



GEF COUNCIL DECISIONS 2008

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Decision by Mail – January 2008

Decision 1/2008 STAP Membership

1. The Council reviewed and approves the proposal of the Executive Director of UNEP, of new STAP membership as follows:

Cross-cutting/Chairperson

Yolanda Kakabadse (Ecuador), Fundacion Futuro Latinoamericano, Quito, Ecuador

Biodiversity

Paul Ferraro (USA), Department of Economics, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, USA

Land Degradation

Michael Stocking (UK), Overseas Development Group, School of Development Studies, University of East Anglia, UK

International Waters

Meryl Williams (Australia), Australian Center for International Agricultural Research and formerly with Future Harvest Alliance and the WorldFish Centre

Climate Change (adaptation)

Anthony Nyong (Nigeria), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Nairobi, Kenya

Climate Change (mitigation)

N.H. Ravindranath (India), Centre for Sustainable Technologies, Indian Institute of Science, India.

Decision by Mail – February 2008

Decision 2/2008 Intersessional Work Program

1. The GEF Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) posted on January 22, 2008, and approves the work program comprising the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs), subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by February 19, 2008:

Biodiversity

1. **Regional (Dominican Republic, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Bahamas):** Mitigating the Threats of Invasive Alien Species in the Insular Caribbean (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2.58 m)
2. **Colombia:** Protecting Biodiversity in the Southwestern Caribbean Sea (IADB) (GEF Project Grant: \$3.00 m)
3. **Kazakhstan:** Kazak Steppe Conservation and Management (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2.22 m)
4. **Mauritius:** Expanding Coverage and Strengthening Management Effectiveness of the Terrestrial Protected Area Network on the Island of Mauritius (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4.00 m)
5. **Russian Federation:** Strengthening the Marine and Coastal Protected Areas of Russia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4.00 m)
6. **Thailand:** Catalyzing Sustainability of Thailand's Protected Area System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3.37 m)
7. **Turkey:** Strengthening Protected Area Network of Turkey: Catalyzing Sustainability of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2.30 m)

Climate Change

8. **Ukraine:** Creating Markets for Renewable Power in Ukraine (EBRD) (GEF Project Grant: \$8.45 m)

Multi-focal Areas

9. **Tajikistan:** Sustaining Agricultural Biodiversity in the Face of Climate Change (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$1.90 m)

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

10. **China:** Improvement of Production Technology of Dicofol from DDT and Introduction Technology for Leaf Mites Control (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$6.00 m)
11. **Kazakhstan:** Design and Execution of a Comprehensive PCB Management Plan for Kazakhstan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3.30 m)
12. **Vietnam:** Environmental Remediation of Dioxin Contaminated Hotspots in Vietnam (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4.98 m)

13. **Vietnam:** PCB Management Demonstration Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$7.00 m)

2. The GEF Council finds that each PIF 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 GEF 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.

33rd Council Meeting – April 2008

Decision 3/2008 Relations with the Conventions

1. The Council considered document GEF/C.33/3/Rev.1, [Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions](#), and welcomed the proposed guidance and decisions that had been approved by the Conferences of the Parties to the global environmental conventions. The Council requested the Secretariat and the GEF Agencies to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect such guidance and their national priorities in their GEF programming and activities.
2. The Council also accepted the invitation of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol asking the GEF to provide Secretariat services to the Adaptation Fund on an interim basis, and directed the GEF CEO and Secretariat to make necessary arrangements to provide such services, consistent with Decision 1/CMP.3.

Decision 4/2008 Four Year Work Program and FY09 Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office

1. The Council reviewed document GEF/ME/C.33/1, [Four Year Work Program and FY09 Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office](#), but postponed adopting a decision on this agenda item pending its discussion under agenda item 16. The text of the decision can be found under agenda item 16.

Decision 5/2008 Annual Performance Report 2007 and Management Response

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.33/2, [GEF Annual Performance Report 2007](#), and document GEF/ME/C.33/3, [Management Response to GEF Annual Performance Report 2007](#), took note of the recommendation and the management response and noted in particular the progress made by the GEF Agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their internal operations and invited the GEF Agencies to provide information on progress in June 2009.

Decision 6/2008 Annual Country Portfolio Evaluation 2008 and Management Response

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.33/4, [Annual Country Portfolio Evaluation Report -2008](#), and document GEF/ME/C.33/5, [Management Response to the Annual Country Portfolio Evaluation -2008](#), and having taken note of the three Country Portfolio Evaluations in [Benin](#), [Madagascar](#) and [South Africa](#) (GEF/ME/C.33/Inf. 1-3) requested the Secretariat to:
 - (a) Continue to strengthen the concept of integrated multi-focal areas approaches, including addressing transboundary issues, and particularly adaptation to climate change and land degradation, to ensure maximization of global environmental benefits.
 - (b) Further develop specific, proactive and more flexible engagement approaches with countries in Africa, particularly LDCs that have limited capacity to access and implement GEF funding.
 - (c) Enhance country ownership through GEF programs that support national integrated policies, in accordance with national processes and institutions.

Decision 7/2008 Annual Monitoring Review Report 2007

1. The Council, having reviewed GEF/C.33/4, [Annual Monitoring Review Report 2007](#), welcomed the overall finding that the GEF portfolio under implementation in 2007 performed satisfactorily across all focal areas. The Council also welcomed the progress made on developing tools and methodologies to track GEF-4 focal area indicators and requested the Secretariat to report on progress towards the achievement of expected results as the first substantive portion of GEF-4 projects enters mid-term evaluations.
2. The Council requested that the Secretariat work in close collaboration with the GEF Agencies and Evaluation Office to ensure that its management information system better meets the monitoring needs of the Secretariat. The Council further requested the

Secretariat to continue to improve the compilation and collection of data for monitoring.

