 October 2006**

1. The first meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP IV) to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) was held on 16-19 October 2006, in Room MC2-800, in the main World Bank building at 1818 H Street, NW, Washington, DC. In addition, focal area working group sessions were held between STAP Members, the GEF Secretariat, and Implementing Agencies. The objectives of the sessions were to develop a STAP work program, and for STAP to advise on the draft strategic priorities. The principal outcomes from the plenary and working group sessions are recorded in these minutes. Details of those attending are in Annex A.

### **Agenda Items 1 and 2: Opening session and brainstorming session on enhancing the relevance of STAP in the GEF**

2. The meeting was opened by Yolanda Kakabadse, the Chair of STAP. She welcomed the new Panel members, and remarked that with a new composition of STAP, the appointment of a new GEF CEO and Chairperson, along with the appointment of a new UNEP Executive Director, there is an opportunity for rethinking the role and relevance of STAP in the GEF. She invited Monique Barbut, GEF CEO and Chairperson, and the participants to openly and actively share their concerns and ideas regarding STAP.
3. Monique Barbut thanked Yolanda Kakabadse, and remarked that she attaches great importance to the role of STAP because the GEF is working in areas which are evolving daily, and in which the priorities and knowledge are shifting. She highlighted that limited resources demand very clear strategies that must be backed by scientific evidence to ensure the GEF is working on the most important issues, as well as addressing a niche that other agencies cannot fill. Therefore, she called on STAP to help build the best possible strategies for GEF.
4. Yolanda Kakabadse remarked that STAP held a retreat, with its partners, in June 2005 to discuss and reflect on STAP's relevance, and future strategic directions. At the retreat, Yolanda Kakabadse recalled that STAP discussed what are the scientific and technological needs in the GEF? And how should STAP work? STAP concluded that it should work in two levels: strategic policy, and project cycle level, Yolanda Kakabadse said. She also asked Monique Barbut whether STAP should be working closer with the Conventions, and how and in what areas she considers STAP would make a stronger contribution.
5. Monique Barbut observed that, fifteen years ago, what she knew about STAP was that it existed to build a bridge between the scientific community and the GEF Council. She remarked there is still a need for STAP to build this bridge, and that

an opportunity, therefore, exists for STAP to deepen and strengthen this role through the revision of its terms of reference (ToRs).

6. Monique Barbut said she regarded STAP as having two fundamental roles: firstly at the strategic level – the primary level – to inform GEF programming, and secondly at the project level. On the former, Monique Barbut noted that this role goes hand-in-hand with the GEF Evaluation Office's (EO) work. She also noted that STAP needs to be involved in revitalizing the strategic priorities, a process which will occur during the next months. In June 2007, Monique Barbut expressed she would like to present revised, simpler, more focused – with expected impact and output – strategies to the GEF Council.
7. She also envisions STAP's strategic role as translating new knowledge into actionable policy advice. For example, STAP could translate the guidance from the scientific bodies of the Conventions or from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment into relevant priorities that the GEF should focus on. Monique Barbut remarked that the scientific bodies of the Conventions tend to provide long term policy recommendations whereas GEF has a shorter time horizon. She also said that STAP should also work on the restructuring of the GEF Secretariat, and project cycle over the next six months.
8. At the project level, Monique Barbut stated that STAP can help improve the quality of projects. In order to fulfill this role, STAP should fundamentally rethink the Roster review mechanism. She recommended that STAP advise on a limited number of strategic, innovative, or controversial projects (at entry point), and to work with the GEF throughout the cycle of these projects. She also recommended that STAP make better use of the targeted research modality.
9. She noted that she does not envisage modifications to STAP's role as established by the GEF Instrument because the Instrument allows sufficient flexibility to improve the functioning of STAP. Nonetheless, she remarked that the revision of STAP ToRs present an exciting opportunity to rethink STAP's role.
10. Monique Barbut noted there is a profound need for functional and structural change in the GEF and for the GEF to perform in a more efficient and cost effective manner. In this vein, she noted that STAP has not been effective and has not represented a good return on investment for the GEF. She challenged STAP to restore its credibility. To do so, Monique Barbut said STAP needs to focus on the project cycle, and to assist with delivering a more strategic work program to the GEF Council.
11. She also noted that STAP needs to serve better its primary client, the GEF Council. She said that STAP should provide advice to the GEF Council to enable its members to make decisions that are coherent from a global scientific viewpoint. For this, she recommended that STAP concentrate its work on a series of thematic, brief

documents for policy makers, and invited STAP to better communicate with the GEF Council through her, as CEO and Chair of the GEF Council.

