

GEF Council Meeting  
November 5 – 7, 2013  
Washington, D.C.

Agenda Item 03

## **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**Agenda Item 1.**

**Opening of the Meeting**

*(CEO Chairs)*

1. The meeting will be opened by Naoko Ishii, 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 will alternate from one meeting to another between Council Members from developed and developing countries. The elected Chairperson at the previous Council meeting was Mr. Josceline Wheatley, the Council Member from the United Kingdom representing the developed countries.
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, "Annual Monitoring Review FY 13: Part I", agenda item 5, "Annual Report on Impact and Management Response", agenda item 6, "Progress Report of the GEF Evaluation Office Director, including OPS5 Progress Report and Management Response", agenda item 7, "Mid-Term Evaluation of the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources and Management Response", agenda item 8, "Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) and Management Response", agenda item 12, "Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions – Statements by the Executive Secretaries of the Conventions", agenda item 14, "Report of the Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel", and agenda item 19, "Report of the Selection and Review Committee".
4. The elected Chairperson and the CEO will jointly chair the Council meeting during discussions on agenda item 20, "Other Business," and agenda item 21, "Joint Summary of the Chairs."
5. The CEO/Chairperson of the Facility will chair the Council meeting during discussions of the other items on the agenda.

**Agenda Item 3.**

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*(Elected Chairperson Chairs)*

6. A *Provisional Agenda* for consideration by the Council has been issued as document GEF/C.45/01/Rev.01.
7. *The Council is invited to adopt the agenda for the meeting.*

**Agenda Item 4.**

**Annual Monitoring Review FY13: Part I**

*(Elected Chairperson Chairs)*

8. Document GEF/C.45/05, *Annual Monitoring Review FY 13: Part I*, is designed to provide information regarding the overall health of the GEF Trust Fund's active portfolio of projects and to provide an overview of the portfolio approvals in any given fiscal year. This year's AMR provides: (i) an overview of cumulative project approvals since GEF inception; (ii) an analysis of GEF-5 project approvals through FY13; (iii) a breakdown of GEF's active portfolio, including performance ratings; and (iv) information on management effectiveness and efficiency indicators. The FY13 report also includes for the second time a status update on GEF's active portfolio of Enabling Activities (EAs) as well as information on the influence of the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) process on GEF-5 programming.
9. Draft decision: *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 2013 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).*

**Agenda Item 5.**

**Annual Report on Impact and Management Response**

*(Elected Chairperson Chairs)*

10. Document GEF/ME/C.45/01, *Annual Report on Impact*, was prepared by the GEF Evaluation Office. This 7th Annual Impact Report covers the period from October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013 and is divided into two chapters. The first chapter consists of the findings and recommendations of the Climate Change Mitigation Impact Evaluation: GEF Support to Market Change in China, India, Mexico and Russia. The findings of this evaluation also provide a basis to further assess the impacts of GEF support to

climate change mitigation at a global scale, which will be taken up in the final report of OPS5, to be presented to the third replenishment meeting for GEF-6 in December, 2013. The second chapter provides information on on-going work on impact in the Office.

11. Document GEF/ME/C.45/02, *Management Response to the Annual Report on Impact*, was prepared by the GEF Secretariat in consultation with the GEF Agencies.
12. Draft decision: *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.*
13. *Furthermore, the Council requests STAP in collaboration with GEF entities to continue its work on the improvement of the methodology of GHG emission reduction calculations, and to propose a targeted research project on this issue, placing more emphasis on improving the assessment of direct GHG emission reduction during implementation and at project completion and to enable verification of indirect GHG emission reduction.*

#### **Agenda Item 6.**

#### **Progress Report of the GEF Evaluation Office Director, including the OPS5 Progress Report and Management Response** *(Elected Chairperson Chairs)*

14. Document GEF/ME/C.45/03/Rev.01, *Progress Report of the GEF Evaluation Office Director, including the OPS5 Progress Report*, was prepared by the GEF Evaluation Office. This report is meant to provide the Council with important information on on-going work, on top of the other reports that are presented to this Council meeting, i.e. the Annual Report on Impact and the mid-term evaluations of STAR and NPFE. This report contains a short overview of the OPS5 progress report presented to the second replenishment meeting in Delhi on September 10, 2013 and focuses

on the five issues raised in that report that would need to be taken up in the development of GEF-6 policy recommendations and programming. Current work for OPS5 is highlighted and the Council is informed that work is on time to deliver the final report of OPS5 to the third replenishment meeting, planned for December 10-12, 2013, in Paris. This year no annual report on thematic evaluations will be presented to the Council, given that the work of the thematic evaluation team has been almost fully incorporated into OPS5.

15. Document GEF/ME/C.45/08, *Management Response to the Progress Report of the GEF Evaluation Office Director, including the OPS5 Progress Report*, was prepared by the GEF Secretariat. It is not normal practice for the Secretariat to prepare a management response to the progress report from the Director of the Evaluation Office. This management response is related only to the progress report on OPS5 that is referred to in the Director's progress report and presented as Annex A in the report.
16. Draft decision: *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).*
17. *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.*

#### **Agenda Item 7.**

#### **Mid-Term Evaluation of the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources and Management Response (Elected Chairperson Chairs)**

18. Document GEF/ME/C.45/04, *Mid-Term Evaluation of the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources*, was prepared by the GEF Evaluation Office. This evaluation assesses STAR design, its implementation, the extent it has met its objectives, and the areas for further improvement. It also indicates whether the changes

adopted in STAR vis-à-vis the previous Resource Allocation Framework (RAF) have been successful.

