



GEF COUNCIL DECISIONS 2011

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Decision by Mail – February 2011

Decision 1/2011 Establishment of a New Trust Fund for the Pilot of the Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)

1. The Council, having reviewed document, *Establishment of a New Trust Fund for the Pilot of the Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)*¹, approves the arrangements proposed for the establishment of a new trust fund, which aims to support a pilot of the Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization.
2. In this regard, the Council invites the World Bank to act as Trustee for the new fund. The GEF Secretariat, in consultation with donors to the new trust fund and other partners, is requested to submit to the Council at its spring 2011 meeting, a paper covering any outstanding issues related to this trust fund, as well as a document outlining criteria for the establishment of trust funds operated by the GEF, in general.

Decision by Mail – March 2011

Decision 2/2011 Intersessional Work Program

1. The GEF Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) posted on February 28, 2011, and approves the work program comprising the following 11 Project Identification Forms (PIFs), subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by March 28, 2011:

Biodiversity

1. **China:** Securing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in China's Dongting Lake Protected Area (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,950,000)

Climate Change

2. **Russian Federation:** Russia Energy Efficiency Financing (REEF) Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$22,727,273)

Land Degradation

3. **Tajikistan:** Second Upland Agricultural Livelihoods and Environmental Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,400,000)

¹ The document can be reviewed in Annex 1

Multi Focal Area

4. **Azerbaijan:** Sustainable Land and Forest Management in the Greater Caucasus Landscape (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,680,000)
5. **Costa Rica:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Costa Rica (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,398,148)
6. **Ecuador:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Ecuador (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,398,145)
7. **India:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in India (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$5,000,000)
8. **Kenya:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Kenya (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$5,000,000)
9. **Pakistan:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Pakistan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,055,555)
10. **Philippines:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in the Philippines (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4,583,333)

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

11. **China:** Minimizing Formation and Releases of Unintentionally Produced POPs (UPOPs) from China's Pulp and Paper Sector (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$15,000,000)
2. With respect to the following six PIFs approved as part of the work program, the Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for Council Members to receive draft final project documents at least four weeks prior to the CEO's endorsing the project document for final approval by the GEF Agency to provide Council Members the opportunity to transmit to the CEO any concerns they may have:
 - a) **Azerbaijan:** Sustainable Land and Forest Management in the Greater Caucasus Landscape
 - b) **Costa Rica:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Costa Rica
 - c) **Ecuador:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Ecuador
 - d) **Kenya:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Kenya
 3. With respect to the remaining seven PIFs approved as part of the work program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs (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 final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's [comments on the work program](#), and that

the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

4. With respect to any PIF approved in this work program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If the GEF CEO determines that there have been major changes to the project scope and approach since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

40th Council Meeting – May 2011

Decision 3/2011 Relations with the Conventions

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.40/03, [*Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions*](#), welcomed the report and requested the GEF Network to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities. The Council further requested the Secretariat to actively seek and exploit potential synergies between the conventions in GEF activities.

Decision 4/2011 Annual Country Portfolio Evaluation Report-2011

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.40/02, [*Annual Country Portfolio Evaluation Report 2011*](#), document GEF/ME/C.40/03, [*Management Response to the Annual Country Portfolio Evaluation Report-2011*](#), and having taken note of the two country portfolio studies in [*El Salvador and Jamaica*](#) (GEF/ME/C.40/Inf.1), requested the Evaluation Office to continue developing and implementing during GEF-5 joint and/or coordinated country level evaluation work with either GEF Agencies' independent evaluation offices or with independent national institutions with recognized expertise in both evaluation and environment.

Decision 5/2011 Annual Performance Report –2010

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.40/04, [*Annual Performance Report 2010 \(Conclusions and Recommendations\)*](#), as well as GEF/ME/C.40/05, [*Management Response to the Annual Performance Report -2010*](#), requested the GEF Evaluation Office to strengthen its collaboration with the independent evaluation offices of the GEF Agencies on the review of terminal evaluations to ensure a more streamlined process which will lead to a reduction of delays in the submission of terminal evaluations and improve the information concerning project status.

Decision 6/2011 Annual Monitoring Report

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/04, [Annual Monitoring Report FY10](#), welcomed the progress the GEF has made in reporting portfolio level results and the overall finding that the GEF portfolio under implementation in 2010 performed satisfactorily across all focal areas.
2. The Council requested the Secretariat to continue to work in close collaboration with the GEF Agencies to carry out the GEF-5 RBM work-plan (GEF/C.39/6/Rev.1). The Council agreed with the two-phased reporting proposal outlined in the document and requested the Secretariat to submit its first report under this proposal to the November 2011 Council meeting.