12. Brian Huntley, STAP member, thanked Monique Barbut for her recommendations, and the leeway to make significant changes in the way STAP operates, but observed that if it was, indeed, the case that the GEF Instrument sets the conditions for STAP then perhaps little can change. Given the various opportunities and enthusiasm to revitalize STAP, Brian Huntley asked whether STAP is the right body to re-invent itself, or whether this task should be addressed by the EO, or another independent entity. He also noted that reshaping the GEF and the project cycle will also need to take into account that projects include very little science in them, and that politics, often, drives the project cycle. STAP can be more responsible and effective, therefore, only if the projects have more science in them. On the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF), Brian Huntley cautioned against relying too much on the focal points due to, potential lack of capacity. He said that many countries need help on projects from the Implementing Agencies; therefore, a balance will need to be reached between the Agencies and the country offices as the RAF is implemented. Finally, he asked whether STAP should also serve Conventions and their subsidiary bodies or not.
13. Anand Patwardhan, STAP member, suggested that STAP could play a role translating the findings of assessments by scientific bodies into policy advice for the GEF and called for the creation of a modality for providing strategic advice. On the roster, Anand Patwardhan remarked that if the role that is being asked of STAP is “intelligence of design” at all project levels, then the roster is not the proper mechanism. He also concurred with the GEF CEO and Chairperson that STAP could use more creatively the targeted research modality as a way of fulfilling its role.
14. Monique Barbut responded there is no need to go back to the GEF Instrument, and secondly that STAP should extract key practical issues for the GEF from the work of subsidiary bodies of Conventions. She reiterated the urgency for developing new strategies to be presented to the GEF Council in June 2007, and the need to ensure that emerging issues, such as biofuels, are covered. She also reminded everyone that according to the EO’s project cycle evaluation, the GEF has the longest project cycle of any other institution. Therefore, this must be reduced from an average 66 months to 22 months, and that everyone needs to reform, including STAP, which needs to agree on whether to shift the STAP roster review to the entry point of the project cycle.
15. Frank Pinto, Executive Coordinator UNDP – GEF, observed that the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) messages called for action and that the GEF-4 replenishment was not easy; in this context how could STAP make a difference in bridging the gap between complex science studies like the MA and their understanding by the GEF Council? He also said that in the past STAP (through the roster) was seen by the GEF Council as a policing body to hold the Agencies to

task. Recently, the STAP roster has focused on minutiae, had little influence on projects, and was seen as a necessary evil. He asked how to bring in expertise earlier at the project design stage, and if this might convince the GEF Council to focus more strategically on the STAP project reviews.

16. Andrea Merla, GEF Secretariat, commented that the STAP Roster review could be dispensed with because the Agencies had their own expertise. He also commented that STAP needs to be made up of effective network representatives, not individuals, because of its limited life and poor institutional memory. Therefore, STAP members need to be network leaders.
17. Yolanda Kakabadse asked if it was true that Agencies' in-house scientists can substitute the Roster experts.
18. Rob Van den Berg, Director of the GEF Evaluation Office, said there were two ways that STAP and the EO could intersect: 1) examine the lessons from the past performance of STAP; and, 2) collaborate more on targeted research. One area may be the innovative and catalytic role of science to reinforce the direction of GEF- an upcoming EO evaluation.
19. In addition to these two opportunities, Rob Van den Berg noted that STAP could undertake strategic planning - issues, which the EO cannot address. For this, STAP needs a close collaboration –“marriage” – with the GEF Secretariat. This would, therefore, require initiative from the GEF Secretariat to work with STAP on strategic issues, noted Rob Van den Berg. He also informed the participants about the exploratory study on the “Role of science in the GEF”, which the EO is undertaking. The study will focus not only on the role of STAP, but also on broader science aspects in the GEF.
20. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan, Acting Deputy Director UNEP-DGEF, raised the possibility of setting performance indicators for STAP work program activities, and its products. For STAP workshops, she recommended that STAP undertake more upfront preparation before it engages and brings together its scientific networks. She also commented that it is not always clear how STAP taps into its scientific networks. To strengthen ties with its client – the GEF Council, Sheila Aggarwal-Khan recommended having a proper deliberation on how STAP can have a more effective dialogue with the GEF Council.
21. Steve Gorman, Executive Coordinator World Bank-GEF, remarked that STAP's work is to assist the GEF Council move forward, in a timely manner, on specific areas, such as interlinkages. He also asked STAP to consider interlinkages as they look into the strategic priorities – what is needed to move forward interlinkages? Additionally, STAP could also look into Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and its relation to other Operational Programs, an area STAP has not looked into.