3. The Council also requested the Secretariat and the GEF Agencies to enhance their efforts toward ensuring complete information to recipient countries regarding projects during all phases of their development and implementation.

Decision 8/2008 Evaluation of the Small Grants Program and Management Response

1. The Council having reviewed GEF/C.33/5, [Small Grants Program: Follow-up to the 2007 Joint Evaluation](#), commended the SGP Steering Committee for the proposals in the report.
2. The Council agreed to the proposal to reallocate an additional 3.817 million dollars to management costs to be re-assigned from the approved grant resources to support the rapid development of 23 new SGP country programs.
3. The Council agreed to the other proposals outlined in the report, and urged the SGP Steering Committee and UNDP to implement these actions effectively.
4. Regarding alternative execution arrangements for the SGP in GEF-5, Council requested the SGP Steering Committee and UNDP, in consultation with all appropriate stakeholders, to develop detailed options for Council review in June 2009.

Decision 9/2008 Clarifying the Programmatic Approach in the GEF Portfolio

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.33/6, [From Projects to Programs: Clarifying the Programmatic Approach in the GEF Portfolio](#), endorsed the objectives and basic principles for programmatic approaches and considered programmatic approaches as an option to support more effectively the sustainable development agenda of developing countries and countries with economies in transition.
2. The Council also approved the procedures for developing specific Programs using a programmatic approach as outlined in the paper, including the use of the template for presenting the summary of a Program through a Program Framework Document (PFD).
3. The Council adopted the following clarification to paragraph 11 of the [Project Cycle](#) paper GEF/C.31/7/Rev. 1 –as approved in June 2007 (**Decision 10/2007**) and revised in November 2007 (**Decision 29/2007**):

Beginning in FY08, programmatic approaches for GEF funding will only be submitted to Council at its meetings, not intersessionally. Documentation for securing approval for,

and guiding implementation of, a specific Program developed using a programmatic approach will be a Program Framework Document (PFD). PFDs will be presented to the Council in a work program. Council shall review the PFD and endorse the overall objective and scope of the Program. PFDs will also identify, to the extent possible, all projects to be financed under the Program. These projects must, nevertheless, be presented as PIFs to Council for approval. All available PIFs will be presented for Council approval in the same work program as contains the Program's PFD. Depending on the operational nature of the Program, Council may approve an amount to be set aside for the Program for a specific period, even if not all PIFs for the listed projects under the Program have been presented in the work program. When the remaining PIFs are ready, and have been cleared by the CEO, they will be presented for approval, in future work programs. All approved PIFs will be posted on the GEF web site. PIFs can only be approved once the PFD for the overarching Program has been endorsed by the Council.

Decision 10/2008 Compliance of the GEF Agencies on the Implementation of the Recommended Minimum Fiduciary Standards

1. Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.33/Inf.6, [*Report on the Compliance of the GEF Agencies on the Implementation of the Recommended Minimum Fiduciary Standards*](#), expressed appreciation for receipt of the information conveyed through the document and its annexed Agency reports ([Asian Development Bank](#), [African Development Bank](#), [European Bank for Reconstruction and Development](#), [FAO](#), [Inter-American Development Bank](#), [International Bank for Reconstruction and Development](#), [IFAD](#), [UNDP](#), [UNEP](#), [UNIDO](#)).
2. Council, noting the sheer volume and technical complexity of the information conveyed in the document, requested the Secretariat to contract a consultant to draft a summary and comparative analysis of the annexed reports, in consultation with the Agencies. The consultant will also assess whether the Agencies are meeting the recommended minimum fiduciary standards enumerated in GEF/C.31/6.
3. A report will be provided to Council by its Spring meeting in 2009.

Decision 11/2008 Strategic Program to Scale-up the Level of Investment in the Transfer of Environmentally-friendly Technologies

1. Council (reviewed the document [*Elaborating a Strategic Program to Scale-up the Level of Investment in the Transfer of Environmentally-sound Technologies*](#)) agreed that the Secretariat should prepare a report comprising:
 - (i) a description of its work to date on financing technology transfer, and

- (ii) a description of current financing options for technology transfer.
- 2. Council noted that further guidance would be needed regarding its mandate in respect of decision 4/CP.13. Pending further guidance, Council will continue to work on this issue in light of views expressed at the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI) of the UNFCCC.
- 3. The report will be circulated to Council for approval to forward to the SBI.

Decision 12/2008 Review of Administrative Expenses Allocated to GEF Implementing Agencies

- 1. Council reviewed document GEF/C.33/8, [Review of Administrative Expenses Allocated to GEF Implementing Agencies](#), and requested:
 - (a) the Secretariat to convene an inter-agency working group to develop a glossary of terms and reporting guidelines that would enable comparability between the Agencies with respect to reporting on administrative expenses and that would allow a consistent approach to tracking actual administrative costs across Agencies;
 - (b) the Secretariat to provide recommendations from the working group to Council in Spring 2009;
 - (c) each GEF Agency to provide to the Secretariat on an annual basis a list of staff (in Headquarter, as well as in field offices) that work full time or part time for the GEF, or if such data is not available, to provide an estimate of the number of staff years spent on corporate activities and project cycle management for the GEF;
 - (d) each GEF Agency to report annually on services provided and actual aggregated expenditures on corporate activities and project cycle management with breakdowns by the categories of staff, consultants, travel, and other expenditures (e.g. office space, IT, etc.);
 - (e) the Secretariat to collect this information and include it in the business plans presented to Council.

