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MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL III TO THE GLOBAL
ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)
6-8 OCTOBER 2004, WASHINGTON D.C.

(Prepared by the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel)

**Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the Scientific and
Technical Advisory Panel III to the Global
Environment Facility (GEF)
6-8 October 2004, in Washington, DC**

STAP Secretariat

1. The fifth meeting of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP III) to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) was held 6-8 October 2004, in UNEP's offices at 1707 H Street, NW, Washington DC. (Annex A lists the participants.) This was the first meeting of the reconstituted STAP, following the GEF Council's decision that membership of STAP should be staggered to provide for more continuity. In July 2004 six new members joined the Panel: Angela Cropper, Sani Ibrahim, Thomas Johansson, Saburo Matsui, Anand Patwardhan, and Hubert Savenije (apologies for absence). The main business was to produce a two year, FY05/06 work programme agreed with the GEF Secretariat, UNEP, UNDP, and the World Bank (the Implementing Agencies). Focal area sessions were also held to discuss specific activities in the work programme. The meeting was preceded by, and concluded with, a closed meeting of the Panel. In addition, a familiarisation seminar was held on 4-5 October for incoming STAP members.

Welcome, and Introductory Remarks

2. The meeting was formally opened by Julia Carabias, the Chair of STAP, who welcomed Dr. Klaus Töpfer, the Executive Director of UNEP, Len Good, CEO and Chairman of the GEF, and representatives of the GEF Secretariat and the Implementing Agencies (IAs) to the fifth meeting of STAP III.
3. Len Good (CEO, GEF) provided an update on the two key issues facing the GEF, the Resource Allocation Framework, and the Third Overall Performance Study (OPS3). He went on to talk about the relevance of STAP's work to the GEF, and to offer some ideas about future directions. STAP's forthcoming advice on mainstreaming biodiversity in production landscapes was very relevant, and STAP could also help the GEF on performance-based indicators for biodiversity. STAP could also play an important role in OPS3, and provide advice on Replenishment, particularly on biodiversity, climate change and international waters, for example, by helping the GEF to articulate its strategies, in particular on climate change.
4. STAP could make a major contribution on integration, where its forthcoming report on interlinkages to the November Council would be the first step. There was more to

be done on the integrated management of land and water, adaptation, groundwater, the integrated management of chemicals, and restoration of drylands. The Conventions were beginning to talk the language of synergies, and an embryonic discussion was getting underway, but there was much more to be done.

5. Dr. Klaus Töpfer (ED, UNEP) welcomed the new members of STAP. He commended the interlinkages report and said that STAP had now set a precedent for working across the focal areas. Dr. Töpfer encouraged the GEF Sec and IAs to provide STAP with more feedback on its advice.
6. Dr. Töpfer set out a number of areas where STAP might be able to contribute.
Climate change: Russian ratification of Kyoto would enable the Protocol to enter into force, which would drive a market in carbon. The shift towards market-based instruments would be of great help in placing an economic value on the environment. What commitments should be made in the second commitment period? How could developing countries be helped to adapt to climate change? Integration: more work was needed to reduce the number of topic-specific meetings, e.g. CITES, RAMSAR, POPs, CBD, CMS etc. How could integrated resource management be achieved for all international waters? A more intensive dialogue was needed. (UNEP's science initiative was aimed at providing this.) Biodiversity: what contribution could the GEF make to the WSSD target of reducing the rate of species loss by 2010?
7. Julia Carabias, STAP Chair, thanked Len Good and Dr. Töpfer for their remarks. She said that STAP would put greater emphasis on its role as a provider of strategic advice, while not ignoring advice on narrower, more technical issues. STAP was thinking about how to address a number of emerging issues within interlinkages, and also how to develop guidance on making the interlinkages design tool operational.
8. The STAP Chair made a short presentation on how the various proposals put forward by the GEF Sec and IAs for inclusion in the work programme might be usefully grouped, in the light of STAP's consideration of them. There were five possible packages:

- a. Interlinkages: the identification of gaps; emerging issues, e.g. groundwater, adaptation, invasive species, bioenergy, and advancing mainstreaming; and guidance on how to make interlinkages operational.
 - b. Targeted research (TR): what should be the role of STAP? how can STAP help the GEF identify its S&T needs? and how to identify some key TR topics?
 - c. Lessons learned: how has S&T influenced GEF projects, programmes and priorities?
 - d. Focal area specific, e.g. on POPs there were a number of possibilities, including bioremediation, more on non-combustion technologies, and broader waste management.
 - e. WSSD: what has been/should be the GEF's contribution to the WSSD Plan of Implementation? e.g. scientific rigour, technical feasibility.
9. There followed a wide-ranging, two-hour discussion on the five packages. At the conclusion of which, the STAP Chair thanked participants for their constructive contributions, and asked them to consider all this further in the focal area working groups.

