



## **GEF COUNCIL DECISIONS 2013**

## GEF Council Decisions 2013

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## Decision by Mail – April 2013

### Decision 1/2013      Intersessional Work Program

1. The GEF Council reviewed the proposed [work program](#) posted on March 11, 2013, and approves the work program as amended, comprising of the following 51 Project Identification Forms (PIFs), one Program Framework Document (PFD) and one PIF associated with a previously approved programmatic approach, subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by April 8, 2013:

#### **Biodiversity**

1. **Argentina:** Governance Strengthening for the Management and Protection of Coastal-Marine Biodiversity in Key Ecological Areas and the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,534,786)
2. **Brazil:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into NTFP and AFS Production Practices in Multiple-Use Forest Landscapes of High Conservation Value (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,479,452)
3. **China:** Expansion and Improvement of Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in the Greater Shennongjia Area, Hubei Province (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,657,534)
4. **Colombia:** Sustainable Management and Conservation of Biodiversity in the Magdalena River Basin (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,363,636)
5. **Dominican Republic:** Conserving Biodiversity in Coastal Areas Threatened by Rapid Tourism and Physical Infrastructure Development (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,838,792)
6. **Egypt:** Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity into Tourism Development and Operations in Threatened Ecosystems in Egypt (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,574,338)
7. **India:** Mainstreaming Agrobiodiversity Conservation and Utilization in Agricultural Sector to Ensure Ecosystem Services and Reduce Vulnerability (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,046,347)
8. **Mexico:** Strengthening Management of the PA System to Better Conserve Endangered Species and their Habitats (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,525,114)
9. **Myanmar:** Strengthening Sustainability of Protected Area Management (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,027,397)

## **Climate Change**

10. **Global:** Technology Needs Assessment (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,815,080)
11. **Regional (Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia):** EBRD South Eastern Mediterranean EE/ESCO Markets Platform (PROGRAM) (EBRD) (GEF Project Grant : \$15,000,000)
12. **China:** Energy Conservation, Greenhouse Gas Mitigation and Soil Carbon Sequestration in Staple Crop Production (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,100,000)
13. **Colombia:** Demonstration and Assessment of Battery-electric Vehicles for Mass Transit in Colombia (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,200,000)
14. **Cuba:** Clean Energy Technologies for the Rural Areas in Cuba (CleanEnergy-Cuba) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,737,524)
15. **Egypt:** Grid-Connected Small-Scale Photovoltaic Systems (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3,536,364)
16. **Egypt:** Promoting Low-carbon Technologies for Cooling and Heating in Industrial Applications in Egypt (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,500,000)
17. **India:** Organic Waste Streams for Industrial Renewable Energy Applications in India (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,333,000)
18. **India:** Scale Up of Access to Clean Energy for Rural Productive and Domestic Uses (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,006,849)
19. **Montenegro:** Towards Carbon Neutral Tourism (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,090,000)
20. **South Africa:** Enabling South Africa to Prepare its Third National Communication (3NC) and Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,006,650)
21. **Sudan:** Promoting Utility-Scale Power Generation from Wind Energy (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,536,364)

## **International Waters**

22. **Global:** Strengthening Global Governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and their Coasts through Enhanced Sharing and Application of LME/ICM/MPA Knowledge and Information Tools (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,500,000)
23. **Global (Costa Rica, Ecuador, Indonesia, Philippines):** Global Sustainable Supply Chains for Marine Commodities (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,500,000)

24. **Regional (Ecuador, Peru)** : Integrated Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla Transboundary Aquifers and River Basins (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,960,000)
25. **Regional (Kenya, Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Tanzania, South Africa)** : Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-based Sources and Activities (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,867,000)

#### **Land Degradation**

26. **Brazil:** Sustainable Land Use Management in the Semi-arid Region of North-east Brazil (Sergipe) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,815,192)
27. **China:** Sustainable and Climate Resilient Land Management in Western PRC (ADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,652,603)
28. **Lebanon:** Sustainable Land Management in the Qaroun Watershed (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,187,671)

#### **Multi Focal Area**

29. **Global (Albania, Armenia, Barbados, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Bhutan, Botswana, Belarus, Cote d'Ivoire, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cape Verde, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Micronesia, Grenada, Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Honduras, Jamaica, Jordan, Kiribati, Lao PDR, Lebanon, St. Lucia, Sri Lanka, Liberia, Moldova, Marshall Islands, Macedonia, Mali, Mongolia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Nicaragua, Nepal, Nauru, Panama, Palau, Paraguay, Solomon Islands, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Senegal, El Salvador, Syria, Togo, Tunisia, Tonga, Timor Leste, Ukraine, Uganda, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Venezuela, Congo DR):** GEF SGP Fifth Operational Phase-- Implementing the Program Using STAR Resources II (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$71,246,264)
30. **Regional (Cook Islands, Fiji, Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Samoa):** Building National and Regional Capacity to Implement MEAs by Strengthening Planning, and State of Environment Assessment and Reporting in the Pacific Islands (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,319,635)
31. **Regional (Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal):** Senegal River Basin Climate Change Resilience Development Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,000,000)

32. **Bahamas:** Pine Islands - Forest/Mangrove Innovation and Integration (Grand Bahama, New Providence, Abaco and Andros) (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,853,425)
33. **Bolivia:** Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficiency Lighting (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3,059,361)
34. **Chile:** Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,485,713)
35. **Ecuador:** Promotion of Climate-smart Livestock Management Integrating Reversion of Land Degradation and Reduction of Desertification Risks in Vulnerable Provinces (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,393,977)
36. **Gabon:** Sustainable Management of Critical Wetlands Ecosystems (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,521,000)
37. **Kenya:** Development of SFM and Support to REDD for Dryland Forests (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,823,439)
38. **Myanmar:** Sustainable Cropland and Forest Management in Priority Agro-ecosystems of Myanmar (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,183,031)
39. **Nicaragua:** Strengthening the Resilience of Multiple-use Protected Areas to Deliver Multiple Global Environmental Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,192,512)
40. **Solomon Islands:** Integrated Forest Management in the Solomon Islands (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,676,454)
41. **Tunisia:** Oases Ecosystems and Livelihoods Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$5,760,730)
42. **Yemen:** Delivering the Transition to Energy Efficiency Lighting (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,028,616)