Decision 13/2008 Work Program

1. The Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) submitted to Council in document GEF/C.33/9 and approved the work program¹ comprising of 48 project concepts² and endorsed the concepts and objectives of the 10 programmatic approaches, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted to the Secretariat by May 9, 2008.
2. Total resources requested in this work program amounted to **\$283.27** million which included GEF project grant and Agency fees. The approved work program is comprised of the following 48 Project Identification Forms (PIFs), 21 of which are submitted under ten programmatic approaches:

Biodiversity

- **Regional (Antigua And Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago):** BS Regional Project for Implementing National Biosafety Frameworks in the Caribbean Sub-region - under the GEF Biosafety Program (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.34 m).
- **Regional (Micronesia, Palau, Marshall Islands):** PAS The Micronesia Challenge : Sustainable Finance Systems for Island Protected Area Management Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.45 m)
- **Cameroon:** BS Development and Implementation of a National Monitoring and Control System (Framework) for Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) and Invasive Alien Sp (IAS) - under the GEF Biosafety Program (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.40 m)
- **Colombia:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Coffee Sector in Colombia (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.00 m)
- **Colombia:** Mainstreaming Traditional Knowledge Associated with Agrobiodiversity in Colombian Agroecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.50 m)
- **Cuba:** Application of a Regional Approach to the Management of M Protected Areas in Cuba's Southern Archipelagos (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.71 m)

¹ 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 the following projects: *Cuba: Application of a Regional Approach to the Management of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas in Cuba's Southern Archipelagos (UNDP)*; *Iran: Facilitating Sustainable Mobility in Tehran (UNDP)*; *Regional (Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan): The Caspian Sea: Restoring Depleted Fisheries and Consolidation of a Permanent Regional Environmental Governance Framework (UNDP)*; *Iran: MENARID Institutional Strengthening and Coherence for Integrated Natural Resources Management (UNDP)*.

² UNDP notified the Secretariat of its decision to withdraw the project, *Regional (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran) : Reducing Transboundary Degradation in the Kura-Aras Basin (UNDP)*, leaving 48 PIFs in this work program, as opposed to 49 originally submitted.

- **Ecuador:** Marine and Coastal Biodiversity (GEF Grant : \$ 4.00 m)
- **Honduras:** Conservation of Biodiversity in the Indigenous Productive Landscapes of the Moskitia (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.02 m)
- **Mexico:** SFM Transforming Management of Biodiversity-rich Community Forests the Sustainable Forest Management Program (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 6.90 m)
- **Venezuela:** Strengthening the Financial the Venezuelan National Parks System (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 7.18 m)

Climate Change

- **Chile:** Promoting and Strengthening an Energy Efficiency Market in the Industry Sector (IADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.64 m)
- **India:** IND Chiller Energy Efficiency Project – under the Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency (Work Bank) (GEF Grant: \$6.30 m)
- **Iran:** Facilitating Sustainable Mobility in Tehran (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.33 m)
- **Malaysia:** Buildings Sector Energy Efficiency Project (BSEEP) (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$5.00 m).
- **Mexico:** Mexico Rural Development (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 10.50 m)
- **Russian Federation:** RUS Improving Efficiency in Public Buildings in the Russian Federation – under the Energy Efficiency Umbrella Program (EBRD) (GEF Grant : \$9.21 m)
- **Russian Federation:** RUS Improving Urban Housing Efficiency in the Russian Federation – under the Energy Efficiency Umbrella Program (GEF Grant: \$9.67 m).
- **Turkey:** Market Transformation of Energy Efficient Appliances in Turkey (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.71 m)
- **Turkey:** Promote Energy Efficiency in Buildings (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.62 m)
- **Uzbekistan:** Promoting Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.25 m)

International Waters

- **Global:** CTI GEF IW: LEARN: Portfolio Learning in International Waters with a Focus on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands and Regional Asia/Pacific and Coral Triangle Learning Processes - under the Coral Triangle Initiative (UNDP/ADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.70 m)

- **Regional (Indonesia, East Timor, Papua New Guinea):** CTI Arafura Ecosystem Action Program (ASTEPA) – under the Coral Triangle Initiative (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.50 m)
- **Regional (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines):** CTI Sulu-Celebes Sea Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (GEF Grant : \$ 2.89 m)
- **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 (resubmission) (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 6.30 m)
- **Regional (Belarus, Ukraine):** Implementation of The Dnipro Basin Strategic Action Program for the Reduction of Persistent Toxics Pollution (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$2.04 m)
- **Regional (Russian Federation, Mongolia):** Joint Actions to Reduce PTS and Nutrients Pollution in Lake Baikal through Integrated Basin Management (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$2.63 m)
- **Regional (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu):** PAS Implementing Sustainable Integrated Water Resource and Wastewater Management in the Pacific Island Countries - under the GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (UNDP/UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 9.03 m)
- **Regional (Argentina, Uruguay):** Reducing and Preventing Land-based the Rio de la Plata/Maritime Front through Implementation of the FrePlata Strategic Action Program (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$2.85 m)
- **Regional (Africa):** Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the Large Marine Ecosystems of Sub-Saharan Africa (Tranche 1, Installment 2) (World Bank (GEF Grant: \$15.60 m)
- **Regional (Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana):** Sustainable Fisheries Development Projects in nine West African Countries – under Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the Large Marine Ecosystems of Sub-Saharan Africa (World Bank)
- **Regional (Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan):** The Caspian Sea: Restoring Depleted Fisheries and Consolidation of a Permanent Regional Environmental Governance Framework (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.70 m)