Work Programme

10. Working group sessions were held for biodiversity, including biosafety, climate change and land degradation: to evaluate progress in implementing the FY03/05 work programme; to review work in progress; and to consider suggestions for the FY05/06 work programme. (Similar sessions for international waters and POPs will be arranged later, to enable greater participation.) These sessions were useful in helping to plan activities for the remainder of FY05, and reach agreement on priority activities in FY06. The outcome of these discussions were reported back to the Plenary, and reflected in the FY05/06 STAP work programme.

Monitoring and Evaluation

11. Rob Van den Berg, Director, Office of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), made a presentation on M&E's objectives, work programme FY2005-2008, and OPS3. There was also an exchange of ideas on future collaboration between M&E and STAP – on knowledge management, support for OPS3, and indicators. (Mark Wagner, team leader of the OPS3 team, was introduced to STAP.) There was a brief discussion on how STAP could contribute to OPS3 on the role of science and technology in the GEF. STAP agreed to provide a paper, to be included as an Annex to OPS3, on what lessons had been learned where science and technology had been taken into account in GEF programmes and strategies. This exercise would not be an evaluation of science and technology in the GEF, but help to identify the best way to reflect science and technology in the GEF's work.

Reports

12. The GEF CEO and UNEP ED had effectively made presentations on the GEF Secretariat and UNEP in their opening remarks. (A report by UNDP is attached at Annex B).

Targeted research

13. Christopher Whaley, STAP Secretary, said there had been a number of requests made to clarify targeted research procedures which were variously set out in the 1997 Council decision on Principles for GEF financing of Targeted Research, the minutes of the October 2003 STAP meeting, and the STAP Rules of Procedure. Ahmed Djoghlaflaf, Assistant Executive Director of UNEP, said that the Rules of Procedure complemented the Council approved 1997 Principles. The GEF Secretariat and IAs would need to be consulted before further consideration would be given to amending the targeted research procedures. Ahmed Djoghlaflaf agreed, at the invitation of the STAP Chair, that the composition of the Research Committee as contained in the

targeted research policy, adopted by the GEF Council in 1997, be added to the STAP rules of procedures in order to avoid any misunderstanding.

Date of next meeting

14. The next STAP meeting will be held 1 – 4 March 2005 in Washington, DC.

Those attending (throughout or in part):

STAP Members

Julia Carabias, Chair

Habiba Gitay, Vice Chair

Angela Cropper

Peter Hennicke

Brian Huntley

Timothy Williams

Sani Ibrahim

Thomas Johansson

Anne R. Kapuscinski

Saburo Matsui

Anand Patwardhan

Anjali Rambaud-Measson Shanker

Cristián Samper

Peter J. Schei

(Apologies for absence were received from Hubertus Savenije.)

GEF Secretariat

Len Good, CEO and Chairman, GEF

Ramesh Ramankutty

Boni Biagini

Joshua Brann

Gonzalo Castro

Nicole Glineur

Sara Grasland

Richard Hosier

Walter Lusigi

Susan Matambo

Andrea Merla

Mario Ramos

Moctar Toure

Paz Valiente

Robert Van den Berg

Claudio Volonte

Yoko Watanabe

Christine Woerlen

Mark Zimsky

Third Overall Performance Study Team

Mark Wagner, ICF Consulting

UNEP

Dr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director, UNEP

Ahmed Djoghlaif, Assistant Executive Director, UNEP/GEF

Kristin McLaughlin

UNDP

Frank Pinto, GEF Executive Coordinator

Bo Lim

World Bank

Bob Watson, Chief Scientist and Director of the Environmentally and Socially
Sustainable Development Network

Marea Hatziolos

Todd Johnson

Kathy McKinnon

Ian Noble

Claudia Sobrevila

GEF STAP MEETING
6-8 October 2004, Washington D.C.

Highlights of UNDP-GEF Developments: March – Sept 2004

This note, prepared for 6-8 October 2004 STAP Meeting, provides a brief summary of some key UNDP-GEF's activities, including updates on project approvals, global programmes and knowledge management initiatives.

Recent Approvals For the past two work-programmes (May and July 2004), UNDP-GEF has received approval for \$121.2 million in GEF grants with co-financing amounting to \$338.6 million raised for these projects.