22. There was wide consensus among the STAP members, the GEF CEO and Chairperson, and the Implementing Agencies on shortcomings of the current STAP Roster. The group suggested that the role of the Roster should focus on advising on the technical and scientific aspects of projects during their elaboration, rather than serve a “policing” function after their design. They recommended that STAP focus on a limited number of projects and be involved earlier in the project cycle in order to improve and increase scientific innovativeness of GEF projects, currently lacking in many cases.
23. Additionally, Monique Barbut proposed that STAP and the EO develop guidelines for early project reviews for certain types of projects. She could then present the STAP guidelines to the GEF Council, proposing that if a project meets the guidelines then a roster review is not needed before work program inclusion.
24. Monique Barbut summarized her response to this discussion and emphasized that:
  - a. through selective reviews, STAP could sharpen guidelines and criteria for targeting future resources;
  - b. STAP should choose experts for a small percentage of selective reviews, leaving the Roster in the GEF Instrument, but using it in a different way;
  - c. the role of a STAP member is as a network representative, and the STAP Secretariat needs to support this function; and,
  - d. STAP does not need to create a task force with the GEF Council in order to communicate with this body. Additionally, the GEF Council will only meet twice a year.
25. Yolanda Kakabadse asked Monique Barbut’s reaction to STAP’s proposed science forum that would take place in conjunction with the GEF replenishment cycle. Monique Barbut recommended that before considering a science forum, STAP could first focus on solidifying its role within GEF and await the outcomes of the GEF restructuring and redefinition of priorities. She also commented on the importance of having such guidance, for example at the time of the mid-term review of the RAF or in preparation for a new programming cycle.
26. The active participation of STAP members in the task forces, especially in the identification of the focal area strategic priorities, was identified as a key step to ensure a closer collaboration between STAP and the GEF family. The STAP members agreed that, rather than assigning one representative, all the panelists from each focal area would participate in the task forces. Peter Bjornsen, GEF Secretariat, agreed to ask the task forces to extend invitations to the STAP members to participate in the relevant meetings.
27. Maryam Niamir-Fuller, UNDP-GEF Senior Technical Advisor Land Degradation, also recommended that STAP work closely with the existing processes in order to avoid duplication of efforts, and ensure the relevance of STAP’s results. She

recommended that STAP uses its partners as a sounding board for policy proposals before presenting these to the GEF Council.

28. The STAP members decided to submit the revision of STAP's ToRs to the GEF Council at their meeting in June 2007. This will allow STAP to take into account the GEF Secretariat's restructuring in the revised ToRs. A small team working on the STAP ToRs was also formed: Yolanda Kakabadse, Michael Stocking (STAP Vice-Chair), Anand Patwardhan, and Doug Taylor.

### **Agenda Item 3: GEF induction for new panel members**

29. The GEF Secretariat staff presented a summary of GEF's history, organizational structure, governance (including the GEF Instrument and country relations), operational policies, project cycle, knowledge management systems, finance mechanism, replenishments, the GEF-4 programming document, the GEF-4 policy framework, and the RAF. The World Bank, UNDP, and UNEP presented their respective GEF portfolios and role in the GEF family.
30. Rob van den Berg presented the role of the Evaluation Office in the GEF and identified areas of collaboration with STAP. He called for greater interaction between STAP and the EO. He also commented that collaboration between STAP and the EO has been inconsistent due to structural constraints, since the two bodies work under different schedules and timeframes. In order to ensure closer collaboration, Rob van den Berg invited Yolanda Kakabadse, STAP Chair to monthly meetings with him. In addition for work content development, Doug Taylor, STAP Secretary, is invited to participate in the EO's staff meetings.
31. Doug Taylor, STAP Secretary, and Anand Patwardhan presented charts illustrating the role of STAP within the GEF family (See Annex B).

### **Agenda Item 4: Adoption of the agenda, and organization of work, including introduction of the STAP Chair to the first meeting of STAP-4**

32. The STAP members and the meeting participants adopted the proposed agenda.

### **Agenda Item 5: STAP members' reports of inter-sessional activities**

33. Yolanda Kakabadse reported on her statement to the GEF Council in June 2006. The report was well received by the GEF Council, and several members expressed support for a number of STAP activities, including biofuels and integration of groundwater into the other focal areas. Yolanda Kakabadse also reported on her statement to the GEF Assembly in August 2006. She noted that although the agenda did not allow for feedback or discussion following her statement, STAP had, nonetheless, submitted a report, based on STAP III experience, which examined the past and future science and technology trends in the GEF work program.

34. Michael Stocking presented the results of the Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Forum, which took place a day before the opening of the GEF Assembly, 28 August 2006 in Cape Town. He reported that this landmark event emphasized the global benefits and local livelihood issues related to land management, highlighted the cross-sectoral aspects of the topic, and identified opportunities for innovation in land management.
35. The SLM forum was structured in three symposia: 1) Sustainable Land and Water Management: A GEF Agenda for Combating Environmental Degradation and Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods; 2) Mobilizing Science and Communities to Combat Land Degradation; and, 3) Resource Generation and Resource Utilization in Policies, Institutions and Partnerships. The forum also marked the launch of the GEF-UNEP-FAO Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands project. Michael Stocking also noted that he will form part of the project's Steering Committee, and recommended that STAP closely follows the project. He also briefed the participants about a High-Level Round Table on Sustainable Land and Water Management to Benefit People and their Environments, which took place at the forum.