Decision 7/2011 Four-year Work Program and Budget of the Evaluation Office

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.40/01, [Four-year Work Program and Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office](#), approved the Evaluation Office's four-year work program for GEF-5. The Council also approved an annual core budget for the Evaluation Office for FY12 of \$2.74 million.
2. The Council requested the Trustee to create a multi-year window for the Evaluation Office to ensure that its multi-year evaluation work program can be implemented up to FY13. The Council approved \$2 million to cover the costs of evaluations that are implemented in FY12 and will continue into FY13.

Decision 8/2011 FY12-14 Business Plan and FY12 Corporate Budget

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/05/Rev.1, [FY12-14 Business Plan and FY12 Corporate Budget](#), took note of the business plan and approved an FY12 corporate budget of \$28.815 million, comprising:
 - (a) \$18.785 million, including \$260,000 to support the costs of a GEF special initiative for the GEF's participation in Rio+ 20 events;
 - (b) \$2.244 million for the STAP;
 - (c) \$3.046 million for the Trustee; and
 - (d) \$4.74 million for the Evaluation Office, comprising \$2.74 million for its core annual budget and \$2 million to cover the costs of multi-year evaluations.
2. The Council also approved an additional \$100,000 for the Trustee's special initiative, *Independent Review of Systems*.

3. Council requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the other GEF entities, to prepare a provisional budget for the FY13-15 period that aims to respect the cap of \$120 million, for discussion at its spring 2012 meeting.

Decision 9/2011 Report of the Selection and Review Committee

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/06, [Rotations of Members on the Selection and Review Committee](#), requested the Selection and Review Committee (SRC) to continue to select new SRC members in accordance with the current practice, as articulated in the document, and in particular agreed that:
 - i. when an SRC member from the contributing participant countries rotates off the SRC, the new member will be identified by the Council Members from the contributing participant countries;
 - ii. when an SRC member from the recipient participant countries rotates off the SRC, the new member will be identified by the Council Members from the recipient participant countries of the region (Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe) that is not represented on the SRC at the time of the rotation;
 - iii. an SRC member that is rotating off the SRC cannot be reselected for an additional term.
2. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/15, *Preparing to Launch an Executive Search for the GEF CEO/Chairperson*, authorized the Selection and Review Committee (SRC):
 - i. to revise the terms of reference for the executive search firm in light of Council comments to be provided in writing to the SRC Secretary and SRC Chair by June 30, 2011;
 - ii. to select an executive search firm in advance of the November 2011 Council meeting;
 - iii. to revise the terms of reference for the GEF CEO/Chairperson in light of Council comments to be provided in writing to the SRC Secretary and SRC Chair by June 30, 2011 and to bring the revised terms of reference back to the November 2011 Council meeting for final Council approval.

Decision 10/2011 Work Program

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/07/Rev.1, [Work Program Submitted for GEF Council Approval](#), approved the work program² comprising 14 project concepts and one programmatic approach, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by June 9, 2011.
2. Total resources requested in this work program amount to \$190.51 million which include GEF project grants and Agency fees. The approved work program is comprised of the following 14 Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and one Program Framework Document (PFD):

Biodiversity

1. **Iran:** Building a Multiple-Use Forest Management Framework to Conserve Biodiversity in the Caspian Forest Landscape (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$1,900,000)
2. **Nepal:** Integrating Traditional Crop Genetic Diversity into Technology Using a BD Portfolio Approach to Buffer Against Unpredictable Environmental Change in the Nepal Himalayas (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,300,000)
3. **Sao Tome and Principe:** Integrated Ecosystem Approach to Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Conservation in the Buffer Zones of the Obo National Park (IFAD) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,418,182)
4. **Uganda:** Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Threatened Savanna Woodland in the Kidepo Critical Landscape in North Eastern Uganda (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3,080,000)

Climate Change

5. **Regional:** Pilot Asia-Pacific Climate Technology Network and Finance Center (ADB/UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$9,090,909)³
6. **China:** China Renewable Energy Scaling-Up Program (CRESP) Phase II (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$27,280,000)
7. **China:** GEF Large-City Congestion and Carbon Reduction Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$18,180,000)

² 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 project *Iran: Building a Multiple-Use Forest Management Framework to Conserve Biodiversity in the Caspian Forest Landscape*.