Focal Area	May 2004 WP		July 2004 ISWP	
	GEF Grant	Co-financing	GEF Grant	Co-financing
Biodiversity	18,905,500	56,779,719	25,159,894	51,982,352
Capacity Building			1,941,538	975,000
Climate Change	16,330,075	54,421,536	5,469,000	23,300,000
International Waters	17,001,578	108,622,499		
Land Degradation	29,000,000	30,950,000		
Ozone Depletion	2,848,675	4,306,393		
POPS	4,565,000	7,262,380		
Grand Total (\$)	88,650,828	262,342,527	32,570,432	76,257,352

The approvals comprise three global, five regional projects, eight Asian, one Eastern European and four African projects. They include eight biodiversity projects, six climate change projects, three international waters projects, one umbrella land degradation project, one ozone depletion project, one capacity building project and one POPs project. Spread over Operational Programmes they cover OP#1 (one project), OP#2 (two projects), OP#3 (three projects), OP#4 (one project), OP#5 (three projects), OP#6 (two projects), OP#7 (one project), OP#8 (one project), OP#9 (one projects), OP#10 (one project), OP#13 (one project), OP#14 (one project) and OP#15 (one project). For more information please contact: yannick.glemarec@undp.org

Global Support Programme for Climate Change: Second National Communications

A new modality has been approved for implementing UNDP's and UNEP's climate change enabling activities to support preparing Second National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Second National Communication report will cover national circumstances, national greenhouse gas inventory, general description of steps taken or envisaged to implement the Convention, other information considered relevant to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention and Constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs. This new modality is an umbrella approach that comprises three components: 1) self-assessments, 2) climate change enabling activities, and 3) the National Communications Support Programme (NCSP). Over its 6-year lifetime, this initiative will provide financial assistance for up to 130 countries.

The NCSP will provide an integrated package of technical support to facilitate implementation of enabling activities. The core focus of the programme is capacity building, knowledge sharing of best practices and monitoring progress of national projects through the NCSP. The NCSP is expected to start up by end-2004. Contact: yamil.bonduki@undp.org

NCSA Global Support Programme

The Global Support Programme will provide technical backstopping to countries to ensure timely completion of their National Capacity Self-Assessments (NCSAs). The strategy is to identify, on an ongoing basis, countries' assistance needs for NCSA activities, over and above what they are receiving through national NCSA projects. The aim is to meet this demand with the rapid mobilization of technical backstopping, training and opportunities for countries to share experiences related to the preparation of NCSAs. The Support Programme will be structured as a learning and knowledge management mechanism, with an initial emphasis on analyzing information and knowledge generated by the NCSA process.

Regional institutions will play a central role in assisting countries, assessing emerging needs and developing training strategies. Depending on the expertise needed, a number of regional institutions may be involved in technical backstopping activities. A Support Unit will be established at UNDP HQ to implement and supervise the Support Programme's activities. Under the supervision of the UNDP-GEF Capacity Development and Adaptation Cluster, the Support Unit will work in close coordination with UNEP/Nairobi and the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordination Units. The Programme is expected to start up by end-2004. For more information contact mihoko.kumamoto@undp.org

LDC and SIDS Targeted Portfolio Approach for Capacity Development and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management

This global Project will be available to assist 48 LDCs and SIDS that have not yet completed their National Action Plans (NAPs), to develop individual, institutional and systemic capacity for sustainable land management. This portfolio approach is a cost-effective and timely process of project implementation. Eligible countries will be able to access expedited MSPs and several countries have already expressed their need/interest. At the end of the project, each participating country will have begun a process of capacity development and mainstreaming, having elaborated their NAP in a timely manner, and produced a medium-term National Investment Plan for SLM and its coordinated resource mobilization plan (with projects identified for investment by specific IAs, EAs and interested donors) as part of the NAP elaboration process. The projects will be implemented in concordance with regional frameworks such as NEPAD in Africa, Barbados Plan of Action, SRAPs and RAPs. Contact:: maryam.niamir-fuller@undp.org

Knowledge Management in Support of the Global Environment

UNDP-GEF places special emphasis on knowledge management to improve the overall impact of its portfolio of projects on global environmental challenges. At present, the UNDP-GEF portfolio includes nearly 1,000 medium to large-scale projects and, including the Small Grants Programme, over 6,000 small-scale projects funded through GEF and other sources. This portfolio represents a wealth of knowledge that can greatly enhance the collective impact of the organization (and that of its partners) on addressing

global environmental concerns, while furthering sustainable development in programme countries. This is being achieved through the four pillars of: information systems; generation of knowledge products and services; dissemination through existing UNDP knowledge dissemination mechanisms; and knowledge uptake.