Land Degradation

- **Peru:** Promoting Sustainable Land Management in Las Bambas (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.00 m)

Multi-focal Areas

- **Regional (Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Palau, Micronesia, Fiji, Timor Leste, Vanuatu):** PAS Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Coral Triangle of the Pacific - under the Pacific Alliance for Sustainability Program (ADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 8.34 m)
- **Regional (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines):** CTI Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Coral Triangle: Southeast Asia - under the GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (ADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 10.31 m)
- **Regional (Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay):** SFM Sustainable Forest Management in Transboundary Gran Chaco American Ecosystem - under the Sustainable Fore Management Program (UNEP/UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 6.86 m)
- **China:** PRC-GEF An IEM Approach to the Conservation of Biodiversity in Dryland Ecosystems - under the PRC-GEF Partnership on Land Degradation in Dryland Ecosystem Program (IFAD) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.55 m)
- **Colombia:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Sustainable Cattle Ranching (World Bank) (GED Grant: \$7.00 m)
- **Iran:** MENARID Institutional Strengthening and Coherence for Integrated Natural Resources Management (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$4.32 m)
- **Jordan:** MENARID Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management Practices (IFAD) (GEF Grant : \$6.45 m)
- **Morocco:** MENARID Participatory Control of Desertification and Poverty Reduction in the Arid and Semi-Arid High Plateau Ecosystems of Eastern Morocco (IFAD-UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$6.00 m)
- **Philippines:** Mindanao Rural Development Program Phase II – Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Conservation Component (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$6.49 m)
- **Tunisia:** MENARID Support to Sustainable Land Management in the Siliana Governorate (IFAD) (GEF Grant : 5.00 m)
- **Vietnam:** SFM Sustainable Forest Land Management – under the Country Program Framework for Sustainable Forest Land Management (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$4.20 m)

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

- **Regional (Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan):** DSSA Demonstrating and Scaling Up Sustainable Alternatives to DDT for the Control of Vector Borne Diseases in Southern Caucasus and Central Asia (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.05 m)
 - **Belarus:** Persistent Organic Pollutant Stockpile Management and Technical/Institutional Capacity Upgrading (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.50 m)
 - **Brazil:** Establishment of PCB Waste Management and Disposal System (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.73 m)
 - **China:** Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of Obsolete POPs Pesticides and other POPs Wastes (UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 9.96 m)
 - **Mongolia:** Capacity Building For Environmentally Sound PCBs Management and Disposal (UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.65 m)
 - **Philippines:** Integrated POPs Management Project: Dioxins and Furans, PCB and Contaminated Sites Management (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 8.64 m)
3. With respect to the programmatic approaches, the Council endorsed their objectives and requested that future full-sized project PIFs to be financed under these programmatic approaches be included in work programs submitted to Council for approval:

Biodiversity

- Biosafety Program

Climate Change

- Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency in India
- Umbrella Program for Promoting Energy Efficiency in Residential and Commercial Buildings

Multi-focal Areas

- Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (PAS)
- MENARID-Integrated Nature Resources Management in the Middle East and North Africa Region
- Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI)
- PRC-GEF Partnership on Land Degradation in Dryland Ecosystems
- Sustainable Forest Management - Programmatic Framework (SFM)
- Vietnam - Country Program Framework for Sustainable Forest Land Management

Persistent Organic Pollutants

- Demonstrating and Scaling-up of Sustainable Alternatives to DDT in Vector Management (DSSA)
4. With respect to any PIF approved in this work program, either under one of the programmatic approaches or as a stand-alone PIF, the Council requested 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 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.

Decision 14/2008 Status Report on the Brazil Externally-fired Combined Cycle (EFCC) Advanced Technology Cogeneration Project

1. Having reviewed the document GEF/C.33/10, [Status Report on the Brazil: Externally fired Combined Cycle \(EFCC\) Advanced Technology Cogeneration Project](#), the Council noted with satisfaction the achievements of the PDF phases of the Brazil EFCC project (PMIS #1039) and agreed that the project should be allowed to continue, as sufficient progress has been made by IFC towards achievement of financial closure. Therefore, the Council agreed that Tranche I (\$3m) of the project, designed to complete the process of inducting a strategic equity partner, be submitted for CEO endorsement prior to June 30, 2008. The Council also agreed that Tranche II (\$41 million) of the project, intended to implement the EFCC investment, be submitted for CEO endorsement prior to June 30, 2009. If either of these deadlines are not met, the project will be considered cancelled, and the funding will be returned to the GEF Trust Fund.

Decision 15/2008 GEF Business Plan FY09-10 and FY09 Corporate Budget and Agenda Item 6 Four Year Work Program and FY09 Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office

1. The Council, after having reviewed the [GEF Business Plan for FY09-10 and the FY09 Corporate Budget](#) (GEF/C.33/11), took note of the business plan and approved a FY09 Corporate Budget of \$22.099 million comprising:
- (a) \$13.726 million for the Secretariat;
 - (b) \$2.047 million for the STAP;
 - (c) \$2.419 million for the Trustee; and

(d) \$3.907 million for the Evaluation Office.