### **Chemicals**

43. **Regional (Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkey):** Lifecycle Management of Pesticides and Disposal of POPs Pesticides in Central Asian Countries and Turkey (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,136,986)
44. **Regional (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Pakistan):** Sub-regional Action Plan (Asia) for PBDEs Management and Reduction (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,950,000)
45. **Regional (Indonesia, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Philippines, Vietnam):** Implementation of the POPs Monitoring Plan in the Asian Region (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,936,000)

46. **Bangladesh:** Environmentally-sound Management and Disposal of PCBs and Medical Wastes (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,000,000)
47. **Egypt:** Protect Human Health and the Environment from Unintentional Releases of POPs Originating from Incineration and Open Burning of Health Care- and Electronic-waste (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,100,000)
48. **Indonesia:** Reducing Releases of PBDEs and UPOPs Originating from Unsound Waste Management and Recycling Practices and the Manufacturing of Plastics in Indonesia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,990,000)
49. **Senegal:** Environmentally Sound Management of Municipal and Hazardous Solid Waste to Reduce Emission of Unintentional POPs (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,000,000)
50. **Serbia:** Environmentally-Sound Management and Final Disposal of PCBs (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,100,000)
51. **Turkey:** POPs Legacy Elimination and POPs Release Reduction Project (UNDP/UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,815,000)
52. **Vietnam:** Vietnam POPs and Sound Harmful Chemicals Management Project (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,550,000)

**PIF under a Previously Approved Programmatic Approach**

53. **EAS Regional (China):** Implementation of the Yellow Sea LME Strategic Action Programme for Adaptive Ecosystem-Based Management (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$7,562,430) under the *EAS Regional: Reducing Pollution and Rebuilding Degraded Marine Resources in the East Asian Seas through Implementation of Intergovernmental Agreements and Catalyzed Investments*
2. With respect to the following five 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) **Dominican Republic:** Conserving Biodiversity in Coastal Areas Threatened by Rapid Tourism and Physical Infrastructure Development
    - b) **Egypt:** Grid-Connected Small-Scale Photovoltaic Systems
    - c) **Kenya:** Development of SFM and Support to REDD for Dryland Forests
    - d) **Solomon Islands:** Integrated Forest Management in the Solomon Islands



- e) **EAS Regional (China):** Implementation of the Yellow Sea LME Strategic Action Programme for Adaptive Ecosystem-Based Management under the *EAS Regional: Reducing Pollution and Rebuilding Degraded Marine Resources in the East Asian Seas through Implementation of Intergovernmental Agreements and Catalyzed Investments*
3. With respect to the following three PIFs, the Council requests that the project proposals be deferred for consideration at the June 2013 Council meeting:
- a) **Indonesia:** Promoting Energy Efficiency for Non-HCFC Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (UNDP)
  - b) **Russian Federation:** Save the Source: Catalyzing Market Transformation of Breweries from a Major Natural Resource Consuming Industry to a Pro-active Steward for Resource Efficient Cleaner Production (UNIDO)
  - c) **Russian Federation:** Sustainable Land Management and Ecosystem-based Climate Change Mitigation in the Altai-Sayan Ecoregion (UNDP)
4. With respect to the remaining 47 PIFs and one PDF approved as part of the work program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs/PDF (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. 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.
6. Beginning in this work program, the new procedure for tranche fee payment (**Decision 24/2012**<sup>1</sup>) will apply to all projects in which 40% of the Agency fees are committed upon approval of this work program and the remaining 60% at CEO endorsement. The detailed funding decisions taken by the Council is appended as [Annex 1](#).

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<sup>1</sup> The tranche payment of fees for FSP is detailed in [Streamlining the Project Cycle](#), Annex 1: Streamlining Measures

## 44<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting – June 2013

### Decision 2/2013      Annual Monitoring Report FY12: Part II

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.44/05, [Annual Monitoring Review FY12: Part II](#), welcomed the report and appreciated the reformed AMR process. The Council requested the GEF Secretariat to continue providing two AMR reports per year. The first, presented in the fall, containing a quantitative overview of information on the portfolio under implementation and the second, presented in the spring, containing more in-depth analysis of outcomes, experiences, and lessons learned, including a report on the time elapsed between CEO endorsement/approval and first disbursement.

### Decision 3/2013      First Report of OPS5 and Management Response

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.44/01, [First Report of the Fifth Overall Performance Study and Management Response](#), requested the Evaluation Office to continue its work to finalize the Fifth Overall Performance Study taking into account comments made in the Council meeting. The Council requested the Secretariat to take the findings of OPS5 into account in preparing draft strategies for GEF-6.

### Decision 4/2013      Update on GEF-5 Programming

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.44/07, [Update on GEF Programming](#), took note of the approach to future programming presented by the Secretariat for a projected envelope of \$4,066 million for GEF-5.
2. The Council noted its appreciation of all Contributing Participants that have delivered on their pledges in a timely manner and cleared their deferred contributions, thereby mitigating the potential shortfall of resources in GEF-5.
3. The Council urged all Contributing Participants to continue to undertake efforts to deliver on their pledges.
4. The Council agreed to the continuation of the approach it recommended in November 2012, whereby programming would be undertaken for the remainder of GEF-5 maintaining the balance among the original allocations in the GEF-5 replenishment decision, assisting least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS) in accessing resources, and supporting core obligations to the conventions for which the GEF is a or the financial mechanism.
5. The Council requested the Secretariat to report on the progress in programming at the next Council meeting.

### **Decision 5/2013      Report on the Pilot Accreditation of GEF Project Agencies**

1. The Council, having reviewed GEF/C.44/09, [Report on the Pilot Accreditation of GEF Project Agencies](#), noted the status of the Stage II reviews conducted by the Accreditation Panel to date. In particular, the Council noted that all Stage II initial desk reviews have been completed, but also that several applicants are undergoing further reviews by the Panel.
2. The Council decided to consider the possibility of a second round of accreditation, including accreditation of bilateral agencies, only once all Stage II reviews are completed.
3. The Council requested the Secretariat to continue to present a progress report on the accreditation pilot at every Council meeting.

### **Decision 6/2013      Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions**

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.44/03, [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.

#### *Update on Mercury Convention Negotiations*

2. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.44/04, [Preparing the GEF to serve as the Financial Mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury upon entry into force](#),
3. Welcomed with appreciation the invitation from the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to Prepare a Global Legally Binding Instrument on Mercury to the GEF, to be the key element of the Financial Mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury as drafted in Article 13 of the agreed text of the Convention, which will be submitted for adoption and opened for signature in Kumamoto and Minamata, Japan in October 2013.
4. Authorized the use of up to \$10 million for the funding of an early action pre-ratification program for the Minamata Convention to be programmed during the remainder of GEF-5, upon request by eligible signatory countries.
5. Requested the GEF Secretariat to develop initial guidelines consistent with the final resolutions of the diplomatic Conference for enabling activities and pre-ratification projects, in consultation with the interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention, and present this as an information document at the 45th Council Meeting.