**Agenda item 6: Reports by the GEF Secretariat, the Implementing Agencies, and the Evaluation Office on issues of relevance to STAP**

36. Peter Bjornsen, GEF Secretariat, reported that drafts of strategic priorities will be presented to the GEF Council in December 2006. The final strategies will be presented to the GEF Council at their meeting in June 2007. He invited STAP to actively participate in the revision of the priorities, a task that will take place between January and March 2007. He also invited STAP to contribute to other ongoing discussions within the GEF Secretariat, such as accelerating and simplifying the project cycle, the role of the Implementing and Executing Agencies, the implementation of the RAF, as well as discussions on the calculations of incremental costs.
37. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan reported that UNEP is undergoing structural changes that have implications for the role of STAP. UNEP is seeking to emphasize its role as a scientific institution with stronger links to other scientific networks, to harmonize its project cycle and evaluation processes with those of GEF. She invited STAP to collaborate on targeted research projects, including the biofuels targeted research proposal.
38. Yolanda Kakabadse, Michael Stocking, Anand Patwardhan, and Peter Bjornsen raised questions whether UNEP is the correct body to house STAP, and whether a STAP is, indeed, needed given UNEP's role to engage with the scientific community. Yolanda Kakabadse also raised concerns that UNEP has not paid sufficient attention to STAP, and its needs.

39. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan recommended focusing on improving the substance and efficiency of STAP, and dedicating less effort to STAP's location. She also argued in favor of strengthening the information flows between UNEP and STAP, and setting a time-table to better monitor UNEP and STAP's performance and their relationship.
40. John Hough, UNDP-GEF Principal Technical Advisor on Biodiversity, commented that UNDP, like other Agencies, has adapted to its stakeholder's evolving needs. As a result, UNDP has expanded its work on technical issues, and capacity building.
41. He also commented that after the World Bank, UNDP is the second largest recipient of GEF funds - \$2.2 billion – and has raised \$3.3 billion in co-financing. A third of the funds are channeled to biodiversity, and another third to climate change. The remaining funds are spread between international waters, land degradation, persistent organic pollutants, ozone protection, and enabling activities. John Hough highlighted a number of on-going UNDP projects, including a micro-hydro project in Nigeria, a solar wind project in South Africa, a project on land degradation in Namibia, and a multi-country biodiversity project on endangered species in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.
42. He asked STAP to review the Roster review process in order to carry out the reviews earlier in the project cycle, and limit the number of projects reviewed. He requested assistance from STAP's networks for creating bridges with local scientists and scientific institutions, and for vetting local experts. He also recommended greater involvement by STAP in the task forces.
43. Lastly, he remarked that UNDP is a knowledge management agency, responsible for a number of on-going projects in this area, including, the international waters learning exchange and resource network (IW-LEARN), the Small-Grants Programme, and the GEF National Dialogue Initiative.
44. Steve Gorman, World Bank, also recommended greater involvement in the focal area task forces. He commented that the World Bank is undergoing restructuring with the integration of the Environmentally Sustainable Development and Infrastructure units into a single Sustainable Development unit. He invited STAP's input on the World Bank's International Assessment of Agricultural Science & Technology for Development, and the Investment Framework for Clean Energy and Sustainable Development.
45. Rob Van den Berg suggested that STAP collaborate with the EO's work on the evaluation of the catalytic role of the GEF, the evaluation of the role of science and technology in the GEF, targeted research, land degradation indicators, and revitalizing the work on knowledge management in the GEF. He also invited STAP to participate in the International Workshop on Evaluating Environmentally Sustainable Development currently being organized. Regarding the roster, Rob Van

den Berg recommended that STAP and the EO follow-up on Monique Barbut's request to develop project review guidelines based on portfolio assessments.

46. He reiterated Monique Barbut's request, and its relevance, that STAP distill the scientific assessment outcomes and emerging knowledge from the scientific domain, and apply it towards the strategic priorities.

#### **Agenda Item 7: STAP advice and reports ready for submission to GEF Council**

47. Anand Patwardhan presented the history and current status of the STAP workshop report on liquid biofuels for transportation, developed by STAP III. The report, including STAP's recommendations on biofuels, will be presented at the GEF Council meeting in December 2006.
48. Michael Stocking presented the preliminary findings of the three land degradation studies requested of STAP III by the Land Degradation Task Force. The synthesis report of these studies will be presented to the GEF Council in December 2006. (The three studies are as follows: 1) Global Impacts of Land Degradation; 2) Quantifying Trade-Offs between Sustainable Land Management, Global Environmental Concerns, and Local Socioeconomic Impacts; and, 3) Determining Global Environmental Benefits of Land Degradation Interventions Using the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment's Ecosystem Services Framework). The Panel also agreed to publish the three full length reports as a STAP working paper series with a preface from the Chair that presents the reports as a STAP product, and not as a GEF policy recommendation.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Preliminary focal area strategies for GEF 4 programming: implications for STAP priorities and work program**

49. Focal area working groups were held to discuss the strategic priorities, and STAP work program. The following minutes reflect the discussions held in the group sessions, and the reports delivered by the groups in plenary.