2. In approving the FY09 budget for the Trustee, the Council agreed with the proposal to resume the financing of audit costs incurred by the GEF Agencies that receive less than \$100,000 in annual fee income, in respect of audits of the financial statements on GEF resources received by Agencies for projects and project preparation activities.
3. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.33.1 [Four-Year Work Program and FY09 Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office](#) approved a budget of \$3,907,167 for FY09 to cover the cost of operating the GEF Evaluation Office and implementing its work program, including work for OPS4 to be included in the TOR for OPS4.
4. Regarding FY10 through FY12, Council took note of the proposed work program and activities and requested the Office to prepare annual budgets for Council consideration and approval in each of its June meetings.
5. The Office will prepare Terms of Reference for OPS4 for Council consideration, review and approval by mail before July 2008.

Decision 16/2008 Operational Policies and Guidelines for the Use of Non-grant Instruments

1. The Council reviewed GEF/C.33/12, [Operational Policies and Guidance for the Use of Non-grant Instruments](#), and endorsed the approach outlined in the document as regards the use of non-grant instruments in GEF-financed projects.

Decision 17/2008 Proposal of the Executive Director of UNEP on the Reconstitution of STAP

1. The Council, having reviewed the [Proposal of the Executive Director of UNEP on the Reconstitution of STAP](#) (document GEF/C.33/13/Rev.1), approved the composition of STAP proposed by the Executive Director of UNEP on the basis of the recommendations put forward by the Search Committee for the Reconstitution of STAP.
2. The Council supported the recommendation that Thomas Lovejoy be appointed as the Chair of STAP for a term of two years with the possibility of renewal for a further two years.
3. The Council welcomed the new members of STAP and expressed its sincere appreciation to the outgoing members, especially the Chairperson of STAP, Yolanda Kakabadse, for her outstanding contribution to the work of the GEF.

Decision by Mail – April 2008

Decision 18/2008 Report to the Ninth COP of the CBD

1. The Council, having reviewed the draft [Report of the GEF to the Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity](#), approves the report for submission to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.

Decision by Mail – June 2008

Decision 19/2008 Joint Summary of the Chairs for the 33rd Council Meeting

1. The Council directs the Secretariat to remove the sentence (**Decision 13/2008**, Para. 4): “Such projects may be reviewed at a further Council meeting at the request of at least four Council Members” to ensure the Joint Summary accurately reflects the actual decisions taken by Council in June 2007 on the Project Cycle (**Decision 10/2007**).

Decision 20/2008 Elaboration of a Strategic Program to Scale-up the Level of Investment in The Transfer of Environmentally-Sound Technologies

1. The Council, having reviewed the draft Report of the GEF on [The Elaboration of a Strategic Program to Scale-up the Level of Investment in The Transfer of Environmentally-Sound Technologies](#): A Progress Report, approves the forwarding of the report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI) of the UNFCCC.

Decision by Mail – July 2008

Decision 21/2008 Intersessional Work Program

1. The GEF Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) posted on June 26, 2008, and approves the work program comprising the following 20 Project Identification Forms (PIFs), subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by July 24, 2008:

Biodiversity

1. **Regional (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru):** Facilitation of Financing for Biodiversity-based Businesses and Support of Market Development Activities in the Andean Region (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 6.41 m)

2. **Regional (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan):** Tien Shan Ecosystem Development Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 3.30 m)
3. **China:** CBPF Integrated Ecosystem and Water Resources Management in the Baiyangdian Basin (ADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 2.98 m)
4. **Cote d'Ivoire:** Protected Area Management Project (PCGAP) (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 2.54 m)
5. **Haiti:** Establishing a Financially Sustainable National Protected Areas System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 2.63 m)
6. **Madagascar:** Network of Managed Resource Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 6.00 m)
7. **Panama:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into the Operation of the Tourism and Fisheries Sectors in Las Perlas Archipelago (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 1.70 m)
8. **Philippines:** Expanding and Diversifying the National System of Terrestrial Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.50 m)
9. **Vietnam:** Removing Barriers Hindering PA Management Effectiveness in Vietnam (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 3.54 m)

Climate Change

10. **Brazil:** Sugarcane Renewable Electricity (SUCRE) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 7.80 m)
11. **China:** Phasing-out Incandescent Lamps & Energy Saving Lamps Promotion (PILESLAMP) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 14.00 m)
12. **Russian Federation:** Market Transformation Programme on Energy Efficiency in GHG-Intensive Industries in Russia (EBRD/UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 15.39 m)
13. **Russian Federation:** RUS: Transforming the Market for Efficient Lighting (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 7.02 m)

International Waters

14. **Regional (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro):** Protection and Sustainable Use of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 2.16 m)
15. **Regional (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia):** Reducing Transboundary Degradation in the Kura-Aras Basin (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 2.90 m)

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

16. **Regional (Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Congo DR, Mauritania, Morocco, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea):** Demonstration of a Regional Approach to Environmentally Sound Management of PCB Liquid Wastes and Transformers and Capacitors Containing PCBs (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 4.89 m)
17. **Azerbaijan:** Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 2.12 m)

Multi-focal Areas

18. **Regional (Dominican Republic, Haiti):** Reducing Conflicting Water Uses in the Artibonite River Basin through Development and Adoption of a Multi-focal Area Strategic Action Programme (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 3.08 m)
 19. **China:** PRC-GEF Partnership: Sustainable Development in Poor Rural Areas (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 4.27 m)
 20. **Haiti:** SFM Sustainable Land Management of the Upper Watersheds of South Western Haiti (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 3.44 m)
2. The GEF Council finds that each PIF 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.
 3. With respect to the **Venezuela:** Commercialization of Energy-efficient Appliances in Venezuela (UNDP), the Council requests that the project proposal be deferred for consideration at the November 2008 Council meeting.