³ This is a multi-trust fund project drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund (GEFTF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

8. **China:** Green Energy Schemes for Low-Carbon City in Shanghai, China (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$4,345,000)
9. **Nigeria:** Small-scale Associated Gas Utilization (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,727,236)

Multi-focal Area

10. **Regional (Burkina Faso, Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Sudan, Senegal, Chad, Togo):** Sahel and West Africa Program Supporting the Great Green Wall Initiative⁴ (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$811,314,817)
 11. **Belarus:** Landscape Approach to Management of Peatlands Aiming at Multiple Ecological Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,700,900)
 12. **Bolivia:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Bolivia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4,166,667)
 13. **Jamaica:** Integrated Management of the Yallahs River and Hope River Watersheds (IADB) (GEF Project Grant: \$3,768,667)
 14. **Mexico:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Mexico (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4,444,953)
 15. **Turkey:** Integrated Approach to Management of Forests in Turkey, with Demonstration in High Conservation Value Forests in the Mediterranean Region (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$7,120,000)
3. With respect to the PIFs approved as part of the work program, the Council found that each of these PIFs: (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 final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the work program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.
 4. With respect to any PIF approved in this work program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If the GEF CEO determines that there have been major changes to the project's scope and approach since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

⁴ This is a multi-trust fund programmatic framework drawing funds from three sources, namely, GEF Trust Fund, Special Climate Change Fund, and Least Developed Countries Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

Decision 11/2011 Enhancing the Visibility of the GEF

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/08, [Proposal for Enhancing the Visibility of the GEF](#), adopted the GEF Communication and Visibility Policy and decided that, unless otherwise specified, all GEF Agencies shall comply with the Policy, including the GEF Communication and Visibility Guidelines, where applicable to any GEF-funded activity.
2. The Council requested the GEF Agencies to report to the GEF Secretariat, within one month from the end of the Council meeting, any changes to their model form agreements with recipients of GEF grant funds or executing agencies of GEF projects aimed at reflecting both the role that the GEF is playing in the financing of the projects and the requirement that the executing entities adhere to the GEF Communication and Visibility Guidelines.
3. The Council further requested the GEF Secretariat to report any consistent failures by an Agency to conform to the Policy requirements. Where such failures have occurred, the Agency will be provided an opportunity to address the Council on the issue, and the Operational Focal Points of the countries concerned will be consulted. The GEF CEO may recommend to the Council appropriate responses.

Decision 12/2011 Broadening the GEF Partnership under Paragraph 28 of the GEF Instrument

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/09, [Broadening the GEF Partnership under Paragraph 28 of the Instrument](#), decided to implement the GEF-5 Pilot on broadening the GEF partnership, in accordance with the provisions set forth in this document, as amended by the Council during the meeting.
2. The Council directed the Secretariat to finalize the Stage 1 Application Form and all relevant procedures and to inform GEF participant countries and other interested parties when they may begin submitting applications. The Secretariat will conduct Value-added Reviews on all completed applications according to the procedures and criteria outlined in document GEF/C.40/09, while applying the criteria in a flexible manner. The Council requested the Secretariat to submit its recommendations of applicants for Council approval at the spring and fall 2012 meetings, only.
3. While bilateral agencies will not be eligible for accreditation at this time, their participation in the pilot phase will be considered at the first meeting of the Council in 2013.

4. The Council asked the Secretariat, in cooperation with the GEF Trustee, to finalize all other necessary arrangements, procedures, and materials for the accreditation of GEF Project Agencies, including establishment of the GEF Accreditation Panel.
5. The Council directed the Evaluation Office to initiate an evaluation on the pilot at the earlier of either: (a) two years after the first five agencies have been accredited or (b) January 2015.
6. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/10/Rev.1, [*GEF Policies on Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Mainstreaming*](#), approved the Provisional Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguard Standards, as included in Annex I, as well as provisions for the application of the policy to the existing GEF Agencies and GEF Project Agencies contained in the document. The Council requested that the policy be kept under review and that the Secretariat submit a revised policy at the November 2011 Council meeting, taking into account comments, including those from civil society, received not later than August 31, 2011. The Council asked the Secretariat to reference this policy in relevant sections of the GEF Fiduciary Standards when they are updated in the future.
7. The Council approved the Policy on Gender Mainstreaming included in Annex II, as well as provisions for the application of the policy to GEF Partner Agencies as described in the document.
8. The Council directed the Secretariat to ensure that the GEF Accreditation Panel includes an individual with extensive experience with and knowledge of environmental and social safeguards and gender mainstreaming so that the Panel has adequate capacity to assess whether GEF Project Agency applicants meet the criteria contained in the two policies.
9. The Council requested the Secretariat to recruit consultants having significant experience with and knowledge of environmental and social safeguards and gender mainstreaming to assess whether the existing GEF Agencies meet the applicable criteria in the two policies, as described in the Council document. This review should begin after the November 2011 Council meeting.