## **Decision 7/2013      Note on the Organization of the Fifth GEF Assembly**

1. The Council expressed its appreciation to the Government of Mexico for offering to host the Fifth Assembly meeting and accepted this kind offer. The Assembly will take place in Mexico, on May 28-30, 2014.
2. The Council requested the Secretariat to prepare for the next Council meeting a report on the progress that has been achieved in preparing the Assembly.

## **Decision 8/2013      Work Program**

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.44/08, [Work Program](#), approved<sup>2</sup> the work program comprising forty eight (48) project concepts and two programmatic approaches, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by July 5, 2013. In addition, six project concepts associated with current and previously approved programmatic approaches are also approved.
2. Total resources approved in this work program amounted to \$369.82 million which include GEF project grants and Agency fees. The work program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and Program Framework Documents (PFDs):

### **Biodiversity**

1. **Argentina:** Mainstreaming Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Production Practices of Small Producers to Protect the Biodiversity of High Value Conservation Forests in the Atlantic Forest, Yungas and Chaco (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,620,000)
2. **Colombia:** Implementing the Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity Approach to Conserve and Sustainable Use Biodiversity in the Caribbean Region of Colombia (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,052,114)
3. **Guinea-Bissau:** Strengthening the Financial and Operational Framework of the National PA System in Guinea-Bissau (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,304,429)
4. **India:** Integrated Management of Wetland Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Water and Food Security (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,196,575)

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<sup>2</sup> The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of its policies for certain development projects, opposed the following projects and therefore does not join a Council decision that would support 1) *Argentina : Mainstreaming Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Production Practices of Small Producers to Protect the Biodiversity of High Value Conservation Forests in the Atlantic Forest, Yungas and Chaco*, 2) *Sri Lanka: Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustenance of Ecosystem services in Environmentally Sensitive Areas*, and 3) *Sri Lanka: Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs Wastes and PCB contaminated Equipment*

5. **Indonesia:** Coral Reef Rehabilitation and Management Program-Coral Triangle Initiative, Phase III<sup>3</sup> (COREMAP-CTI III) (ADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,000,000)
6. **Sri Lanka:** Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustenance of Ecosystem Services in Environmentally Sensitive Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,626,690)

### **Climate Change**

7. **Regional (Caribbean):** PPP-IDB Sustainable Caribbean Basin Private Equity Fund (PROGRAM)<sup>4</sup> (IDB) (GEF Project Grant : \$15,000,000)
8. **Regional (Antigua And Barbuda, Grenada, St. Vincent and Grenadines):** Sustainable Energy for the Eastern Caribbean (SEEC) Program (IDB) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,013,698)
9. **Azerbaijan:** Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) for Low-carbon Enduse Sectors in Azerbaijan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,570,000)
10. **Belarus:** Belarus Green Cities: Supporting Green Urban Development in Small and Medium Sized Cities in Belarus (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,091,000)
11. **Brazil:** Fourth National Communication and Biennial Update Reports to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,528,500)
12. **Equatorial Guinea:** Sustainable Energy for All: Promoting Small Scale Hydropower in Bioko and Other Clean Energy Solutions for Remote Islands (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,502,968)
13. **Guinea:** Developing a Market for Biogas Resource Development and Utilization in Guinea (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,647,706)
14. **India:** Improving Rural Energy Access in Deficit States (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$12,844,000)
15. **Indonesia :** Promoting Energy Efficiency for Non-HCFC Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (PENHRA) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,020,822) (**RESUBMISSION**)<sup>5</sup>
16. **Kazakhstan:** Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions for Low-carbon Urban Development (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,930,000)
17. **Malaysia:** Green Technology Application for the Development of Low Carbon Cities (GTALCC) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,354,794)

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<sup>3</sup> Project linked to a previous non-set aside programmatic approach

<sup>4</sup> Programmatic Framework Document (PFD)

<sup>5</sup> Resubmitted PIF from the April 2013 Intersessional Work Program as requested by Council

18. **Mexico:** Mexico Sustainable Energy Technology Development (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$16,880,734)
19. **Myanmar:** Improvement of Industrial Energy Efficiency (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,730,000)
20. **Nigeria:** Scaling up Small Hydro Power (SHP) in Nigeria (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,689,680)
21. **Russian Federation:** National Urban Transport Improvement Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$9,132,420)
22. **South Africa:** South Africa Wind Energy Project (SAWEP) – Phase II (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,554,250)
23. **Tunisia:** NAMA Support for the Tunisian Solar Plan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,552,968)

#### **International Waters**

24. **Regional (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia):** Adriatic Sea Environmental Pollution Control Project (I) (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,776,256)
25. **Regional (Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago):** Sustainable Management of Bycatch in Latin America and Caribbean Trawl Fisheries (REBYC-II LAC) (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,800,000)
26. **Regional (Central African Republic, Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, Chad):** Improving Lake Chad Management through Building Climate Change Resilience and Reducing Ecosystem Stress through Implementation of the SAP (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,830,000)
27. **Regional (Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam):** Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,000,000)
28. **Regional (Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan):** Enabling Country of the Transboundary Syr Darya Basin to Make Sustainable Use of their Ground Water Potential and Subsurface Space with Consideration to Climate Variability and Change (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,500,000)

#### **Land Degradation**

29. **South Africa:** Securing Multiple Ecosystems Benefit Through SLM in the Productive But Degraded Landscapes of South Africa (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,237,900)

