



May 29, 2014

**Chair's Summary of the Fifth GEF Assembly
Cancun, Mexico
May 28-29, 2014**

Agenda Item 1. Opening Ceremony

1. The meeting was called to order and opening statements were heard from Mr. Fernando Aportela Rodriguez, Undersecretary of Finance and Public Credit of Mexico, H.E. Mr. Juan Jose Guerra Abud, Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico, and GEF CEO and Chairperson, Naoko Ishii.
2. A video capturing highlights of two decades of work of the GEF partnership in Mexico was presented.

Agenda Item 2. Election of the Chair

3. The Assembly elected H.E. Mr. Juan Jose Guerra Abud, Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico, as its Chair.

Agenda Item 3. Election of the Vice-Chairs

4. The Assembly elected Dr. Bruno Oberle, Secretary of State and Director of the Swiss Federal Office of the Environment, Switzerland, and H.E. Ms. Judi Wakhungu, Minister of Water and Environment of Kenya, as its Vice-Chairs.

Agenda Item 4. Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of Work

5. The Assembly approved the provisional agenda circulated as document GEF/A.5/01. The Assembly approved the organization of work proposed in the Provisional Annotated Agenda, GEF/A.5/02.

Agenda Item 5. Amendments to the Instrument

6. Pursuant to paragraph 34 of the *Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility*, amendments to the Instrument were approved by consensus by the Assembly upon the recommendation of the Council, after taking into account the views of the

Implementing Agencies and the Trustee, and shall become effective after adoption by the Implementing Agencies and the Trustee in accordance with their respective rules and procedural requirements.

7. The amendments were submitted to the Assembly, upon recommendation of the Council, in document GEF/A.5/09, *Amendments to the Instrument*. The amendments were approved by the Assembly, and the text can be found in Appendix 1 to this Summary.

Agenda Item 6. Report on the GEF Trust Fund

8. The Assembly took note of the Trustee Report, *GEF-5 Funding Retrospective* (GEF/A.5/06).

Agenda Item 7. Presentation on GEF2020

9. The CEO and Chairperson of the GEF addressed the plenary with regard to the *Strategy for the GEF – GEF2020* (GEF/A.5/10). Naoko Ishii remarked that the Strategy was welcomed by the 46th GEF Council. The Assembly welcomed of the *Strategy for the GEF – GEF2020*.

Agenda Item 8. Report on the Sixth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund

10. The Assembly took note of the *Summary of Negotiations of the Sixth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund* (GEF/A.5/07).

Agenda Item 9. Statement by the GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP)

11. The Assembly welcomed the Report of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel on the work it carried out during GEF-5, contained in document GEF/A.5/03.

Agenda Item 10. Statement by the GEF Evaluation Office

12. The Assembly welcomed the document *Fifth Overall Performance Study of the GEF (OPS5)* (GEF/A.5/04) and noted the findings and recommendations of OPS5 and other evaluation reports prepared during GEF-5.

Agenda Item 11. Report on GEF Membership

13. The Assembly took note of the *Report on GEF Membership* (GEF/A.5/05).

Agenda Item 12. Report on Credentials

14. The Bureau presented its report on credentials to the plenary. The Assembly took note of the report.

Agenda Item 13. High-Level Round Tables

15. The round table sessions focused on key elements of the GEF 2020 vision and GEF6 strategies and programs. Seven key themes were addressed in the Assembly through the round

tables: Financing Green Growth; Natural Capital; Role of Legislation in Accelerating and Scaling Up Change at the National Scale; Sustainable and Resilient Cities; Water, Food and Energy Nexus; Sustainable Commodities, and; Multilateral Environmental Agreements and the Post-2015 Framework: A Forward-Looking Agenda.

16. Round tables were composed of speakers from different sectors including government, international organizations, and private sector. Attendance was open to Ministers and other Heads of Delegation, as well as to Assembly delegates.

Round Table 1.1 Financing Green Growth

Host: Mr. Fernando Aportela Rodriguez – Undersecretary of Finance and Public Credit, Mexico.

Panelists:

- Mr. LI Yong – Director-General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- Mr. Peter Seligmann – CEO, Conservation International
- Mr. Daniel Servitje – CEO and Chairman, Bimbo Group Mexico
- Mr. Mohale Rakgate – General Manager, Development Bank of Southern Africa

Moderator: Mr. Joachim von Amsberg – Vice-President, Development Finance, World Bank

Round Table 1.2 Natural Capital

Host: Mr. Fernando Aportela Rodriguez – Undersecretary of Finance and Public Credit, Mexico

Panelists:

- Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias – Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity
- Mr. Carlos Roxo – Director, Sustainability and Corporate Relations, Fibria
- Mr. Jose Sarukhan Kermez – CONABIO, Mexico
- Mr. Eduardo Sojo – President, National Institute of Statistics and Geography, Mexico
- Mr. Tshekedi Khama – Minister of Environment, Wildlife, and Tourism, Botswana

Moderator: Dr. Rosina Bierbaum – Chair, GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel

Round Table 2.1 Role of Legislation in Accelerating and Scaling Up Change at the National Scale

Round Table Lead Host: H.E. Mr. Juan Jose Guerra Abud – Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico

Panelists:

- Mr. Graham Stuart – MP, United Kingdom
- Mr. James Lembeli – MP, Tanzania
- Ms. Lourdes Adriana Lopez Moreno – Congresswoman, Mexico
- Dr. Antonio Azuela de la Cueva – Social Research Institute, UNAM
- Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw – Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme

Moderator: Mr. David Barron – Chairman, International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF)

Round Table 2.2 Sustainable and Resilient Cities

Host: H.E. Mr. Juan Jose Guerra Abud – Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico

Panelists:

- Mr. Gino van Begin – Secretary General, ICLEI
- Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif – Mayor of Seberang Perai, Malaysia
- Mr. Bernardo Baranda Sepulveda – Regional Director for Latin America, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy
- Mr. Boris Graizbord – Coordinator, LEAD Mexico, Colegio de Mexico

Moderator: Mr. Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez – Director of Sustainable Development, World Bank

Round Table 3.1 Water, Food and Energy Nexus

Host: Mr. Leonardo Beltran Rodriguez – Deputy Secretary for Planning and Energy Transition, Secretariat of Energy, Mexico

Panelists:

- Mr. Dan Glickman – Executive Director, Aspen Institute Congressional Program (Former US Secretary of Agriculture)
- Ms. Monique Barbut – Executive Secretary, UN Convention to Combat Desertification

- Mr. Shenggen Fan – Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute
- Ms. Sara Scherr – President, EcoAgriculture Partners

Moderator: Mr. Andrew Steer – President and CEO, World Resources Institute

Round Table 3.2 Sustainable Commodities

Host: Mr. Leonardo Beltran Rodriguez – Deputy Secretary of Energy, Mexico

Panelists:

- Mr. Carter Roberts – President and CEO, World Wildlife Fund
- Ms. Ana Paula Tavares – Executive Vice President, Rainforest Alliance
- Ms. Susan Jackson – President, International Seafood Sustainability Foundation
- Mr. Agustin Mascotena – Executive Director, Round Table for Responsible Soy Association
- Mr. Darrel Webber – Secretary General, Round Table on Sustainable Palm Oil

Moderator: Mr. Andrew Steer – President and CEO, World Resources Institute

Round Table 4 Multilateral Environmental Agreements and the Post-2015 Framework: A Forward-Looking Agenda

Host: H.E. Mr. Jose Antonio Meade Kuribrena – Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mexico

Panelists:

- Ms. Amina Mohammed – Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning, United Nations
- Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw – Deputy Executive Director, UNEP and Assistant Secretary General, United Nations
- Dr. Rajendra Pachauri – Chairman, IPCC and Director-General, TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute)
- Dr. Jeffrey Sachs – Director, The Earth Institute at Columbia University and Director, Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- Dr. William Moomaw – Professor of International Environmental Policy, Fletcher School, Tufts University

Moderator: Homi Kharas – Deputy Director for Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution

Agenda Item 14. Statements by the Heads of the GEF Agencies

17. The Assembly heard a statement by Mr. LI, Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and a video message by Dr. Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank.

Agenda Item 15. Statements by the Representatives of the Conventions

18. The Assembly heard statements by Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and Ms. Fatoumata Kieta-Ouane, Executive Secretary of the Interim Secretariat for the Minamata Convention on Mercury. Ms. Kerstin Stendahl, Executive Secretary, ad interim of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and Mr. Eduardo Ganem, Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol also addressed the Assembly.

Agenda Item 16. Statements on Behalf of Constituencies

19. The Assembly heard statements from representatives of the GEF Constituencies as well as from some other Participants.

Agenda Item 17. Statement by a Representative of the Civil Society Organizations

20. The Assembly heard a statement by Ms. Maria Leichner of the GEF Civil Society Organizations Network (GEF CSO Network) on behalf of the CSO community.

Agenda item 18. Summary of the High-Level Round Table Discussions

21. The GEF CEO, Naoko Ishii, and Prof. Jeffrey Sachs, Head of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, exchanged views on some of the main topics discussed during the Round Tables.

Agenda Item 19. Presentation of the Chair's Summary

22. In accordance with paragraph 24 of the Rules of Procedure, the Assembly approved the Summary of the Proceedings submitted by the Chair.