Decision 13/2011 Key Issues Related to the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund

1. The Council, having reviewed GEF/C.40/11/Rev.1, [*Outstanding Issues Related to the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund*](#), approved the arrangements proposed for the operation of this new multi-donor trust fund, subject to the comments made at the GEF Council meeting and taking into account the provisions of the Council decision by mail on the creation of this multi-donor trust fund, approved on February 18, 2011.

Decision 14/2011 Criteria for the Establishment of Trust Funds within the GEF

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/12, [Criteria for the Establishment of Trust Funds within the GEF](#), and having noted the importance of the issues raised in the document, requested the Secretariat to prepare a revised document for the November 2011 Council meeting, taking into consideration the views expressed during this Council meeting.

Decision 15/2011 Strategy to Engage with the Private Sector

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/13, [Strategy to Engage with the Private Sector](#), took note of the past efforts to support public/private partnerships, such as the Earth Fund, and how the proposed strategy addresses the issues identified in prior evaluations. 38. The Council requested the GEF Secretariat to further revise this proposed strategy, in light of Council comments, to be presented at the November 2011 meeting.

Decision 16/2011 Strengthening Relations with the Conventions in the GEF Network

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.40/14, [Strengthening Relations with the Conventions in the GEF Network](#), took note of the steps that it can take to strengthen the relations between the GEF and the conventions that it serves and requested the Secretariat, STAP, Agencies and other relevant actors to take appropriate steps to strengthen these relations, as well, including from among those listed in the document, and in particular in a manner that will increase synergies between the conventions.

Decision 17/2011 Dates for the Spring 2012 Council Meeting

1. The Council decided to hold its spring 2012 meeting the week of June 11, 2012

41st Council Meeting – November 2011

Decision 18/2011 Relations with the Conventions

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.41/03, [Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions](#), welcomed the report as amended by the Council and requested the GEF network to continue working with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their respective GEF programming and activities.
2. The Council further requested the GEF Secretariat to organize a meeting of Biodiversity related conventions with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

(SCBD) to facilitate the coordination of their priorities for inclusion in the GEF- 6 programming strategy.

Decision 19/2011 GEF Evaluation Office: Progress Report from the Director

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.41/01, [GEF Evaluation Office: Progress Report from the Director](#), took note of the on-going work of the Office and the outlines of the Fifth Overall Performance Study of the GEF that the Office is preparing, and requested the Office to prepare draft terms of reference for OPS5 for approval at the Council meeting of June 2012, taking into account comments made.

Decision 20/2011 Annual Thematic Evaluations Report 2011 and Management Response

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/ME/C.41/02, [Annual Thematic Evaluations Report 2011](#) and document GEF/ME/C.41/03, [Management Response to the Annual Thematic Evaluations Report 2011](#), requested the Secretariat to incorporate NCSA experiences and lessons learned in the programming approach for GEF-6.
2. The Council, requested the Secretariat to make available knowledge products of NCSAs, including toolkits on how to conduct them, to agencies and GEF workshops such as Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues as well as to GEF focal points.

Decision 21/2011 Annual Monitoring Report FY 11: Part 1

1. The Council, having reviewed GEF/C.41/04/Rev.01, [Annual Monitoring Report \(AMR\) FY11: Part I](#), noted the overall finding that the GEF portfolio under implementation in 2011 performed satisfactorily across all focal areas.
2. The Council, having reviewed the revised management effectiveness and efficiency indicators for GEF-5, approved the indicators contained in the document and requested the Secretariat to report on these through subsequent AMRs.

Decision 22/2011 GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards: Separation of Implementation and Execution Functions in GEF Partner Agencies

1. The Council, having reviewed GEF/C.41/06/Rev.01, [GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards: Separation of Implementation and Execution Functions in GEF Partner Agencies](#), decided that Section A.2 (g) of the GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards be revised to address separation of implementation and execution functions for all GEF Partner Agencies, as detailed in paragraph 7 of the document.

Decision 23/2011 External Review of Expense of Administrative Resources Provided to GEF Agencies

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.41/07, [GEF Administrative Expenses – Fees and Project Management Cost: External Review](#), took note of the findings of the review undertaken by an external consultant.
2. The Council requested the Secretariat to establish a working group comprised of four Council Members (two from donor constituencies, and two from recipient constituencies), GEF Secretariat, and GEF Agencies, to review the full fee structure, including the corporate fee, with a view to decrease the total cost of the fee structure and present a proposal for a new fee policy at the June 2012 Council meeting.