## Multi Focal Area

30. **Global (Georgia, Madagascar):** Global Forest Watch 2.0 FW 2.0 (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,342,465)
31. **Regional (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru):** Adaptation to the Impact of Climate Change in Water Resources for the Andean Region (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,240,000)
32. **Regional (Cook Islands, Fiji, Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Samoa):** R2R- Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities – Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods<sup>6</sup> (UNDP/UNEP, FAO) (GEF Program Grant : \$70,402,360)
33. **Antigua And Barbuda:** Sustainable Pathways - Protected Areas and Renewable Energy (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,639,726)
34. **Chile:** Protecting Biodiversity and Multiple Ecosystem Services in Biological Mountain Corridors in Chile’s Mediterranean Ecosystem (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,657,201)
35. **China:** Sustainable Forest Management to Enhance the Resilience of Forests to Climate Change (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,152,728)
36. **Haiti:** Increasing Resilience of Ecosystems and Vulnerable Communities to CC and Anthropogenic Threats Through a Ridge to Reef Approach to BD Conservation and Watershed Management (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,753,098)
37. **Indonesia:** Strengthening Forest and Ecosystem Connectivity in RIMBA Landscape of Central Sumatra through Investing in Natural Capital, Biodiversity Conservation, and Land-based Emission Reductions (RIMBA) (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$9,431,763)
38. **Kenya:** Scaling up Sustainable Land Management and Agrobiodiversity Conservation to Reduce Environmental Degradation in Small Scale Agriculture in Western Kenya (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,583,800)
39. **Mozambique:** Mozambique Conservation Areas for Biodiversity and Development Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,319,635)
40. **Russian Federation:** Save the Source: Catalyzing Market Transformation of Breweries from a Major Natural Resource Consuming Industry to a Pro-active

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<sup>6</sup> Programmatic Framework Document (PFD)

- Steward for Resource Efficient Cleaner Production (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,300,000) (**RESUBMISSION**)<sup>7</sup>
41. **Russian Federation** : Sustainable Land Management and Ecosystem-based Climate Change Mitigation in the Altai-Sayan Eco-region (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,170,000) (**RESUBMISSION**)<sup>8</sup>
  42. **Sao Tome and Principe**: Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Grid-based Hydroelectric Electricity through an Integrated Approach in Sao Tome and Principe (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,274,544)
  43. **Thailand**: Maximizing Carbon Sink Capacity and Conserving Biodiversity through Sustainable Conservation, Restoration, and Management of Peat-swamp Ecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,224,400)
  44. **Yemen**: Support to the Integrated Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Socotra Archipelago (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,854,566)

#### **POPs**

45. **Global**: Global Project on the Updating of National Implementation Plans for POPs (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,965,753)
46. **Regional (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Philippines, Vietnam)**: Demonstration of BAT and BEP in Open Burning Activities in Response to the Stockholm Convention on POPs (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,560,000)
47. **Cote d'Ivoire**: POPs Pesticides Management Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,000,000)
48. **Macedonia**: Removal of Technical and Economic Barriers to Initiating the Clean-up Activities for Alpha-HCH, Beta-HCH and Lindane Contaminated Sites at OHIS (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,100,000)
49. **Mexico**: Sound Management of POPs Containing Waste (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,720,000)
50. **Sri Lanka**: Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs Wastes and PCB Contaminated Equipment in Sri Lanka (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,725,000)

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<sup>7</sup> Resubmitted PIF from the April 2013 Intersessional Work Program as requested by Council

<sup>8</sup> Ibid



## Sub-projects<sup>9</sup> under Previously Approved and Current Programmatic Approaches<sup>10</sup> (with Set-Aside)

### International Waters

51. **Regional (China, Indonesia, Cambodia, Lao DPR, Philippines, Timor Lester, Vietnam):** Scaling Up the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$10,143,992) under the Program of Reducing Pollution and Rebuilding Degraded marine Resources in the East Asian Seas through Implementation of Intergovernmental Agreements and Catalyzed Investments
52. **Regional (Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam):** Sustainable Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the West Pacific and East Asian Seas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,233,578) under the Program of Reducing Pollution and Rebuilding Degraded marine Resources in the East Asian Seas through Implementation of Intergovernmental Agreements and Catalyzed Investments

### Multi-Focal Area

53. **Regional (Cook Islands, Fiji, Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Samoa):** Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries (UNDP) (GEF Program Grant: \$9,826,147) *under the Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities – Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihood*
54. **Cook Islands:** Conserving Biodiversity and Enhancing Ecosystem Functions through a “Ridge-to-Reef” Approach (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4,267,431) *under the Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities – Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihood*
55. **Fiji:** Implementing a “Ridge to Reef” Approach to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Sequester Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$7,387,614) *under the Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities*

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<sup>9</sup> All sub-projects will draw their grants from their respective set-aside program allocations.

<sup>10</sup> Following the procedures established for programmatic approaches applicable to all GEF Agencies, the final project documents of these sub-projects will be circulated to Council for four weeks before the CEO can endorse them (GEF/C.39/Inf.3).

*– Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihood*

56. **Nauru:** Implementing a “Ridge to Reef” Approach to Protecting Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functions in Nauru (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,644,358) *under the Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities – Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihood*

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 the project document for final approval by the GEF Agency:

- 1) **Global (Georgia, Madagascar):** Global Forest Watch 2.0<sup>11</sup>
- 2) **Regional (China, Indonesia, Cambodia, Lao DPR, Philippines, Timor Lester, Vietnam):** Scaling Up the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia<sup>12</sup> under the Program of Reducing Pollution and Rebuilding Degraded Marine Resources in the East Asian Seas through Implementation of Intergovernmental Agreements and Catalyzed Investments
- 3) **Regional (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru):** Adaptation to the Impact of Climate Change in Water Resources for the Andean Region<sup>13</sup>
- 4) **India:** Integrated Management of Wetland Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Water and Food Security
- 5) **India:** Improving Rural Energy Access in Deficit States
- 6) **Indonesia:** Promoting Energy Efficiency for Non-HCFC Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (PENHRA)
- 7) **Mozambique:** Mozambique Conservation Areas for Biodiversity and Development Project<sup>14</sup>
- 8) **Tunisia:** NAMA Support for the Tunisian Solar Plan
- 9) **Russian Federation:** Save the Source: Catalyzing Market Transformation of Breweries from a Major Natural Resource Consuming Industry to a Pro-active Steward for Resource Efficient Cleaner Production<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> STAP advisory for major revision

<sup>12</sup> Ibid

<sup>13</sup> Ibid

<sup>14</sup> Ibid

<sup>15</sup> Ibid

- 10) **Russian Federation:** National Urban Transport Improvement Project
  - 11) **South Africa:** Wind Energy Project (SAWEP) – Phase II
  - 12) **Yemen:** Support to the Integrated Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Socotra Archipelago
4. With respect to R2R – *Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities- Integrated Water, Land, Forest, and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience, and Sustain Livelihoods*, the Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for Council members to receive as soon as possible the final Program Framework Document (PFD) that responds to Council comments and to the STAP advice.
  5. 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.
  6. 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 there are 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.
  7. The detailed funding decisions taken by the Council during this 44<sup>th</sup> session of the work program is part of the associated [Annex 1](#) appended to this Joint Summary of the Chairs.

