

**Endorsement of draft final project documents
(revisions to paragraph 13 of document GEF/C.31/7)**

Paragraph 13 should be revised to read as follows:

Within ten business days of receiving a draft final project document for endorsement, the Secretariat will review the proposal and the GEF CEO will determine whether the proposal is in compliance with the conditions for endorsement. As soon as the GEF CEO has determined that the project proposal meets the conditions for endorsement, the Secretariat will circulate to Council Members the draft final project document. Within four weeks of receiving such a document, Council Members may transmit to the GEF CEO any concerns they may have regarding the proposal prior to GEF CEO endorsement and final approval by the agency concerned.

While the GEF CEO retains discretionary authority of endorsing or not endorsing a proposal, it is understood between the GEF CEO and the Council, that unless and until otherwise agreed, the GEF CEO will submit the project document to the next Council meeting regarding any proposal on which at least two Council Members have expressed concerns. If prior to the Council meeting the concerns expressed by Council Members are resolved in consultation with the beneficiary country and the GEF agency, the CEO may proceed to endorse the draft final project document.

It is also understood that if one Council Member informs the CEO of a concern, then the CEO will not proceed with endorsement absent an agreed resolution of the Council Member's identified concern.

In both cases, the CEO will post any Council Members concern on the GEF website and will update the status of the project proposal in the management information system to indicate that endorsement will be delayed pending resolution of concerns expressed by Council Members.

This understanding is not intended to alter the provision in paragraph 30 of the GEF Instrument whereby, if at least four Council Members request that a project proposal be reviewed at a Council meeting because in their view the proposal is inconsistent with the GEF Instrument or policies and procedures, the GEF CEO will (as a matter of obligation under the GEF Instrument) submit the project document to the next Council meeting, and will only endorse the project for final approval by the Agency concerned if the Council finds that the project is consistent with the GEF Instrument and the GEF policies and procedures.