#### **Biodiversity Focal Area Working Group**

50. Mark Zimsky, GEF Secretariat Acting Team Leader on Biodiversity, as a way to facilitate brainstorming and thinking outside of the box, opened the session by asking the STAP members to comment on how they would spend the approximately \$1 billion that the biodiversity focal area will allocate during GEF-4 to achieve the biggest impact, and then to consider how their chosen strategy would change given the constraints the RAF presents; and how the 17 October draft of the biodiversity strategic priorities matched their ideal strategy.
51. Braulio Dias, STAP member, suggested that the group first establish where it wants to be in 2010 then, looking back, identify the steps needed to get there. He

commented that each of the current strategic priorities are sensible in of themselves, but that the strategy as a whole lacks coherence and does not deliver a globally significant program of action. He recommended that the task force establish a number of precise, globally significant and attainable targets for the next four years and take the measures necessary to meet them. This would increase GEF's visibility and credibility. He cited the example of the Zero Extinction Alliance analysis that overlaid maps of endangered species locations with the location of protected areas to identify gaps for action. In the alien invasive species work, he suggested a GEF focus on transportation pathways. He also suggested the GEF establish targets and an action plan for the protection of globally significant crop varieties.

52. Brian Huntley suggested that the group needs to understand, and share the new CEO's vision in order to align its strategies with that vision. He suggested that over the next four years, the biodiversity focal area strategy transition from an approach based primarily on protected areas (currently 60% of the budget) towards an accelerated implementation of mainstreaming strategies, the budget for which would increase from 30% to 50% of the budget. He commented this would give the GEF the biggest return on investment given that 90% of the earth's surface is not protected.
53. He suggested a regional or bioregional approach, possibly through the current sectoral framework, and recommended dedicating 10% of the budget to mobilizing global networks which could produce large amounts of data with a limited investment. He also suggested that the task force needs to focus on COP-related tasks.
54. Maryanne Grieg-Gran, STAP member, recommended that the task force dedicate part of its budget to see how some biodiversity can pay for itself, both through mainstreaming activities and by enabling parts of protected areas to pay for themselves. This would free up funds for the parts of biodiversity that cannot pay for themselves. She called for more analysis of how biodiversity contributes to national economies since this would make a strong case for the protection of biodiversity at the national level, and could increase availability of funds. She pointed to a need for data on cost effectiveness of different approaches.
55. The group commented that there appeared to be agreement on the basic pillars of the biodiversity focal area strategy, but that they may need refinement and more focus in order to respond to the direction that the CEO is considering vis a vis GEF's engagement in biodiversity conservation.. There was agreement to focus more resources on mainstreaming going forward, and better communicate the existing mainstreaming strategy which is quite innovative, in and of itself. It was also noted that there is a need to proceed with caution on mainstreaming as there is little experience globally with successful mainstreaming. Data from mainstreaming projects that demonstrate measurable and favorable impact on biodiversity are scarce; hence, if GEF increases its engagement with mainstreaming, it was noted that this should be done with caution. As such, improving the management

effectiveness of protected area systems will always be a part of the GEF strategy. Participants discussed the possibility of including work related to invasive alien species issues under this heading, and the development of case studies to identify criteria for the implementation of mainstreaming activities. Braulio Dias suggested focusing on the production rather than the consumption side of mainstream – for example, through government procurement strategies. There was also agreement on the need to engage in cross- area thinking and to allocate resources to this process. Mark Zimsky remarked that the focal area has developed indicators and collected data during GEF III; thus, he called for continuity in the use of indicators.

56. The GEF Secretariat agreed to take into account the comments and discussion as work continued to revise the biodiversity strategy per the direction of the CEO and taking into account the comments of the GEF Council that will be presented at December Council.
57. The group agreed to hold a workshop on mainstreaming biodiversity in freshwater and marine productive seascapes in late 2007 to complement the work that STAP conducted on mainstreaming biodiversity in production landscapes. A workshop was considered necessary because the topic is unexplored, and it would be the most effective vehicle for pooling STAP's scientific networks, developing the advice, and addressing effectively the GEF's request. The latter was noted based on the successful experience with the workshop on mainstreaming biodiversity in production landscapes - largely based on the participation of the policy implementers (GEF family, large NGOs and country representative) throughout the workshop process.
58. The group also agreed to seek ways to engage the private sector in achieving biodiversity goals particularly as this relates to mainstreaming biodiversity.

### **Climate Change Focal Area Working Group**

59. Anand Patwardhan introduced the session and outlined the work program that STAP was undertaking.
60. On biofuels, it was agreed the biofuels report should be concluded. Kristin McLaughlin, UNEP-GEF liaison officer, informed the group about UNEP's PDF-A targeted research project on biofuels, and recommended that STAP be involved in its formulation. Anand Patwardhan agreed that it would be a good opportunity for STAP to get involved by shaping it further, and exploring a number of scientific and technical issues that are likely to surface as the project evolves.
61. Frank Pinto asked why there was an increasing controversy reported by his field offices about biofuels development, and the group discussed reasons why this might have developed. There was consensus that recent popular press articles may have raised awareness of potential tradeoffs between food production and biomass for biofuel production.

