

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Agenda Item 1

Opening of the meeting (CEO chairs)

1. The meeting will be opened by Mohamed T. El-Ashry, CEO/Chairperson of the Facility.

Agenda Item 2

Election of a Chairperson CEO Chairs)

2. In accordance with paragraph 18 of the Instrument, a Chairperson will be elected from among the Members of the Council. Paragraph 18 provides that the position of elected Chairperson shall alternate from one meeting to another between recipient and non-recipient Council Members. The elected Chairperson at the previous Council meeting was Ambassador Tuiloma Neroni Slade. Ambassador Slade represents the constituency comprised of Cook Islands, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. This meeting's elected Chairperson will be nominated by the non - recipient Council Members.

3. Consistent with paragraph 18 of the Instrument, the elected Chairperson is expected to chair the Council meeting during discussions on agenda item 3, "Adoption of the agenda"; agenda item 4, "Statements on behalf of Biological Diversity Convention, Climate Change Convention and STAP followed by questions and answers"; agenda item 6, "Monitoring and Evaluation: work program and budget"; agenda item 7 "GEF Business Plan for FY98 - FY00"; agenda item 9 "Relations with conventions", agenda item 10, "Report of GEF to third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity"; .and agenda item 13, "GEF Annual Report".

4. The elected Chairperson and the CEO will jointly chair the Council meeting during discussions on agenda item 14, "Other Business", and agenda item 15, "Joint Summary of the Chairs".

5. The CEO/Chairperson of the Facility will chair the Council meeting during discussions on the other items on the agenda.

Agenda Item 3

Adoption of agenda (Elected Chairperson chairs)

6. A provisional agenda for consideration by the Council has been circulated to all Council Members as document GEF/C.8/1/Rev.1. The Council is invited to adopt its agenda for the meeting.

Agenda Item 4

Statements on behalf of Biological Diversity Convention, Climate Change Convention and STAP followed by questions and answers (Elected Chairperson chairs)

7. In accordance with paragraph 11 of the Rules of Procedure for the GEF Council, a representative of the Convention on Biological Diversity and a representative of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change have been invited to make a general introductory statement to the Council. An opportunity will be provided after each statement for Council Members to address questions to the representative.

8. The Chairman of STAP has also been invited to make a general statement to the Council on the work of STAP. An opportunity will be provided for Council Members to address questions to the Chairman of STAP.

Agenda Item 5

Work Program (CEO chairs)

9. Document GEF/C.8/3, Work program proposed for Council Approval, presents a proposed work program comprised of project proposals that have been developed by the Implementing Agencies, reviewed by the GEF Operations Committee (GEFOP) and recommended by the CEO for Council approval. The Secretariat has prepared an introductory note to the proposed work program in which it reports on policy and programming issues associated with it. The Council is invited to review the proposed work program with a view to approving it for further development.

Agenda Item 6

Monitoring and Evaluation: work program and budget (Elected Chairperson chairs)

10. At its meeting in April 1996, the Council reviewed a paper concerning the GEF monitoring and evaluation work program and budget. The Council agreed to the important role that monitoring and evaluation should play in the GEF. The Council requested that a more detailed work program be prepared, defining the goals, priorities, guidelines and procedures of the monitoring and evaluation program and the specific components and outputs. The detailed work program and budget for monitoring and evaluation activities is presented in document GEF/C.8/4. The Council is invited to review the work program and budget with a view to approving it.

Agenda Item 7

Business Plan for FY98 - FY00 (Elected Chairperson chairs)

11. At its meeting in May 1995, the Council agreed that future GEF business plan/budget submissions should be based on a three-year planning cycle and one-year budget. Following this approach, at each October/November meeting of the Council, a three-year business plan is to be presented with corresponding budget estimates for the coming year. Following the Council guidance received at the meeting, a detailed corporate budget is to be prepared for the coming fiscal year and presented for Council review and approval at its subsequent meeting (April/May).

12. Document GEF/C.8/6 presents the GEF Corporate Business Plan FY98 - FY00. The business plan was prepared by the Secretariat and reflects a consensus document based on information provided by the Implementing Agencies, STAP, the Trustee and the Secretariat. The Council is invited to review and comment upon the business plan and to provide guidance to the CEO on the preparation of the GEF corporate budget for FY98.

13. The Council also has before it for information, in document GEF/C.8/Inf.7, a report on GEF FY96 estimated end-of-year expenditures.