**Decision 9/2013      GEF Business Plan and Corporate Budget for FY14**

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.44/06, [GEF Business Plan and Corporate Budget for FY14](#), took note of the business plan and approved a FY14 corporate budget from the GEF Trust Fund of \$25.426 million, comprised of:
  - (a) \$19.575 million for the GEF Secretariat, which includes:
    - i. \$18.525 million for its core administrative budget;
    - ii. \$0.300 million for a special initiative to support the sixth replenishment negotiations; and

- iii. \$0.750 million for planning of the Fifth GEF Assembly.
- (b) \$2.311 million for the STAP; and
- (c) \$3.540 million for the Trustee, which includes:
  - i. \$3.216 million for its core budget; and
  - ii. \$0.324 million for a special initiative to support the sixth replenishment negotiations.
- 2. The Council requested the Secretariat to propose at its November 2013 meeting a supplemental budget to cover the full costs of the Fifth GEF Assembly.
- 3. The Council also approved a total FY14 administrative budget for the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) of \$382,300, comprised of the following allocations from the NPIF to cover the Secretariat's and Trustee's expenses for NPIF administration and implementation:
  - (a) \$342,000 for the GEF Secretariat; and
  - (b) \$40,300 for the Trustee;
- 4. In addition, under agenda item 16, the Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.44/02, [Work Program and Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office](#), had approved a FY14 budget of \$4.180 million for the Evaluation Office, comprising \$3.280 million for its annual budget and \$0.900 million to support multi-annual evaluations.
- 5. The Council requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the GEF entities, to present a combined FY15 corporate budget and business plan covering the FY15-18 period for discussion at its spring 2014 meeting. This combined budget and business plans should report on the use of GEF resources during FY14 and GEF accomplishments over the same period.

**Decision 10/2013      Work Program and Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office**

- 1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.44/02, [Work Program and Budget of the GEF Evaluation Office](#), approved the annual budget for the Evaluation Office for fiscal year 2014 for a total of US\$ 3.28 million. The multi-annual budget for the evaluation program of the GEF Evaluation Office is approved for an amount of US\$ 0.90 million for evaluations carried out in fiscal year 2014 and commitments for evaluations continuing on into fiscal year 2015. The total amount approved for the GEF Evaluation Office is US\$ 4.18 million, which is \$ 1.56 million lower than in fiscal year 2013, when a

peak in funding was caused by OPS5 and the two mid-term evaluations that the Office is undertaking.

2. Given the recent obstacles that the Evaluation Office has faced in accessing ongoing and completed GEF funded projects, the Council notes that several GEF Agencies are now incorporating legal requirements in contractual arrangements that such access should be granted as fully and quickly as feasible, recognizing the independence of the Office and without restrictions. The Council requested the Evaluation Office to interact with the GEF Agencies on this issue and report back to the Council in its next Work Program and Budget whether access has been ensured for all GEF funded projects.
3. The Council requested the Evaluation Office to prepare proposals for the replenishment negotiations for the GEF-6 phase to ensure that the operational nature of its budget is recognized and decided outside the administrative budget of the GEF, to come in line with best international practice. It notes with interest that a peer review will take place of the evaluation function in the GEF in early 2014 and looks forward to receive the findings and recommendations at its June 2014 meeting.

#### **Decision 11/2013      Report of the Selection and Review Committee**

1. The Council, having reviewed GEF/C.44/10, *Report of the Selection and Review Committee*, and taking note of the GEF CEO Self-Assessment for FY13 expressed their high satisfaction with performance and achievements of the GEF CEO during her first 10 months tenure, and agreed to:
  - (i) Confirm the appointment of the GEF CEO and Chairperson for the remainder of her term as per World Bank Group's staff policies, and request the SRC Chair to communicate this decision to the World Bank Human Resources;
  - (ii) Provide the GEF CEO and Chairperson with a 4% salary increase as allocated on confirmation of appointment, and request the SRC Chair to communicate this decision to the World Bank Human Resources.
2. Further, the Council, taking note that the term of the current Director of the Evaluation Office will be expiring on September 11, 2014, and with a view to launch the search process for the new Director agreed to request the SRC to:
  - (i) Present draft terms of reference for the Director of the Evaluation Office for approval by Council at the November 2013 Council meeting;
  - (ii) Develop and present a process for selecting a Director of the Evaluation Office for approval by Council at the November 2013 Council meeting.

## **Decision 12/2013      Dates for the Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 Council Meetings**

1. The Council confirmed that it will hold its fall 2013 meeting the week of November 4, 2013.
2. The Council decided to hold its first meeting in 2014 on May 26-27 in Mexico in conjunction with the Fifth GEF Assembly.

## **Decision by Mail – September 2013**

### **Decision 13/2013      Intersessional Work Program**

1. The GEF Council reviewed the proposed special intersessional [work program](#) posted on the GEF website on July 31, 2013, and approves the work program, comprising of the following six non-expedited enabling activity proposals, subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by August 28, 2013:

#### **Climate Change**

1. **Ecuador:** Third National Communication (3NC) and First Biennial Update Report (BUR) (GEF Enabling Activity Grant: \$852,000)
  2. **Jamaica:** Third National Communication (TNC) and Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC (GEF Enabling Activity Grant: \$852,000)
  3. **Malaysia:** Third National Communication (TNC) to the UNFCCC and Biennial Update Report (BUR) (GEF Enabling Activity Grant: \$852,000)
  4. **Paraguay:** Third National Communication on Climate Change and First Biennial Update Report (GEF Enabling Activity Grant: \$852,000)
  5. **Thailand:** Third National Communication (TNC) and Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC (GEF Enabling Activity Grant: \$852,000)
  6. **Yemen:** Third National Communication and First Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC (GEF Enabling Activity Grant: \$852,000)
2. The Council finds that each proposal 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 draft final project documents fully incorporate and address the [Council's comments on the work program](#), and a confirmation by the CEO that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

## 45<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting – November 2013

### Decision 14/2013      Annual Monitoring Review FY13: Part I

1. The Council having reviewed GEF/C.45/05, [Annual Monitoring Review \(AMR\) FY 13: Part I](#), welcomes the overall finding that the GEF portfolio under implementation in FY 13 performed satisfactorily across all focal areas. The Council welcomes the project cycle analysis in the management effectiveness section as well as inclusion of an annual status update on Enabling Activities and Programmatic Approaches and the information provided on the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE).
2. The Council requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Agencies, to report on the progress against GEF-5 programming targets in the Annual Monitoring Review, Part II at the spring 2014 meeting. Subsequent reporting on progress against replenishment programming targets should be included in AMR, Part I.