62. On STAP's Energy Efficient Building workshop, the group noted the workshop had been proposed 18 months ago by Peter Hennicke, former STAP member, and that the original request for advice had in part been satisfied through other means. As a result, there was wide agreement that the workshop proposal needed to be refined to better address the GEF and the Agencies' needs on energy efficiency in buildings, including: simplifying and tightening the focus of the agenda to reflect clear GEF outcomes, as well as reducing the number of speakers. It was agreed to discuss these issues further through a teleconference between Thomas Johansson, STAP workshop lead, Anand Patwardhan, Peter Hennicke, the GEF Secretariat, and representatives of the Implementing Agencies.
63. Anand Patwardhan briefed the group about a request from the GEF Secretariat for advice on carbon capture and storage (CCS). The group agreed there is a need to define the activities, but that these should focus on capacity building. As a way forward, Anand Patwardhan suggested to develop terms of reference for a paper, and lead a small review meeting with the GEF Secretariat and the Implementing Agencies in 2007. The discussion would focus on developing options for CCS capacity building interventions.
64. Marcel Alers, UNDP-GEF Project Manager Climate Change, asked whether STAP was considering new areas, such as exploring the linkages between the GEF and carbon finance synergies. It was agreed that STAP should not be directly involved in this activity, as this was a policy debate not a scientific one.
65. On adaptation, the group discussed several activities and deliverables: 1) STAP's advice on how to design, structure, and adapt projects; and, 2) STAP's help with developing a set of priorities for adaptation projects in the pipeline. On the latter, Frank Pinto noted the urgency for STAP's advice, as it was highly likely that the Special Climate Change Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund would be replenished.
66. The group also discussed integrated approaches to adaptation. There was agreement that STAP advice is needed on this. Ian Noble, Climate Change Team Leader, World Bank-GEF, suggested that the World Bank approach of "Climate Risk" assessment would be a good tool to apply to integrated efforts. Anand Patwardhan proposed a workshop for April 2007 on this topic, preceded by a discussion with the task force on 1 November. Brian Huntley noted that it would be important to include other focal areas, including Biodiversity, in the adaptation, cross-cutting, efforts.

### **International Waters Focal Area Working Group**

67. The international waters working group broadly discussed STAP advice on land-based pollution. However, the group decided that, as a priority, STAP's advice would be needed on marine seascapes, and fisheries. Andrea Merla, GEF

Secretariat, proposed working on developing a scope for this advice with the biodiversity focal area. He also noted that a STAP workshop on SIDS, groundwater, and interlinkages, the last in a groundwater series, would be held in November 2006.

### **Land Degradation Focal Area Working Group**

68. The land degradation group discussed how landscapes could become the unit to achieve outputs in the land degradation focal area, achieve integration across the focal areas, as well as assist with the cross-cutting restructure of the GEF Secretariat. The group developed some preliminary ideas on how this could be achieved, and agreed that further discussion would be needed. As a result, the group agreed to commission a short study (communications paper) on landscape approaches, and present this at a half day seminar at the GEF Secretariat in January or February 2007. The report would also feed into the expert consultation on knowledge management also to be held in January. Michael Stocking agreed to be the STAP lead.
69. The group also discussed ways to up-scale and to out-scale global environment benefits in the land degradation focal area. The group also considered collaborating with the biodiversity task force on this activity. The group agreed this activity would be pursued in the medium – long term.

### **Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Area Working Group**

70. The POPs working group considered the activities put forward in the work program document: BAT/BEP, POPs destruction, and Global benefits of chemical management activities. The group decided that it was too early to develop activities on BAT/BEP, given this would be discussed by the Conference of the Parties at their next meeting in November – December 2006. On POPs destruction, the group agreed they would need more time to consider whether there is a need to focus on this. On global benefits of chemical management, the group agreed to tie decisions to the Stockholm Convention, and pursue this as an activity across the focal areas. They also suggested conducting case studies to explore the development of targets and indicators.

### **Concluding remarks**

71. In plenary, several STAP members noted overlaps and lack of coherence between the strategic priorities of the different focal areas and suggested that these work together to present a coherent work program. Michael Stocking suggested that sustainable land management could be a cross-cutting theme that provides an overarching structure to the work program. John Buccini, STAP member, suggested that all the focal area strategies be harmonized with a common format and terminology. The biodiversity task force proposed that the identification of short

term, attainable targets and deliverables discussed in the group may be of interest to other focal areas and to GEF CEO as marketing tool.

**Agenda Item 9: Work Program for FY07 –08: on-going and planned activities, and priorities**

72. Based on the group session discussions, the STAP members developed and agreed on the following work program activities.