Agenda Item 8
Medium-sized Projects (CEO chairs)

14. At its meeting in April 1996, the Council requested the Secretariat to prepare, in consultation with the Implementing Agencies, a proposal on ways to streamline the processing and financing of medium-sized project proposals (proposals for which GEF-financing does not exceed US\$1 million). The Secretariat has prepared a proposal which is before the Council in document GEF/C.8/5 for review and approval.

Agenda Item 9
Relations with conventions (Elected Chairperson chairs)

15. Document GEF/C.8/11, Relations with conventions, reports on developments within the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change since the last review by the Council of matters arising from the conventions for which the GEF serves for the purposes of their financial mechanisms. The Council is invited to review and comment upon the report. The Council is invited to note, in particular, the steps that have been undertaken to ensure the rapid preparation, approval and implementation of enabling activities.

Agenda Item 10
Report of GEF to third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Elected Chairperson chairs)

16. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity has requested the GEF, as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism under the Convention on an interim basis, to report to the Conference of the Parties on its operations in support of the Convention. Document GEF/C.8/10, Draft Report of the GEF to the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, has been prepared in response to that request. The Council is invited to review the document and approve it for transmittal to the third meeting of Conference of the Parties, Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 4-15, 1996.

Agenda Item 11
Review of voluntary fund (CEO chairs)

17. At its meeting in July 1995, the Council approved the establishment of the GEF Voluntary Fund to finance NGO consultations at the time of regular Council meeting and regional and/or subregional consultations. The Council requested that the Voluntary Fund be reviewed at the second regular Council Meeting in 1996. The Secretariat has prepared document GEF/C.8/ to assist the Council in its review. The Secretariat is invited to review the document and to consider and approve the recommendation of the Secretariat on the future financing arrangements to be made for convening the NGO consultations associated with the regular Council meetings.

Agenda Item 12
GEF Assembly (CEO chairs)

18. At its meeting in April 1996, the Council requested the CEO to prepare a brief organizational note describing the GEF Assembly and to circulate the note to Council Members and GEF Participants for comment. The CEO circulated a preliminary note on the organization of the Assembly in May 1996. The CEO received limited response to the note. This note has been retransmitted in document GEF/C.8/8. The CEO will inform the Council at the meeting on his continuing consultations on the organization of the Assembly. The Council is invited to discuss the issues raised by the CEO in the note with a view to advising him on the organization of the GEF Assembly.

Agenda Item 13
GEF Annual Report (Elected Chairperson chairs)

19. Paragraph 31 of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured GEF provides that "the Council shall approve an Annual Report on the activities of the GEF". Document GEF/C.8/8 is a draft Annual Report covering GEF activities in FY95. The Council is invited to review and approve the Annual Report.

Agenda Item 14
Other business (Jointly chaired)

20. In addition to information documents referred to above, the Council has before it the following information documents:

GEF/C.8/Inf.5
GEF Operational Focal Points

GEF/C.8/Inf.6
Conclusions of the GEF Heads of Agencies Meeting, June 19, 1996.

21. Members and the Chairpersons may raise any matter discussed in these documents or any other business under this agenda item.

Agenda Item 15
Joint Summary of the Chairs (Jointly chaired)

22. The elected Chairperson and the CEO/Chairperson will present a joint summary of the main discussions and conclusions of the meeting. Decisions approved by the Council during the meeting will be appended to the Chairs' joint summary.

**PROPOSED TIMETABLE FOR
GEF COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 8 - 10, 1996**

Tuesday, October 8

Morning session

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting

Agenda Item 2. Election of a Chairperson

Agenda Item 3. Adoption of the agenda

Agenda Item 4. Statements on behalf of Biological Diversity and Climate Change Conventions and STAP followed by questions and answers

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Agenda Item 5. Proposed work program

Afternoon session

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Agenda Item 5. Proposed work program (continued)

4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Agenda Item 6. Monitoring and Evaluation work program

Wednesday, October 9

Morning session

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Agenda Item 8. Medium-sized projects

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Agenda Item 9. Relations with conventions

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Agenda Item 10. Report of GEF to third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Afternoon session(Executive Session)

2:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Agenda Item 7. Business Plan for FY98 - FY00

Thursday, October 10

Morning session

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Agenda Item 11. Review of voluntary fund

10:00 am - 11:30 am

Agenda Item 12. GEF Assembly

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Agenda Item 13. GEF Annual Report

12:30 pm - 1:00 pm

Agenda Item 14. Other business

Afternoon session

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Agenda Item 15. Joint Summary of the Chairs