Decision by Mail – September 2008

Decision 22/2008 Intersessional Work Program

1. The GEF Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) posted on August 22, 2008, and approves the work program comprising the following 13 Project Identification Forms (PIFs), subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by September 19, 2008:

Biodiversity

1. **Regional (Malawi, Zambia):** Sustainable Management of Nyika Transfrontier Conservation Area (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$ 4.82 m)
2. **Dominican Republic:** Re-engineering of the Dominican Republic Protected Areas System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$ 3.20 m)
3. **Egypt:** Strengthening Protected Area Financing and Management Systems (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$ 3.62 m)
4. **Kenya:** Strengthening the Protected Area Network within the Eastern Montane Forest Hotspot of Kenya (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$ 4.50 m)
5. **South Africa:** Development, Empowerment and Conservation in the Greater St Lucia Wetland Park and Surrounding Region (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$ 9.00 m)

Climate Change

6. **Russian Federation:** RUS: Standards and Labels for Promoting Energy Efficiency (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$ 7.81 m)

International Waters

7. **Global:** Groundwater Governance: A Global Framework for Country Action (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 1.75 m)

Multi-focal Areas

8. **Regional (Ethiopia, Sudan, Egypt):** SIP-Eastern Nile Transboundary Watershed Management in Support of ENSAP Implementation (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 2.70 m)
9. **Regional (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda):** SIP-Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project II (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 5.85 m)

10. **China:** PRC-GEF Partnership: Mainstreaming Biodiversity Protection within the Production Landscapes and Protected Areas of the Lake Aibi Basin (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 2.98 m)
 11. **India:** SLEM-CPP-Integrated Land Use Management to Combat Land Degradation in Madja Pradesh (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 5.76 m)
 12. **Swaziland:** SIP-Lower Usuthu Smallholder Irrigation Project (LUSIP) (IFAD) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 1.18 m)
 13. **Tunisia:** MENARID - Land and Water Optimization Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$ 9.73 m)
2. The GEF Council finds that each PIF 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 GEF 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.

34th Council Meeting – November 2008

Decision 23/2008 Relations with Conventions

1. The Council considered document GEF/C.34/3, [Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions](#), and welcomed 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 requested 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 24/2008 Organization of the Fourth GEF Assembly

1. The Council reviewed document GEF/C.34/4, [Note on the Organization of the Fourth GEF Assembly](#), and expressed its appreciation to the Government of Uruguay for offering to host the Fourth Assembly meeting and accepted this kind offer. The Council approved a special initiative of \$653,730 for the planning of the Fourth GEF Assembly.

2. The Council requested the Secretariat to prepare for the next Council meeting a report on the progress that has been achieved in planning the Assembly and a more detailed proposal for the organization of the Assembly for the Council's review and approval.

Decision 25/2008 Progress Report of the Evaluation Director

1. The Council reviewed document GEF/ME/C.34/1, [*GEF Evaluation Office: Progress Report from the Director*](#), and took note of the on-going work of the Office, especially the positive findings on impact of Protected Areas on local communities, and encouraged the Evaluation Office to ensure that all on-going work will be brought forward into the Fourth Overall Performance Study.

Decision 26/2008 Mid-Term Review of the RAF

1. The Council reviewed document GEF/ME/C.34/2 [*Mid-Term Review of the Resource Allocation Framework*](#) and took note of document GEF/ME/C.34/3, [*Management Response to the Mid-Term Review of the Resource Allocation Framework*](#), and decided that:
 - a. Reallocation of unused funds will be allowed in the last year of GEF-4.
 - b. The last phase of GEF-4, including reallocation of funds, will be implemented with full public disclosure, transparency, participation and clear responsibilities.
2. The Council further decided that the Secretariat will present a proposal with objective rules and a transparent and equitable procedure for the reallocation of unused funds, taking into account the comments of Council Members expressed during the meeting, for a decision by mail by March 2009.
3. The Council also requested the GEF Secretariat, in collaboration with the GEF agencies and STAP and other stakeholders, to present steps to improve RAF design and indices for the climate change and biodiversity focal areas for GEF-5, and furthermore to present scenarios for possible expansion of the RAF, if feasible, to all focal areas for GEF-5 for consideration by the Council at the June 2009 GEF Council meeting.
4. The Council requested the GEF Evaluation Office to report through the Management Action Record on the follow-up to the decisions.

Decision 27/2008 Strategic Program to Scale up Investment in Technology Transfer

1. The Council reviewed document GEF/C.34/5, [*Elaboration of a Strategic Program to Scale up the Level of Investment in the Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies*](#), and

noted with appreciation that the GEF Secretariat prepared a progress report on the Elaboration of a Strategic Program to Scale up the Level of Investment in the Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies, and, upon Council approval, forwarded it to the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its 28th session in Bonn, Germany, in June 2008.

2. The Council also requested the Secretariat to forward the revised version of document GEF/C.34/5 to the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its 29th session in Poznan, Poland, in December 2008.
3. The Council further agreed to a target funding level of \$35 million pending resource availability for the proposed technology transfer program in the following manner:
 - (i) \$5 million from the climate change global and regional exclusion window of the GEF Trust Fund; and
 - (ii) \$30 million to be realized from:
 - a. National individual allocations and the group allocation;
 - b. Resources that might be made available from the planned RAF reallocation, subsequent to a Council decision on this in June 2009.
4. The Council noted a pending decision to set aside \$15 million from *SCCF Program B on technology transfer* for the proposed technology transfer program.