**STAP work program: November 2006 – December 2007**

Issue	Activities	Time frame
<b>Biodiversity</b>		
Role of mainstreaming, ecosystem benefits, links to land degradation and international waters	Input to focal area strategic priorities: seminar for GEF Secretariat. STAP leads - Brian Huntley, Bráulio Dias, Paul Ferraro, and Maryanne Grieg-Gran	February 2007
Mainstreaming biodiversity in marine and freshwater	Workshop. STAP leads - Brian Huntley, Qi-Sheng Tang, Michael Stocking	July - December 2007
<b>Climate Change and Adaptation</b>		
STAP Workshop Report on Liquid biofuels for transport	Finalize report and submit it to the GEF Council meeting in December 2006.	November 2006
PDF-A targeted research proposal on biofuels	STAP to assist UNEP in shaping proposal further through Steering Committee. STAP leads – Anand Patwardhan	November-December 2006
Carbon capture and storage	Anand Patwardhan + STAP Secretariat to develop ToRs for a paper.  Anand Patwardhan to lead small review meeting with the GEF Secretariat, Implementing Agencies, and a few key players. Meeting to be held in Washington D.C.	November-December 2006  January – June 2007
Energy efficient buildings	Teleconference to revise proposal.  Thomas Johansson to lead a workshop on energy efficient buildings, Beijing China.	November 2006  28-30 March 2007
Adaptation	Workshop on integrated approaches to adaptation. The workshop will focus on developing advice on adaptation project design (engage with key sectors). The deliverables would be project development guidelines, and criteria for prioritizing projects already in the pipeline. STAP leads Anand Patwardhan + Anthony Nyong to lead Discuss workshop design during the inter-agency task force teleconference –	April 2007

	1 November (Possible co-financing from UNFCCC and Rockefeller Foundation)	
<b>International Waters</b>		
Marine seascapes and fisheries (This activity to be coordinated with the biodiversity task force.)	Proposal to be developed by the GEF Secretariat.	2008?
Coastal water dead zones	Workshop?	2008?
<b>Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)</b>		
Best Available Technologies (BAT)/ Best Environmental Practices (BEP)	Influence priorities. Await COP8 decisions before discussing further a need for STAP advice. To continue discussions at the next STAP meeting.	February 2007
Identifying other work program activities	To await further discussions between John Buccini (STAP lead), and Laurent Granier (GEF Secretariat). Discuss at next STAP meeting.	February 2007
<b>Land management</b>		
Land degradation studies	Synthesis report to be submitted to the GEF Council in December 2006. (Deadline for comments on the synthesis report by task force– 27 October)  Peer review three reports, and publish three reports + synthesis report as a STAP or GEF publication.	December 2006  2007
Landscape approach	Commission short study on a landscape approach strategy (to be used for the land degradation area + GEF Secretariat restructuring). Michael Stocking to lead.  Half-day seminar for the GEF Secretariat.	November 2006 - January 2007  January-February 2007
Up-scale and out-scale global environment benefits	Commission study, expert consultation – workshop	2008?
<b>GEF Evaluation Office</b>		
Role of Science in the GEF		On-going
Further activities to be defined & agreed	Further activities to be defined & agreed	November 2006- June 2007
<b>Corporate</b>		
Roster	Proposal to amend the timing of the roster review + revising the terms of reference for the roster expert: Roster working group to work closely with the	February 2007

	EO and GEF Secretariat. (Working group members: John Buccini (lead), Maryanne Grieg-Gran, Qisheng Tang, Michael Stocking, and Guadalupe Durón). The working group will report on their work at the next STAP meeting in February 2007.	
	Reconstitute roster	February 2007
STAP ToRs	Working group: Yolanda Kakabadse, Michael Stocking, Anand Patwardhan, and Doug Taylor.	January – May 2007

**Agenda item 10: STAP Roster Review and Roster of Experts**

73. Because the timing and the role of the STAP roster review is closely linked to the results of the “Evaluation of the GEF project cycle”, the STAP members decided to wait before discussing and proposing changes to the current roster review process. STAP decided, therefore, to work closely with the EO and GEF Secretariat on revising the project cycle between January – February 2007. For this activity, STAP created a small working group: John Buccini (Lead), Maryanne Grieg-Gran, Qisheng Tang, and Michael Stocking. (Michael Stocking will serve as the link with the working group redefining the STAP ToRs.) The group will report on their work at the STAP meeting in February 2007.
74. The STAP Panelists recommended that the roster review should primarily serve a constructive function to ensure the best science and technology is applied to GEF projects, rather than a policing function after the project design is complete. Therefore, the Panel agreed that the roster review should come earlier in the project cycle - at a stage when the project is sufficiently developed to have a significant science and technology component. In order to perform the review at this stage, the GEF Secretariat and project proponents will be asked to include a certain amount of meaningful information related to the scientific and technical underpinnings of the project.
75. Until a new project cycle and roster review process is established, STAP will continue its work on the roster reconstitution. The STAP roster review will also continue to operate under the current rules and procedures.

**Annex A** - Those attending (throughout or in part)

**STAP Members**

Yolanda Kakabadse, Chair  
Michael Stocking, Vice-Chair  
John Buccini  
Braulio Dias  
Paul Ferraro  
Maryanne Grieg-Gran  
Brian Huntley  
Anthony Nyong  
Anand Patwardhan  
Qisheng Tang

(Apologies for absence were received from Angela Cropper, Rashid Hassan, Thomas Johansson, and Saburo Matsui.)