### Decision 15/2013      Annual Report on Impact and Management Response

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.45/1, [Annual Report on Impact](#), and document GEF/ME/C.45/2, [Management Response to the Annual Report on Impact](#), notes the considerable achievements of GEF support to Climate Change Mitigation in China, India, Mexico and Russia. It notes that in several projects progress toward impact was slowed down by barriers to change that were not fully included in project design and implementation. However, it is also noted that the current portfolio of mitigation support has shifted towards tackling broader adoption in a more comprehensive way in mitigation support in GEF-5. The Council requests the Secretariat to include this emphasis and where necessary further strengthen it in the proposals for GEF-6.
2. Furthermore, the Council requests the GEF Secretariat, in collaboration with STAP and other relevant entities, to continue its work on the improvement of the methodology of GHG emission reduction calculations, and to engage in a dialogue to improve (i) the assessment of direct GHG emission reduction during project implementation and at completion, and (ii) improved estimation of indirect GHG emission reduction. The Council requests the GEF Secretariat to report back by the next Council meeting with proposals on the way forward.

### Decision 16/2013      Progress Report of the GEF Evaluation Office Director, including the OPS5 Progress Report and Management Response

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.45/03 Rev.01, [Progress Report of the GEF Evaluation Office Director, including the OPS5 Progress Report](#), and

GEF/ME/C.45/08, [Management Response to the Progress Report of the GEF Evaluation Office Director, including the OPS5 Progress Report](#), takes note of the on-going work of the Office and the progress report on the Fifth Overall Performance Study of the GEF, as well as the upcoming peer review and the international trends on independence of evaluation. The Council approves the name change of the Office to GEF Independent Evaluation Office (GEFIEO).

2. The Council requests the Secretariat and the Evaluation Office to prepare a proposal for amendment of the Instrument to include the Independent Evaluation Office, to be approved by Council before the Assembly in 2014.

**Decision 17/2013      Mid-Term Evaluation of the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources and Management Response**

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.45/04, [Mid-Term Evaluation of the System of Transparent Allocation of Resources \(STAR\)](#), and document GEF/ME/C.45/05, [Management Response to the Mid-Term Evaluation of STAR](#), notes the contribution of STAR to increased country ownership and country led programming in the GEF. Without prejudice to the policy recommendations related to the STAR that may emerge from the GEF-6 replenishment negotiations, the Council requests the Secretariat to take into account the following recommendations while preparing the STAR for GEF-6 for Council consideration:
  - (a) Limits for flexible use of focal area allocations for activities could be increased for countries with marginal flexibility;
  - (b) The STAR index could be improved through specification of better indicators and updating of data;
  - (c) The implementation of STAR could be fine-tuned on several aspects, most notably a more thorough calculation of the allocations with sufficient quality control, and improvements in the process for STAR calculation and database management.
2. Given the moderate and relatively slow utilization of Sustainable Forest Management in GEF-5 the Council requests the Secretariat to ensure that the development of new programs should give attention to efforts that would be required to make the GEF partnership aware of the operational rules and procedures of these programs.



**Decision 18/2013      Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) and Management Response**

1. The Council, having reviewed GEF/ME/C.45/06, [\*Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Portfolio Evaluation Exercise \(NPFE\)\*](#), and GEF/ME/C.45/07, [\*Management Response to the Mid-Term Evaluation of the NPFE\*](#), notes the relevance of the NPFEs to address the pre-identification phase of GEF support and its notable success in creating capacity in countries to coordinate and program GEF interventions. The Council requests the Secretariat to:
  - (a) Include in the final replenishment proposals the continuation of NPFE support in GEF-6, to be implemented through the Secretariat;
  - (b) Use the balance of the GEF-5 NPFE support for programming exercises especially in LDCs and SIDS in 2014, to enable countries on a voluntary basis to prepare for GEF-6;
  - (c) Include in the final replenishment proposals capacity development initiatives for GEF-6 (including NPFE, NDI, NCSA and a follow-up to the Capacity Development Strategy of GEF-5) which aim to achieve a more comprehensive understanding of the GEF in partners and stakeholders at the country level, especially in LDCs and SIDS;
  - (d) Update NPFE guidelines to address information needs of the countries for programming on topics such as eligibility criteria, cofinancing expectations, and funding modalities.

**Decision 19/2013      Progress Report on the GEF Project Cycle Streamlining Measures**

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.45/04, [\*Progress Report on the GEF Project Cycle Streamlining Measures\*](#), acknowledges progress on the implementation of GEF Project Cycle streamlining measures, and the status on the project cycle effectiveness indicators, and notes that further work is required to clarify project cycle time-frame targets and further reduce time elapsed in project preparation.
2. The Council encourages the Secretariat, the GEF Agencies, and recipient countries to work together in order to expedite project preparation.
3. The Council requests the Secretariat, in collaboration with the GEF Agencies, to propose for consideration at the November 2014 Council meeting, a policy for cancellation of projects that exceed time-frame targets for project preparation.
4. The Council agrees to provide the CEO with delegated approval authority for expedited approval of enabling activities requesting grants of up to \$1 million.

5. The Council requests the Secretariat to report at the next Council meeting on progress achieved in: (i) the implementation of the eight streamlining measures, including any possible cost savings; (ii) the harmonization pilot with the World Bank, including possible implications for extending this to other agencies; and (iii) the four inter-agency working groups considering additional streamlining measures.

**Decision 20/2013      Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions –  
Statements by the Executive Secretaries of the Conventions**

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.45/06, [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.

**Decision 21/2013      Amendments to the Instrument**

1. The Council requests the Secretariat to submit a draft decision by January 15, 2014, for consideration and decision by mail, on [amendments to the Instrument](#) to be recommended to the Fifth Assembly, including but not limited to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

**Decision 22/2013      Review of GEF Agencies on Environmental and Social Safeguards and  
Gender Mainstreaming**

1. The Council, having reviewed Council Document GEF/C.45/10, [Review of the GEF Agencies on Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Mainstreaming](#), requests:
  - (a) Each GEF Agency that has not fully met the requirements of the *GEF Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards and the GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming* to submit to the GEF Secretariat, by December 15, 2013, a time-bound action plan explaining how it will come into compliance with those provisions not met. The GEF Secretariat will compile these time-bound action plans and forward them to the GEF Council for information by December 31, 2013. The Council agrees to a waiver so that agencies can submit time-bound action plans on gender mainstreaming;
  - (b) Each GEF Agency that has not fully met the requirements of either Policy to report to the Council at its spring 2014 meeting on the progress each has made towards fulfilling its action plans, when the Council may impose specific deadlines on action plans.