The immediate objective of UNDP-GEF's knowledge management efforts is to enable UNDP Country Offices and project teams to match the needs and expectations of client countries with those of global environmental conventions, by providing them with the necessary knowledge products and services. Equipped with these specialized knowledge products and services, Country Offices will be able to work with and provide appropriate technical assistance to national counterparts to: (a) identify national priorities that can be supported specifically through GEF resources, (b) formulate and implement quality GEF projects in these areas, and (c) ensure appropriate follow-up and integration of project experiences and lessons into national policies. It is also UNDP's intention to make this knowledge freely available to all GEF partners. The draft UNDP-GEF KM strategy has already been posted on the UNDP-GEF website and has been shared with the GEF Chairman/CEO. Contact: juha.uitto@undp.org

Policy Impact Study

The study on policy impacts of UNDP-GEF operations has been recently initiated to better understand how UNDP-GEF projects and programmes influence policy and strengthen capacity to develop, implement and monitor policy at the global, regional, national and sub-national levels in the project countries. The GEF Second Overall Performance Study (OPS-2) recognized that GEF has produced a broad range of results that demonstrate positive impacts and that have laid the foundation for more substantial results in the future. Various GEF-supported projects in the different focal areas were identified as having built capacity within the country, and/or influenced policy, both directly and indirectly. The objectives of the present study are to (i) augment UNDP-GEF's understanding of the mechanisms through which its operations can help to build capacity to influence and implement policy; and (ii) how these policy and capacity development impacts can be further enhanced and reported upon. The study is conducted under the auspices of the UNDP-GEF M&E unit and is expected to be completed by February 2005. For more information please contact: juha.uitto@undp.org

Development and Use of Indicators at Project and Programme Level:

Development and use of indicators at project and programme level is central to tracking the results and impacts of the GEF operations. All GEF-financed projects are required to have logframes with indicators that track project progress and outcomes. The indicator frameworks must be able to satisfy both a project's internal management requirements and the requirements of reporting to the GEF Council through the Independent M&E Unit. Over the past several years UNDP-GEF has participated in efforts have been made to develop frameworks and to design indicators for GEF projects and programmes in the various focal areas. This year UNDP-GEF has taken the lead in developing a framework for capacity development indicators to respond to the needs of the new crosscutting priority area for GEF. The framework identifies five key strategic areas of CD support, which UNDP-GEF projects aim to strengthen at the systemic, organizational and individual levels:

- Capacity to conceptualize and formulate policies, legislation, strategies and programmes;

- Capacity to implement policies, legislations, strategies and programmes;
- Capacity to engage and build consensus among all stakeholders;
- Capacity to mobilize information and knowledge; and
- Capacity to monitor, evaluate, report and learn.

This framework is currently being tested and expanded further. Similarly, UNDP-GEF has proposed a methodology, process and timeline for the Land Degradation task force to establish impact indicators for the focal area. Work in this area is ongoing. For more information please contact Juha Uitto: juha.uitto@undp.org

Guidelines for Integrating Carbon Benefit Estimates into OP#12 Projects

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide methods for estimating carbon stocks and the changes in carbon stocks resulting from project intervention. The guidelines are designed to support OP#12 projects and are tailored for OP#12 but equally the methods are applicable to any study wishing to evaluate carbon. Methods are proposed to estimate all relevant carbon pools and also emissions or avoided emissions of non-CO2 greenhouse gases. The methods are focused on terrestrial systems but also apply to wetlands, mangroves and any coastal or fresh water system. The guidelines present methods, tools, techniques, procedures, and default values for measuring and estimating carbon stocks and their change over time. The guidelines are aimed at assisting project developers and evaluators as well as implementing and monitoring agencies. A draft has been circulated to IA for comments. Contact: bo.lim@undp.org

GEF National Dialogue Initiative

The GEF National Dialogue Initiative aims to strengthen country ownership and involvement in GEF co-financed activities through a multi-stakeholder dialogue process. National Dialogues on the GEF bring together key stakeholders representing a wide variety of national and local interests in sustainable development. The dialogues provide unique forums that facilitate the link between formal, professional knowledge and informal, local knowledge to address national GEF related concerns. To achieve these objectives, national and sub-regional policy level dialogues and consultations are being organized over a four-year period as a collaborative process between the GEF National Focal Points, the GEF Secretariat and the GEF Implementing Agencies. Between Feb-Oct 2004 national multi-stakeholder dialogues have taken place in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Rwanda, Laos, Kyrgyzstan, Kenya, The Gambia, Senegal and Armenia. For more information please contact stephen.gold@undp.org

GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)

The GEF SGP, implemented by UNDP on behalf of the GEF partnership, is the public face of the GEF and has shown how actions at the local community level can contribute to the protection of the global environment. Individual grants are capped at \$50,000 and the average size of the grants is around \$15,000. Over 5,000 SGP projects have been approved in 73 countries. SGP will expand by 10 countries/year for the next three years, with 5 of the 10 new countries each year being LDCs and/or SIDS. The first phase of the new 3-year programme is being submitted for approval at the Nov. 2004 GEF Council meeting.

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