Decision 28/2008 Work Program

1. The Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) submitted to Council in document GEF/C.34/6 and approved the work program³ comprised of 37 project concepts and endorsed the concepts and objectives of the 5 new programmatic approaches, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted to the Secretariat by November 28, 2008.
2. Total resources requested in this work program amounted to \$201.17 million which included GEF project grant and agency fees (please see attached Annex for more details). The approved work program is comprised of the following 37 Project Identification Forms (PIFs), 16 of which are submitted under ten programmatic

³ The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of its national legislation regarding its country's voting position for certain development projects in certain countries, opposed the following project: **Regional (Afghanistan, Iran): Restoration, Protection and Sustainable Use of the Sistan Basin (UNDP)**

approaches (5 PAs have been previously endorsed by Council and 5 are new ones seeking Council endorsement):

Biodiversity

- **Regional (Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Suriname):** BS Implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks in Caribbean Sub Region Countries of Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Guyana and Suriname in the Context of a Regional Project (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.63 m)
- **Regional (Congo DR, Congo):** CBSP Catalyzing Sustainable Forest Management in the Lake Tele-Lake Tumba (LTLT) Transboundary Wetland Landscape (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.17 m)
- **Brazil:** Improving Brazilian Capacity to Conserve and Use Biodiversity through Information Management and Use (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$8.17 m)
- **Cape Verde:** SPWA-BD Consolidation of Cape Verde's Protected Areas System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3.29 m)
- **Congo DR:** CBSP Enforcement of Protected Areas Network (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$6.00 m)
- **Equatorial Guinea:** CBSP Sustainable Forest Management in Equatorial Guinea for the Conservation of Representative Ecosystems and Globally Significant Biodiversity (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1.77 m)
- **Ethiopia:** Mainstreaming Agro-biodiversity Conservation in the Farming Systems of Ethiopia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3.86 m)
- **Jamaica:** Strengthening the Operational and Financial Sustainability of the National Protected Area System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.77 m)
- **Mali:** SPWA-BD Expansion and Strengthening of Mali's PA System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1.77 m)
- **Mozambique:** Sustainable Financing of the Protected Area System in Mozambique (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4.90 m)
- **Namibia:** Protected Landscape Conservation Areas Initiative (NAM PLACE) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4.50 m)
- **Niger:** SPWA-BD Integrating the Sustainable Management of Faunal Corridors into Niger's Protected Area System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1.77 m)

- **Russian Federation:** Improving the Coverage and Management Efficiency of Protected Areas in the Steppe Biome of Russia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5.30 m)
- **Sri Lanka:** Strengthening Capacity to Control the Introduction and Spread of Alien Invasive Species (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1.83 m)
- **Sudan:** Launching Protected Area Network Management and Building Capacity in Post-conflict Southern Sudan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3.82 m)

Climate Change

- **China:** Promoting Energy Efficient Room Air Conditioners (PEERAC) Project (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6.26 m)
- **India:** IND Financing Energy Efficiency at Small and Medium Enterprises - under the Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$11.30 m)
- **Indonesia:** CF: Promoting Energy Efficiency in the Industries through System Optimization and Energy Management Standards (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.18 m)
- **Philippines:** CF: Industrial Energy Efficiency (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant: \$3.17 m)
- **Philippines:** Chiller Energy Efficiency Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$2.60 m)
- **Thailand:** Industrial Energy Efficiency (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3.62 m)
- **Venezuela:** IMPROVE: Increase Product Efficiency in Venezuela (RESUBMISSION) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4.09 m)
- **Vietnam:** Phasing out Incandescent Lamps through Lighting Market Transformation in Vietnam (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3.03 m)

International Waters

- **Regional (Comoros, Maldives, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Cape Verde):** Implementing Integrated Water Resource and Wastewater Management in Atlantic and Indian Ocean SIDS (UNEP/UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$9.65 m)
- **Regional (Jordan, Palestinian Authority):** Red Sea-Dead Sea Water Conveyance Study Program (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$3.50 m)

- **Regional (Afghanistan, Iran):** Restoration, Protection and Sustainable Use of the Sistan Basin (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.00 m)
- **Regional (Antigua And Barbuda, Barbados, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, St. Lucia, Suriname):** Testing a Prototype Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CReW) (IADB/UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$20.00 m)
- **Mexico:** Regional Framework for Sustainable Use of the Rio Bravo (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4.00 m)

Land Degradation

- **Montenegro:** Montenegro Institutional Development and Agriculture Strengthening (MIDAS) (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4.00 m)

Multi-focal Areas

- **Regional (Cameroon, Congo DR, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Central African Republic):** CBSP Enhancing Institutional Capacities on REDD issues for Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$13.00 m)
- **Regional (Chile, Peru):** Towards Ecosystem Management of the Humboldt Current Large Marine Ecosystem (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6.93 m)
- **Argentina:** Establishment of Incentives for the Conservation of Ecosystem Services of Global Significance (UNDP/UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.91 m)
- **Brazil:** SFM Strengthening National Policy and Knowledge Frameworks in Support of Sustainable Management of Brazil's Forest Resources (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$8.85 m)
- **Cambodia:** SFM Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management and the Development of Bio-energy Markets to Promote Environmental Sustainability and to Reduce Green House Gas Emissions in Cambodia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.36 m)
- **China:** PRC-GEF Partnership: Silk Road Ecosystem Restoration Project (ADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$5.12 m)
- **Ecuador:** SFM Sustainable Management of Biodiversity and Water Resources in the Ibarra-San Lorenzo Corridor (IFAD) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.70 m)