2. The Council requests that the GEF Evaluation Office begin its assessment of the *Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards* after the conclusion of the Pilot on Accrediting GEF Project Agencies. The Secretariat will propose a revised Policy for Council consideration taking into account the findings of this evaluation and any guidance from the Council.

**Decision 23/2013      Progress Report on the Pilot Accreditation of GEF Project Agencies**

1. The Council, having reviewed GEF/C.45/12, [Progress Report on the Pilot Accreditation of GEF Project Agencies](#), notes the status of the Stage II reviews conducted by the Accreditation Panel to date. In particular, the Council notes that all Stage II initial desk reviews have been completed as planned and that World Wildlife Fund, Inc. (WWF-US) and Conservation International Foundation (CI) have received approval from the Panel to move from Stage II to Stage III.
2. The Council approves initial grant ceilings for WWF-US and CI, determined in accordance with the provisions set forth in Council document GEF/C.40/09, [Broadening the GEF Partnership under Paragraph 28 of the Instrument](#) (Decision 12/2011), as follows:
  - (a) individual project ceiling for a GEF grant: \$65,000,000 for WWF-US and \$120,000,000 for CI; and
  - (b) total project ceiling: \$125,000,000 for WWF-US and \$110,000,000 for CI.
3. The Council authorizes the Secretariat to recalculate these ceilings at the time of project approvals for these agencies and inform the Council of any changes.
4. The Council requests the Secretariat to continue to present a progress report on the accreditation pilot at every Council meeting.

**Decision 24/2013      Note on the Organization of the Fifth GEF Assembly**

1. The Council, having reviewed the [Note on the Organization of the Fifth GEF Assembly](#) (GEF/C.45/07) took note of the proposed preliminary budget and approved an additional \$1,368,528 for the Special Initiative to fund the Organization of the Assembly.

**Decision 25/2013      Work Program**

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.45/08, [Work Program](#), approves the work program comprising forty one (41) project concepts and one non-expedited enabling activity, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by November 21, 2013. In

addition, Council approves five project concepts associated with a previously approved programmatic approach.

2. Total resources approved in this work program<sup>16</sup> amounts to \$259.84 million which include GEF project grants and Agency fees. The work program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and Enabling Activity:

### **Biodiversity**

1. **Cape Verde:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into the Tourism Sector in Synergy with a Further Strengthened Protected Areas System in Cape Verde (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,664,640)
2. **Chile:** Strengthening and Development of Instruments for the Management, Prevention and Control of Beaver (*Castor Canadensis*), an Invasive Alien Species in the Chilean Patagonia (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,153,882)
3. **Ecuador:** Conservation of Ecuadorian Amphibian Diversity and Sustainable Use of its Genetic Resources (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,726,908)
4. **Ethiopia:** Mainstreaming Incentives for Biodiversity Conservation in the Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGE) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,316,455)
5. **Madagascar:** Strengthening the Network of “New Protected Areas in Madagascar” (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,905,265)
6. **Panama:** Sustainable Production Systems and Conservation of Biodiversity (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$9,589,000)
7. **Philippines:** “RicePlus” – Dynamic Conservation and Sustainable Use of Agrobiodiversity in Rice-based Farming Systems (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,182,631)
8. **Russian Federation:** Conservation of Big Cats<sup>17</sup> (WWF-US) (GEF Project Grant : \$12,707,550)
9. **Seychelles:** Seychelles' Protected Areas Finance Project (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,776,900)

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<sup>16</sup> The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of its policies for certain development projects, abstained from the decision on the following projects: (i) **China** : Promoting Energy Efficient Electric Motors in Chinese Industries, and (ii) **Turkmenistan** : Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Sustainable Water Management in Turkmenistan

<sup>17</sup> Until a Financial Procedures Agreement (FPA) is signed between Trustee and the WWF-US, the Trustee will not set-aside GEF resources for the project as well as fees for WWF-US.

## Climate Change

10. **China:** Promoting Energy Efficient Electric Motors in Chinese Industries (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,500,000)
11. **El Salvador:** Third National Communication (TNC) and Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC<sup>18</sup> (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$852,000)
12. **Ethiopia:** Promoting Sustainable Rural Energy Technologies (RETs) for Household and Productive Uses (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,091,781)
13. **Indonesia:** Large Enterprises Energy Efficiency Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$5,480,000)
14. **Indonesia:** Market Transformation through Design and Implementation of Appropriate Mitigation Actions in Energy Sector (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,025,000)
15. **Madagascar:** Increased Energy Access for Productive Use through Small Hydropower Development in Rural Areas (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,855,000)
16. **Morocco:** Mainstreaming Climate Change in the National Logistics Strategy and Roll-Out of Integrated Logistics Platforms (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,274,429)
17. **Nigeria:** Promoting Low Carbon Energy Solutions in Nigeria Energy/Power Supply (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,400,000)
18. **Philippines:** Development for Renewable Energy Applications Mainstreaming and Market Sustainability (DREAMS) Project (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,200,000)
19. **Russian Federation:** Green Shipping Programme for Russia (EBRD) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,000,000)
20. **Russian Federation:** Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Industrial Climate Change Mitigation in the Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,292,500)
21. **South Africa:** Industrial Energy Efficiency Improvement in South Africa through Mainstreaming the Introduction of Energy Management Systems and Energy Systems Optimization (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,776,484)

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<sup>18</sup> This is a non-expedited enabling activity submitted for Council approval.