Decision 24/2011 Work Program

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.41/08/Rev.1, [Work Program Submitted for GEF Council Approval](#), approved the work program⁵ comprising 40 project concepts and nine programmatic approaches, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by November 24, 2011. Four other project concepts associated with the programmatic approaches are also approved.
2. Total resources requested in this work program amounted to \$516.40 million which include GEF project grants and Agency fees. The approved work program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and Program Framework Documents (PFDs):

Biodiversity

1. **Global (Afghanistan, Antigua And Barbuda, Angola, Barbados, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Comoros, St. Lucia, Lesotho, Marshall Islands, Mali, Myanmar, Mozambique, Niger, Nauru, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Sao Tome and Principe, Chad, Timor Leste, Tanzania, Samoa)** : Support to GEF Eligible Parties (LDCs & SIDs) for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD - Phase II (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,118,200)

⁵ The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of its legislation regarding its country's voting position for development projects financed by certain development institutions, opposed the project *Global (Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Turkey, Tanzania, South Africa) : Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program - Implementing the Program Using STAR Resources I*

2. **Global (Benin, Bhutan, Central African Republic, Cape Verde, Djibouti, Dominica, Grenada, Gambia, Equatorial Guinea, Guyana, Cambodia, St. Kitts And Nevis, Lao PDR, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Maldives, Malawi, Nepal, Niue, Palau, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Togo, Tonga, Uganda, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Vanuatu, Zambia, Congo DR):** Support to GEF Eligible Parties (LDCs & SIDs) for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD - Phase 1 (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,798,000)
3. **Angola:** Expansion and Strengthening of Angola's Protected Area system (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,800,000)
4. **Bolivia:** Conservation and Sustainable Use of Agro-biodiversity to Improve Human Nutrition in Five Macro Eco-regions (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,600,000)
5. **Botswana:** Improved Management Effectiveness of the Chobe-Kwando-Linyanti Matrix of Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,818,182)
6. **Brazil:** Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (GEF MAR) (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$18,200,000)
7. **China:** CBPF-MSL Main Streams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation (PROGRAM) (UNDP/FAO) (GEF Program Grant : \$23,010,915)
8. **China:** Securing BD Conservation and Sustainable Use in Huangshan Municipality (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,607,273)
9. **Eritrea:** Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori- Hawakil Protected Area System for Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land Degradation (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,878,000)
10. **Jordan:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation in Tourism Sector Development in Jordan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,700,000)
11. **Mongolia:** Network of Managed Resource Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,309,091)

Climate Change

12. **Global (Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Cambodia, St. Lucia, Liberia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Palau, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Chad, Zambia):** Umbrella Program for National Communication to the UNFCCC (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$11,330,000)
13. **Global (Colombia, Kenya, Swaziland):** SolarChill Development, Testing and Technology Transfer Outreach (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,583,000)

14. **Regional (Bangladesh, China, Mongolia):** ASTUD Asian Sustainable Transport and Urban Development Program (PROGRAM) (ADB) (GEF Program Grant : \$13,611,000)
15. **Bangladesh:** Development of Sustainable Renewable Energy Power Generation (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,077,272)
16. **China:** Hebei Energy Efficiency Improvement and Emission Reduction Project (ADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,636,363)
17. **Colombia:** Third National Communication to the UNFCCC (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,000,000)
18. **Liberia:** Lighting One Million Lives in Liberia (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$1,454,540)
19. **Suriname:** Development of Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Electrification of Suriname (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,400,000)

International Waters

20. **Global:** Standardized Methodologies for Carbon Accounting and Ecosystem Services Valuation of Blue Forests (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,500,000)
21. **Regional (Comoros, Mauritania, Mozambique, Tanzania):** LME-AF Strategic Partnership for Sustainable Fisheries Management in the Large Marine Ecosystems in Africa (PROGRAM) (World Bank) (GEF Program Grant : \$25,000,000)

Land Degradation

22. **Moldova:** Agriculture Competitiveness Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,435,500)
23. **Samoa:** Strengthening Multi-sectoral Management of Critical Landscapes (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,736,363)

Multi Focal Area

24. **Global:** ABNJ Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (PROGRAM) (FAO, UNEP, World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$45,412,844)
25. **Global (Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Turkey, Tanzania, South Africa):** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program - Implementing the Program Using STAR Resources I (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$35,924,519)