**GEF Secretariat**

Monique Barbut, CEO & Chairperson  
Peter Bjornsen  
Nicole Glineur  
Laurent Granier  
Lily Uy Hale  
Richard Hosier  
Andrea Kutter  
Jozef Johannes Lubbers  
Walter Lusigi  
Andrea Merla  
Ramesh Ramankutty  
Christian Holde Severin  
Paz Valiente  
Yoko Watanabe  
Zhihong Zhang  
Mark Zimsky

**GEF Evaluation Office**

Rob Van den Berg, Director  
Siv Tokle  
Aaron Zazueta

**UNDP-GEF**

Frank Pinto, Executive Coordinator  
Marcel Alers  
John Hough  
Bo Lim (via teleconference)  
Maryam Niamir-Fuller

**UNEP-DGEF**

Sheila Aggarwal-Khan, Acting Deputy Director  
Kristin McLaughlin  
Isabelle Vanderbeck

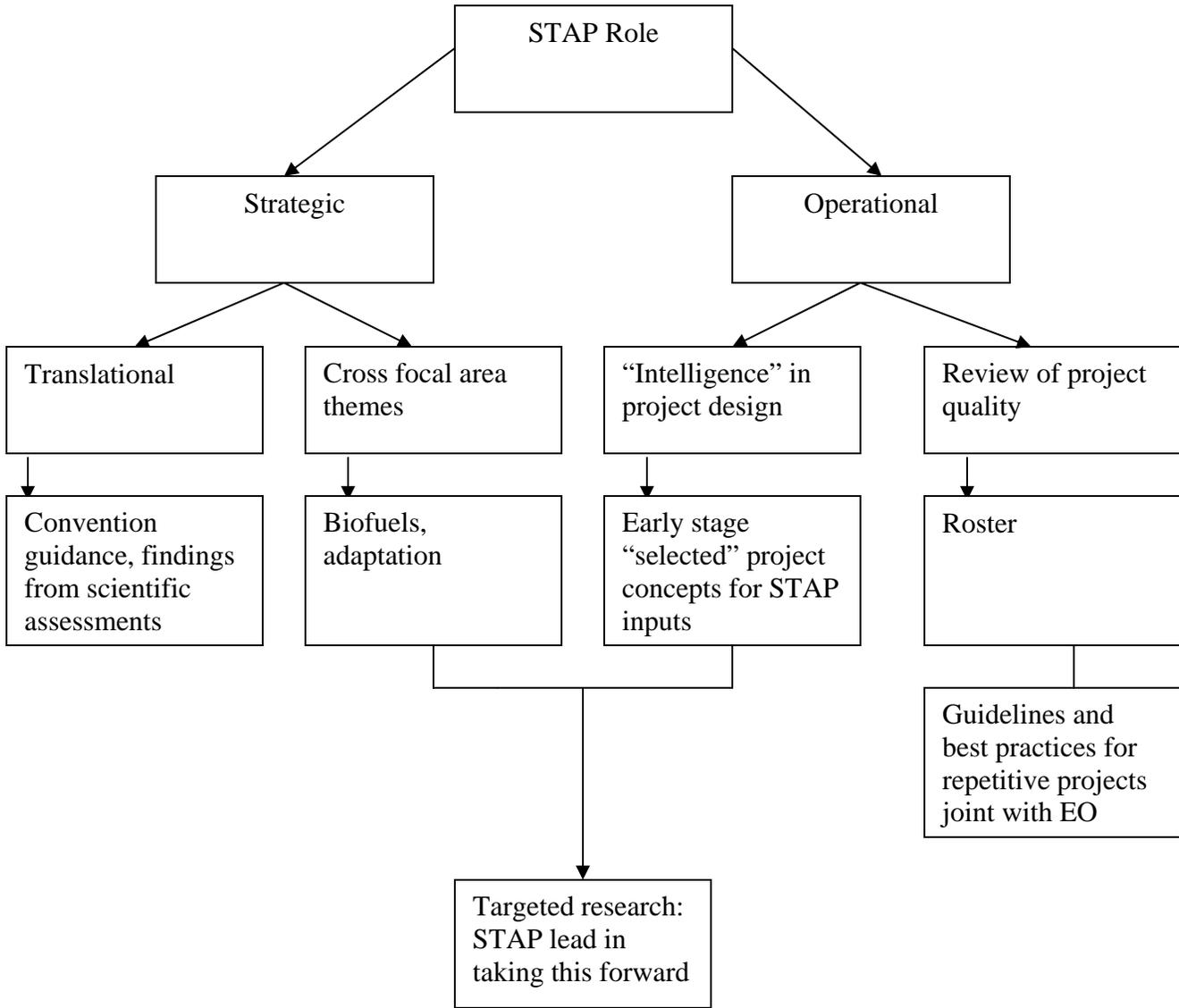
**World Bank-GEF**

Steve Gorman, Executive Coordinator  
Enos Esikuri  
Karen Luz  
Kathy MacKinnon  
Ian Noble

**STAP Secretariat**

Doug Taylor, Secretary  
Cecilia Blasco  
Robin Burgess  
Guadalupe Durón

**Annex B -STAP's Role**



This is an overall picture; there is an immediate need to provide inputs to the strategic priority revision exercise that will happen between now and June 2007.

# Testing ideas for Operational/Structural Linkages: STAP and other GEF bodies