- 22. **Thailand:** Achieving Low Carbon Growth in Cities through Sustainable Urban Systems Management in Thailand (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,150,000)
- 23. **Ukraine:** Removing Barriers to Increase Investment in Energy-Efficiency in Public Buildings (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,480,000)
- 24. **Vietnam:** Energy Efficiency Improvement in Commercial and High-Rise Residential Buildings (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,198,000)

#### **International Waters**

- 25. **Regional (Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, Swaziland, Tanzania, South Africa, Zambia, Congo DR, Zimbabwe):** Sustainable Groundwater Management in SADC Member States (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,119,179)
- 26. **Regional (Angola, Botswana, Namibia):** Support to the Cubango-Okavango River Basin Strategic Action Programme Implementation (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,100,000)
- 27. **Regional (Antigua And Barbuda, Barbados, Brazil, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, Mexico, Panama, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent and Grenadines):** Catalysing Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of Shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CMLE+) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$12,500,000)
- 28. **Regional (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia):** West Balkans Drina River Basin Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,366,210)
- 29. **Regional (Kenya, Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania, South Africa):** Western Indian Ocean LMEs Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonization and Institutional Reforms SAPPHIRE Project (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,976,891)

#### **Land Degradation**

- 30. **Gambia:** Community-Based Sustainable Dryland Forest Management (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,066,347)
- 31. **India:** Integrated SLEM Approaches for Reducing Land Degradation and Desertification (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,164,384)
- 32. **Libya:** Sustainable Land Management and Conservation of Oases Ecosystems in Libya (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,972,603)

33. **Tanzania:** Securing Watershed Services Through SLM in the Ruvu and Zigi Catchments Eastern Arc Region (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,648,858)

**Multi Focal Area**

34. **Armenia:** Mainstreaming Sustainable Land and Forest Management in Dry Mountain Landscapes (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,977,169)
35. **Brazil:** Reversing Desertification Process in Susceptible Areas of Brazil: Sustainable Agroforestry Practices and Biodiversity Conservation (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,930,155)
36. **Colombia:** Forest Conservation and Sustainability in the Heart of the Colombian Amazon (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,400,000)
37. **Congo DR:** Community-Based Miombo Forest Management in South East Katanga (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,533,333)
38. **Turkmenistan:** Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Sustainable Water Management in Turkmenistan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,185,000)
39. **Venezuela:** Sustainable Forest Lands Management and Conservation under an Eco-social Approach (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,249,316)

**Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)**

40. **Regional (Antigua And Barbuda, Barbados, Bahamas, Belize, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent and Grenadines):** Development and Implementation of a Sustainable Management Mechanism for POPs in the Caribbean (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,839,000)
41. **Cameroon:** PCB Reduction In Cameroon Through The Use Of Local Expertise And The Development Of National Capacities (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,000,000)
42. **China:** Contaminated Site Cleanup Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$15,000,000)

**Sub-projects<sup>19</sup> under the Previously Approved Programmatic Approach (with Set-Aside) - R2R Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities – Integrated Water, Land, Forest and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods<sup>20</sup> (Program) (GEF ID: 5395)**

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<sup>19</sup> All sub-projects will draw their grants from their respective set-aside program allocations.

<sup>20</sup> Following the procedures established for programmatic approaches applicable to all GEF Agencies, the final project documents of these sub-projects will be circulated to Council for four weeks before the CEO can endorse them (GEF/C.39/Inf.3).

### **Multifocal Area Subprojects under the Program**

43. **Kiribati:** R2R Resilient Islands, Resilient Communities (FAO) (GEF Project Grant: \$4,720,030)
  44. **Micronesia:** R2R Implementing and Integrated “Ridge to Reef” Approach to Enhance Ecosystem Services to Conserve Globally Important Biodiversity and to Sustain Local Livelihoods in the FSM (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4,689,815)
  45. **Papua New Guinea:** R2R Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the National System of Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$10,929,358)
  46. **Tuvalu:** R2R Implementing a “Ridge to Reef” Approach to Protect Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functions (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,762,844)
  47. **Vanuatu:** R2R Integrated Sustainable Land and Coastal Management (FAO) (GEF Project Grant: \$4,605,680)
3. With respect to the following projects, the Council requests 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 the project document for final approval by the GEF Agency:
1. **China:** Contaminated Site Cleanup Project
  2. **India:** Integrated SLEM Approaches for Reducing Land Degradation and Desertification
  3. **Indonesia:** Large Enterprises Energy Efficiency Project
  4. **Kiribati:** R2R Resilient Islands, Resilient Communities
  5. **Libya:** Sustainable Land Management and Conservation of Oases Ecosystems
  6. **Nigeria:** Promoting Low Carbon Energy Solutions in Nigeria Energy/Power Supply
  7. **Philippines:** “RicePlus” – Dynamic Conservation and Sustainable Use of Agro-biodiversity in Rice-based Farming Systems
  8. **Russian Federation:** Conservation of Big Cats
  9. **Russian Federation:** Green Shipping Programme for Russia
  10. **Russian Federation:** Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Industrial Climate Change Mitigation in the Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation
  11. **Ukraine:** Removing Barriers to Increase Investment in Energy-Efficiency in Public Buildings



4. With respect to the PIFs approved as part of the work program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs (i) is 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 with these revisions, the project is consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.
5. 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 there are major changes to the project scope and approach after PIF approval, the final project document will be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO considering endorsement.
6. The detailed funding decisions taken by the Council during this 45<sup>th</sup> session of the work program is part of the associated [Annex 1](#) appended to this Joint Summary of the Chairs.

**Decision 26/2013      Report of the Selection and Review Committee**

1. The Council notes with regret that Mr. van den Berg's term as Director of the Evaluation Office expires on September 11, 2014. In order to ensure a smooth transition, his successor will need to be appointed by the GEF Council, preferably at its first session in 2014.
2. Having reviewed the [Report of the Selection and Review Committee](#) (Document GEF C.45/09), the Council:
  - (a) Agrees to launch the recruitment process for the Director of the Evaluation Office as soon as possible, based on the attached terms of reference, and in accordance with the recommended "hybrid" process;
  - (b) Takes note of the estimated costs of the recruitment process for the Director of the Evaluation Office, and approves a budget of US\$50,000 for the Special Initiative to complete the recruitment of a new Director of the Evaluation Office;
  - (c) Takes note of the FY14 goals for the EO Director and the GEF CEO and requests the SRC to present the performance evaluation of the EO Director and the GEF CEO for the Council's review at its second meeting in 2014;
  - (d) Agrees with the SRC's positive assessment of the EO Director's FY13 performance and the recommendation to provide the EO Director with a "4" rating on the World Bank's 5-point scale, with an associated merit-based a salary increase of 2.5%. The

Council requests the SRC to communicate this decision to the World Bank Human Resource Department.

**Decision 27/2013      Dates for the Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 Council Meetings**

1. The Council confirmed that it will hold its fall 2014 meeting on the week of October 27, 2014.
2. The Council confirmed that it will hold its spring 2015 meeting on the week of June 1, 2015