26. **Regional (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco):** MENA-DELP Desert Ecosystems and Livelihoods Program⁶ (World Bank) (GEF Program Grant: \$18,423,150)
27. **Regional (Central African Republic, Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, Chad):** LCB-NREE Lake Chad Basin Regional Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Energy Efficiency (PROGRAM) (AfDB) (GEF Program Grant : \$20,503,086)
28. **Regional (China, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam):** GMS-FBP Greater Mekong Subregion Forests and Biodiversity Program⁷ (PROGRAM) (ADB, World Bank) (GEF Program Grant : \$19,693,623)
29. **Regional (Regional, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam):** LME-EA Scaling Up Partnership Investments for Sustainable Development of the Large Marine Ecosystems of East Asia and their Coasts (PROGRAM) (World Bank) (GEF Program Grant : \$43,500,000)
30. **Belize:** Management and Protection of Key Biodiversity Areas (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,085,600)
31. **Bhutan:** Sustainable Financing for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,080,000)
32. **Brazil:** Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Brazil (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,000,000)
33. **Burundi:** Watershed Approach to Sustainable Coffee Production in Burundi (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,200,000)
34. **El Salvador:** Climate Change Adaptation to Reduce Land Degradation in Fragile Micro-Watersheds Located in the Municipalities of Texistepeque and Candelaria de la Frontera⁸ (FAO) (GEF Project Grant: \$521,370)
35. **Guatemala:** Sustainable Forest Management and Multiple Global Environmental Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,400,000)
36. **Honduras:** Delivering Multiple Global Environment Benefits through Sustainable Management of Production Landscapes (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,045,455)

⁶ This is a multi-trust fund programmatic framework drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

⁷ This is a multi-trust fund programmatic framework drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

⁸ This is a multi-trust fund project drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here

37. **Kazakhstan:** Improving Sustainability of PA System in Desert Ecosystems through Promotion of Biodiversity-compatible Livelihoods in and Around PAs (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,364,000)
38. **Malawi:** Shire Natural Ecosystems Management Project⁹ (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,078,000)
39. **Russian Federation:** GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapidly Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020) (UNEP, EBRD, UNDP, World Bank) (GEF Program Grant : \$25,379,346)
40. **Uganda:** Addressing Barriers to the Adoption of Improved Charcoal Production Technologies and Sustainable Land Management practices through an integrated approach (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,480,000)
41. **Ukraine:** Conserving, Enhancing and Managing Carbon Stocks and Biodiversity while Promoting Sustainable Development in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone through the Establishment of a Research and Environmental Protection Centre and Protected Area (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,863,955)
42. **Uzbekistan:** Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Mitigation Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$12,699,000)
43. **Zambia:** Strengthening Management Effectiveness and Generating Multiple Environmental Benefits within and around Protected Areas in Zambia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$13,148,864)
44. **Zimbabwe:** Hwange-Sanyati Biological Corridor (HSBC) Environment Management and Conservation Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,845,000)

POPs

45. **Algeria:** Environmentally Sound Management of POPs and Destruction of PCBs Wastes (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,300,000)
46. **China:** Municipal Solid Waste Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$12,000,000)
47. **Colombia:** Development of National Capacity for the Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,400,000)
48. **Costa Rica:** Integrated PCB Management in Costa Rica (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,930,000)

⁹ This is a multi-trust fund project drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

49. **Vietnam:** Hospital Waste Management Support Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,000,000)

Projects Under Programmatic Approaches

50. **China: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the Sub-system of Wetland Protected Areas for Conservation of Globally Significant Biodiversity** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,654,771) under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program
 51. **Global: Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction** (FAO) (GEF Project Grant: \$26,922,936) under the ABNJ Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program
 52. **Russian Federation: Targeted Support for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the Russian Arctic** (EBRD) (GEF Project Grant: \$6,100,917) under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)
 53. **Russian Federation: Integrated Adaptive Management of the West Bering Sea Large Marine Ecosystem in a Changing Climate** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3,211,000) under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)
3. With respect to the following projects, the Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for Council members to receive draft final project documents and to transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concerns they may have prior to the CEO's endorsing a project document for final approval by the GEF Agency.
 1. **Botswana:** Improved Management Effectiveness of the Chobe-Kwando-Linyanti Matrix of Protected Areas
 2. **Mongolia:** Network of Managed Resource Protected
 3. **China:** Hebei Energy Efficiency Improvement and Emission Reduction Project
 4. **China:** Municipal Solid Waste Management
 5. **Angola:** Expansion and Strengthening of Angola's Protected Area system
 6. **Eritrea:** Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori- Hawakil Protected Area System for Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land
 4. With respect to the PIFs approved as part of the work program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs (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 final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the work program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

5. Following the procedures established for Programmatic Approaches applicable to all GEF Agencies, the final project document will be circulated to Council for four weeks prior to the CEO's endorsing these projects.
 1. **China: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the Sub-system of Wetland Protected Areas for Conservation of Globally Significant Biodiversity** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,654,771) under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program
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 4. **Russian Federation: Integrated Adaptive Management of the West Bering Sea Large Marine Ecosystem in a Changing Climate** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3,211,000) under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)
6. With respect to any other PIFs approved in this work program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If the GEF CEO determines that there have been major changes to the project scope and approach since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

Decision 25/2011 Revised Strategy for Enhancing Engagement with the Private Sector

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.41/09, [*Revised Strategy for Enhancing Engagement with the Private Sector*](#), adopted as amended a revised strategy for programming GEF-5 private sector funds and requested the Secretariat to present to the

Council at its June 2012 meeting in consultation with the MDBs, a detailed paper outlining clear operational modalities for private sector engagement.