- **India:** SLEM - Sustainable Land, Water and Biodiversity Conservation and Management for Improved Livelihoods in Uttarakhand Watershed Sector (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$7.00 m)

PROGRAMMATIC APPROACHES IN THE NOVEMBER WORK PROGRAM

Biodiversity

- Strategic Program for West Africa (Biodiversity) (SPWA-BD) (NEW)
- Biosafety Program (endorsed by Council in April 2008)

Climate Change

- Strategic Program for West Africa (Climate Change) (SPWA-CC) (NEW)
- Framework for Promoting Low Greenhouse Gas Emission in Buildings (NEW)
- Reducing Industry's Carbon Footprint in Southeast Asia through Compliance with a Management System for Energy (NEW)
- Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency in India (endorsed by Council in April 2008)

Multi-focal Areas

- Congo Basin Strategic Program (CBSP) (NEW)
 - Sustainable Forest Management (endorsed by Council in November 2007)
 - PRC-GEF Partnership on Land Degradation in Dryland Ecosystems Program (endorsed by Council in April 2008)
 - Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management (SLEM) Partnership Program (endorsed by Council in November 2007)
3. With respect to any PIF approved in this work program, either under one of the programmatic approaches or as a stand-alone PIF, the Council requested 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 concerns they may have prior to the CEO endorsing a project document for final approval by the GEF Agency.

Decision 29/2008 GEF Trust Fund for Programs

1. The Council took note of the suggestion for establishing a GEF Trust Fund for Programs (GTFP) as described in document GEF/C.34/7, [GEF Trust Fund for Programs](#), and invited the Secretariat to revise the document to respond to the questions raised by the Council about the proposed GTFP, including exploring options other than the creation of a trust

fund, and to circulate by February 2009 in a decision by mail a proposal for meeting the co-financing needs of the Programmatic approaches.

Decision 30/2008 Report on the Completion of the Strategic Priority on Adaptation

1. The Council considered document GEF/C.34/8, [Report on the Completion of the Strategic Priority on Adaptation](#), and welcomed the progress achieved by this pilot and noted with appreciation the information about its completion.
2. The Council requested the Office of Evaluation to conduct an independent evaluation of the \$50 million pilot. The Council will consider future activities, if any, on adaptation under the GEF Trust Fund based on the recommendations of the independent evaluation of the SPA and the evolving guidance to the GEF of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Decision 31/2008 Enhancing Civil Society Engagement and Partnership with the GEF

1. The Council considered document GEF/C.34/9, [Enhancing Civil Society Engagement and Partnership with the GEF](#), and welcomed the steps taken by the GEF Secretariat and the GEF NGO Network to strengthen the GEF's partnership and engagement with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).
2. The Council applauded the efforts of the GEF NGO Network in developing the Strategic Operational Plan for 2008-2010 as presented for the Council's information in Annex I of document GEF/C.34/9, encouraged donors to support it and invited the GEF Secretariat, GEF agencies and GEF focal points to support its implementation.
3. To this effect, the Council approved reviving the Voluntary NGO Trust Fund to act as a funding mechanism to support the Network; furthermore, the Council approved adjusting the support provided for the participation of eligible Network representatives at Council meetings from the 50,000 US dollars set in 1995 to 70,445 US dollars, to account for cost increase of services, travel and inflation.
4. The Council approved the replacement of the NGO accreditation to the GEF with membership in the Network.

Decision 32/2008 Decision on the Fifth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund

1. The Council requested the Trustee of the GEF Trust Fund, in cooperation with the CEO/Chairperson of the Facility, to initiate discussions on the replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund with the convening of a planning meeting in Washington on November 14, 2008, for the negotiations of the [fifth replenishment of resources of the GEF Trust Fund](#).

Decision 33/2008 Appointment/Reappointment of the CEO/Chairperson of the Facility

1. The Council unanimously approved the reappointment of Ms. Monique Barbut as CEO/Chairperson of the Facility for a three-year term beginning July 14, 2009. The Council expressed its appreciation of Ms. Barbut during her first term as CEO/Chairperson of the GEF. The Council wished, in particular, to commend the CEO for bringing about much needed reforms at the GEF and believed that continuity in leadership will benefit the GEF in the challenging years ahead.
2. The Council looked forward to working with Ms. Barbut and offering her their full support. The Council asked the Secretariat to present to Council at the June 2009 Council meeting a paper exploring the option of making the CEO term and the replenishment cycle coterminous.

Decision 34/2008 Increased Budget for the Review of Fiduciary Standards

1. The Council decided to increase the budget for the review of fiduciary standards to \$250,000 in order that a high-quality report may be presented to the Council meeting in June 2009.

Decision 35/2008 Audit by the Internal Audit Department of the World Bank

1. The Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for an audit by the Internal Audit Department of the World Bank for its Spring meeting in 2011 and requested the Secretariat to arrange for further audits at four yearly intervals.

Decision 36/2008 Annual Council-led Performance Review Process for the CEO and the Director of EO

1. The Council endorsed the CEO's proposal to prepare, in consultation with the Director of the Evaluation Office (EO), an annual, Council-led performance review process for the CEO and the Director of EO in line with the core functions described in the Instrument and relevant Council decisions. The Council looked forward to a proposal at the June 2009 Council meeting and the first reviews in November 2009.