Agenda Item 20. Closing of the Assembly

23. The Chair of the Assembly presented a document highlighting the overall message of the Assembly.

24. The CEO and Chairperson of the Facility and the Chair of the Assembly made closing remarks to the Assembly.

Appendix 1: Decision of the Assembly

The Fifth GEF Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 34 of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility,

Having considered the recommendations of the GEF Council for proposed amendments to the Instrument,

1. Approves by consensus the following amendments to the Instrument:

To delete current paragraph 6 and replace it with a new paragraph 6 that would read:

6. In partial fulfillment of its purposes, the GEF shall:

(a) Operate the financial mechanism for the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), on an interim basis, in accordance with such cooperative arrangements or agreements as may be made pursuant to paragraphs 27 and 31 of this Instrument. The GEF shall also be available to meet the agreed full costs of activities described in Article 12, paragraph 1, of the UNFCCC. The GEF shall be available to continue to serve for the purposes of the financial mechanism for the implementation of the UNFCCC if it is requested to do so by the Conference of the Parties pursuant to its Article 11, paragraph 4. In such respects, the GEF shall function under the guidance of, and be accountable to, the Conference of the Parties which shall decide on policies, program priorities and eligibility criteria related to the UNFCCC pursuant to its Article 11, paragraph 1;

(b) Be, on an interim basis, the institutional structure which carries out the operation of the financial mechanism for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in accordance with such cooperative arrangements or agreements as may be made pursuant to paragraphs 27 and 31 of this Instrument. The GEF shall be available to continue to serve for the purposes of the financial mechanism for the implementation of the CBD if it is requested to do so by the Conference of the Parties pursuant to its Article 21, paragraph 3. In such respects the GEF shall function under the guidance of, and be accountable to, the Conference of the Parties which shall decide on policies, program priorities and eligibility criteria for the purposes of the CBD pursuant to its Article 21, paragraph 1;

(c) Be available to serve as an entity entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. In such respects the GEF shall function under the guidance of, and be accountable to, the Conference of the Parties which shall decide on policies, strategy, program priorities and eligibility criteria for the purposes of this Convention pursuant to its Article 13, paragraph 7(a);

(d) Be available to serve as a financial mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (UNCCD), pursuant to Article 20, paragraph 2 (b), and Article 21 of the UNCCD. The Council shall consider and approve arrangements to facilitate collaboration between the GEF and the UNCCD and among countries with respect to affected countries, particularly Africa; and

(e) Operate as one of the entities comprising the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, pursuant to its Article 13, paragraphs 5, 6 and 8. In such respects, the GEF shall operate under the guidance of, and be accountable to the Conference of the Parties, which shall provide guidance on overall strategies, policies, program priorities and eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources. In addition, the GEF shall receive guidance from the Conference of the Parties on an indicative list of categories of activities that could receive support; and shall provide resources to meet the agreed incremental costs of global environmental benefits and the agreed full costs of some enabling activities, pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 7, of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

To delete sub-paragraphs (e) and (f) of paragraph 2 of the Instrument and replace them with a new sub-paragraph (e) that would read:

(e) chemicals and waste.

To delete sub-paragraph (b) of Paragraph 9 and replace it with a new sub-paragraph (b) that would read:

(b) All other GEF grants shall be made available to eligible recipient countries and, where appropriate, for other activities promoting the purposes of the Facility in accordance with this paragraph and any additional eligibility criteria determined by the Council. A country shall be an eligible recipient of GEF grants if it is eligible to receive World Bank (IBRD and/or IDA) financing or if it is an eligible recipient of UNDP technical assistance through its target for resource assignments from the core (specifically TRAC-1 and/or TRAC-2). GEF grants for

activities within a focal area addressed by a convention referred to in paragraph 6 but outside the framework of the financial mechanism of the convention, shall only be made available to eligible recipient countries that are party to the convention concerned.

To delete paragraph 11 and replace it with a new paragraph 11 that would read:

11. The GEF shall have an Assembly, a Council, and a Secretariat including an independent evaluation office. In accordance with paragraph 24, a Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) shall provide appropriate advice.

To expand paragraph 21 to include the IEO in a new sub-paragraph (i) that would read:

21. (i) there shall be an independent evaluation office headed by a director, appointed by and reporting to the Council, whose responsibility it is to carry out independent evaluations consistent with decisions of the Council; and

The current sub-paragraph (i) would become a new-subparagraph (j) that would read:

(j) perform any other functions assigned to the Secretariat by the Council.

2. Invites the CEO/Chairperson of the Facility to submit this amendment to the Implementing Agencies and the Trustee and to request that they adopt the amendments in accordance with their respective rules and procedural requirements.
3. Invites the CEO/Chairperson of the Facility to inform all Participants of the effectiveness of the amendments once the Implementing Agencies and the Trustee have approved it.”