Decision 26/2011 Criteria for the Establishment of Trust Funds within the GEF

1. The Council, having reviewed documents GEF/C.41/12, [Criteria for the Establishment of Trust Funds within the GEF](#), and GEF/C.41/CRP.01 took note of the documents and requested the Secretariat, bearing in mind the comments of the Council, to keep the documents under review and resubmit the proposal in the future at the Council's request.

Decision 27/2011 GEF Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards

1. The Council, having reviewed documents GEF/C.41/CRP.02 and GEF/C.41/CRP.05¹⁰, [GEF Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards](#), approved the Policy as included in Annex II, with amendments made by the Secretariat to reflect Council comments.
2. The Council also approved provisions contained in the paper regarding how the Policy should be applied to existing GEF Agencies and GEF Project Agencies.
3. The Council asked the Secretariat to reference this Policy in relevant sections of the GEF Fiduciary Standards when they are updated in the future.
4. The Council requested the GEF Evaluation Office to assess the Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards in 2014 so that the Secretariat and Council may take its recommendation into account in revising the Policy. The Secretariat shall present a revised Policy for Council's consideration in 2015.

Decision 28/2011 Rules regarding GEF Constituencies

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.41/11, [Rules regarding GEF Constituencies](#), welcomed and took note of the report on the rules regarding the composition of GEF Constituencies and decided to keep it under review.

Decision 29/2011 Report of the Selection and Review Committee

1. The Council, having considered the Report of the SRC:

¹⁰ These Conference Room Papers (CRP) are drafted based on comments received during the Council meeting

1. Approved the Terms of Reference for the GEF CEO and Chairperson;
2. Decided to launch the Executive Search for the next GEF CEO/Chairperson, as of November 10, 2011 with Egon Zehnder International to carry out the search.
2. The Council further decided to circulate for decision by mail the SRC Recommendations on the Salary Review of the GEF CEO/Chairperson and EO Director. The Member's comments on the proposed decision by mail should be received no later than November 30, 2011.

Decision 30/2011 Dates for the 42nd Council Meeting

1. The Council, decided in view of the change of the dates of Rio+20, to hold its 42nd meeting in the week of June 4, 2012.

Annex to Decision 1/2011

Establishment of a New Trust Fund for the Pilot of the Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)

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1. Introduction
2. Justifications to Establish a New Trust Fund
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4. Governance and Project Management
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1. Introduction

At the Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Parties adopted the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (hereinafter referred to as “the Protocol”).

Following Article 10 of the Protocol, Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism, the Parties agreed to:

“consider the need for and modalities of a global multilateral benefit-sharing mechanism to address the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the utilization of generic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that occur in transboundary situations or for which it is not possible to grant or obtain prior informed consent. The benefits shared by users of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources through this mechanism shall be used to support the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components globally.”

As the President of COP10, Japan has taken a lead role in addressing Article 10 on the Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism. Japan has proposed to establish a new multi-donor trust fund, to be managed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which is to serve the pilot phase of this Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism (referred to as “the ABS pilot mechanism fund” hereinafter). Lessons derived from the operation of this ABS pilot mechanism fund will inform the consideration of the modalities of such mechanism as called for by the Protocol.

2. Justification to Establish a New Trust Fund

As the financial mechanism of the CBD as well as the Protocol, the GEF has been invited to provide financial support to Parties to assist with the early ratification of the Protocol. Thus, the GEF is best positioned to manage and coordinate this new ABS pilot mechanism fund, along with its existing GEF Trust Fund.¹¹

¹¹ Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 21 states, “1) There shall be a mechanism for the provision of financial resources to developing country Parties for purposes of this Convention on a grant or concessional basis the essential elements of which are described in this Article. The mechanism shall function under the authority and guidance of, and be accountable to, the Conference of the Parties for purposes of this Convention. The operations of the mechanism shall be carried out by such institutional structure as may be decided upon by the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting. For purposes of this Convention, the Conference of the Parties shall determine the policy, strategy, programme priorities and eligibility criteria relating to the access to and utilization of such resources. The contributions shall be such as to take into account the need for predictability, adequacy and timely flow of funds referred to in Article 20 in accordance with the amount of resources needed to be decided periodically by the Conference of the Parties and the importance of burden-sharing among the contributing Parties included in the list referred to in Article 20, paragraph 2. Voluntary contributions may also be made by the developed country Parties and by other countries and sources. The mechanism shall operate within a democratic and transparent system of governance. 2) Pursuant to the objectives of this Convention, the Conference of the Parties shall at its first meeting determine the policy, strategy and programme priorities, as well as detailed criteria and guidelines for eligibility for access to and utilization of the financial resources including monitoring and evaluation on a regular basis of such utilization. The Conference of the Parties shall decide on the arrangements to give effect to paragraph 1 above after consultation with the institutional structure entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism. 3) The Conference of the Parties shall review the effectiveness of the mechanism established under this Article, including the criteria and guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 above, not less than two years after the entry into force of this Convention and thereafter on a regular basis. Based on such review, it shall take appropriate action to improve the effectiveness of the mechanism if necessary. 4) The Contracting Parties shall consider strengthening existing financial institutions to provide financial resources for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.”

On the basis of the decision of the fifth replenishment of the GEF, up to \$40 million will be available for the objective related to ABS. However, the GEF-5 programming document did not envision and allocate GEF-5 resources to address consideration of establishment and piloting of the Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism. Therefore, it is necessary to establish a trust fund to test this innovative mechanism.

Equally important, it is envisioned that private sector contributions will form part of the ABS pilot mechanism fund, considering the nature of the Protocol. The GEF Trust Fund is not able to accept private sector contribution, which is another reason why it is necessary to establish the new, proposed fund in order to facilitate private sector contributions. It is expected that the ABS pilot mechanism fund and the GEF Trust Fund will closely coordinate to address needed complementarities.

It is expected that establishment of the ABS pilot mechanism fund will encourage prompt signature of the Protocol, which will be open for signature by the Parties to the Convention from 2 February 2011 to 1 February 2012. For this reason, it is urgent to establish the fund as expeditiously as possible (no later than 31 March 2011).

3. Objective of the ABS Pilot Mechanism Fund

The ABS pilot mechanism fund will be established to facilitate and support effective and efficient implementation of the decisions made at the CBD COP10. The ABS pilot mechanism fund is expected to serve the pilot phase to allow consideration of the modalities of the Global Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism under the Protocol. The pilot phase, which will be managed by the GEF, is expected to evolve to, or offer useful perspective for the development of, the Multilateral Benefit-Sharing Mechanism, but would not exhaust its future options.

4. Governance and Project Management

The ABS pilot mechanism fund will be governed by the ABS pilot mechanism fund Council, which will follow the operational policies and procedures and governance structure of the GEF Council and draw on the model of the Least Development Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). The composition of this governing body and its rules may be reviewed and modified.

CBD Article 39. Financial Interim Arrangements states, "Provided that it has been fully restructured in accordance with the requirements of Article 21, the Global Environment Facility of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development shall be the institutional structure referred to in Article 21 on an interim basis, for the period between the entry into force of this Convention and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties or until the Conference of the Parties decides which institutional structure will be designated in accordance with Article 21."

Protocol Article 25, Financial Mechanism and Resources, paragraph 2 states, "The financial mechanism of the Convention shall be the financial mechanism for this Protocol."

The operations, functions and roles of the ABS pilot mechanism fund will be reviewed by the ABS pilot mechanism fund Council before the end of GEF-5. Based on the results of the review, the GEF Council may decide to terminate or continue the ABS pilot mechanism fund with modifications as necessary.

The type of projects and activities to be funded under the ABS pilot mechanism fund will be in line with the concept of the Article 10 of the Protocol. These projects may be implemented by any of the GEF Agencies or by entities accredited under the proposed modalities of access for qualified national entities, non-governmental organizations and others, if the policy on broadening access to the GEF is approved by the GEF Council.

5. Financial Management

The World Bank will be invited to serve as the Trustee of the ABS pilot mechanism fund, in accordance with the Bank's policies and procedures. The ABS pilot mechanism fund will be established as a multi donor trust fund, which could combine the contribution of multiple donors and the private sector.

The Government of Japan will take a leading role by providing seed funding of 1 billion yen (approx US\$ 12.5 million) to the ABS pilot mechanism fund as a voluntary contribution. This contribution from Japan is expected to encourage and leverage other donor contributions. In addition, it is expected that private companies and other entities that utilize genetic resources will also contribute to the ABS pilot mechanism fund and/or to related projects. The ABS pilot mechanism fund is aimed to grow to a scale of \$50-100 million within the next four years.