19. Document GEF/ME/C.45/05, *Management Response to the Mid-Term Evaluation of the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources*, was prepared by the GEF Secretariat in consultation with the GEF Agencies.
20. Draft decision: *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 and requests the Secretariat to prepare STAR for GEF-6, taking the following issues into account:*
  - 1) *Limits for flexible use of focal area allocations for activities should be increased for countries with marginal flexibility.*
  - 2) *The STAR index should be improved through specification of better indicators and updating of data.*
  - 3) *The implementation of STAR can 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.*
21. *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.*

#### **Agenda Item 8.**

#### **Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) and Management Response** *(Elected Chairperson Chairs)*

22. Document GEF/ME/C.45/06, *Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)*, was prepared by the GEF Evaluation Office. The purpose of the NPFE mid-term evaluation is twofold: first, to provide the GEF Council with a comprehensive assessment of the NPFE initiative; second, to provide a formative assessment to improve the initiative for GEF-6.

23. Document GEF/ME/C.45/07, *Management Response to the Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)*, was prepared by the GEF Secretariat.
24. Draft decision: *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:*
  - (1) *Include in the final replenishment proposals the continuation of NPFE support in GEF-6, to be implemented through the Secretariat;*
  - (2) *To 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;*
  - (3) *To 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.*
  - (4) *Update NPFE guidelines to address information needs of the countries for programming on topics such as eligibility criteria, cofinancing expectations, and funding modalities.*

**Agenda Item 9.**

**Progress Report on the GEF Project Cycle Streamlining Measures**  
(CEO Chairs)

25. Document GEF/C.45/04, *Progress Report on the GEF Project Cycle Streamlining Measures*, presents: (i) an update on the streamlining measures, including the pilot harmonization with the World Bank; (ii) a presentation of the indicators for tracking project cycle effectiveness; and (iii) a request for Council decision on further streamlining of the project cycle by including the expedited approval of the enabling activities under the same delegated approval authority of CEO for medium-size projects up to and including \$2 million.
26. Draft decision: *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 project cycle effectiveness indicators.*

27. *The Council decides that the CEO’s delegated approval authority of up to \$2 million for medium-sized projects will also cover the expedited approval of enabling activities.*

**Agenda Item 10.**

**Update on GEF 2020**  
*(CEO Chairs)*

28. The CEO/Chairperson will introduce the draft GEF 2020 Long-Term Strategy document and invite the Council to provide comments.

**Agenda Item 11.**

**Update on GEF-6 Replenishment**  
*(CEO Chairs)*

29. The CEO/Chairperson will provide an oral update on the GEF-6 Replenishment process and next steps.

**Agenda Item 12.**

**Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions – Statements by the Executive Secretaries of the Conventions**  
*(Elected Chairperson Chairs)*

30. Document GEF/C.45/06, *Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions*, provides the Council with an update on the activities of the GEF in relation to the following multilateral environmental conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (the Stockholm Convention), and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the Montreal Protocol). The document also provides information on relations between the GEF Secretariat and other international conventions and institutions.
31. Executive Secretaries of the Conventions were invited to participate in the GEF Council Meeting. There will be an open session in which Executive Secretaries will discuss synergies.
32. Draft decision: *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.*

**Agenda Item 13.**

**Amendments to the Instrument**  
*(CEO Chairs)*

33. Document GEF/C.45/11, *Amendments to the Instrument*, details a proposed amendment being recommended to the GEF Council for recommendation to the Fifth GEF Assembly. According to paragraph 34 of the GEF Instrument, an amendment to the Instrument “may be 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.”
34. Draft decision: *The Council, having noted the adoption of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and of Resolution 2 on Financial Arrangements by the Diplomatic Conference, and having considered document GEF/C.45/11, “Amendments to the Instrument,” decided to recommend to the Assembly the following amendment to the Instrument:*
35. *To add a new sub paragraph (c) to paragraph 6 that would read:*  
  
*“(c) The GEF shall operate as one of the entities comprising the financial mechanism of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, pursuant to Article 13, paragraphs 5, 6 and 8 of the Convention. 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. The GEF shall also provide the resources to meet the agreed full costs of activities pursuant to Article 13, paragraph 7, of the Convention.”*

**Agenda Item 14.**

**Report of the Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel**  
*(Elected Chairperson Chairs)*

36. The Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) will be invited to make a statement to the Council on the work of the Panel. A written report of the Chairperson can be found in document GEF/STAP/C.45/Inf.01, *Report of the Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel*. An opportunity will be

provided for Council Members to comment on the report, address questions to the Chairperson, and provide guidance to the Panel, as appropriate.

37. This will be the first Council meeting for Dr. Rosina Bierbaum in her capacity as Chairperson of STAP.

**Agenda Item 15.**

**Review of GEF Agencies on Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Mainstreaming**  
*(CEO Chairs)*

38. Document GEF/C.45/10, *Review of GEF Agencies on Environmental and Social Safeguards and Gender Mainstreaming*, presents an assessment of the GEF Agencies with regard to the minimum requirements of *GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming* and the *Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards*.
39. Draft decision: *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, an action plan explaining how it will come into compliance with those provisions not met. The GEF Secretariat shall compile these action plans and forward them to the GEF Council for information by December 31, 2013.*
  - (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.*
40. *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 present a revised Policy for Council consideration taking into account the findings of this evaluation and any guidance from the Council.*

**Agenda Item 16.**

**Progress Report on the Pilot Accreditation of GEF Project Agencies**  
*(CEO Chairs)*

41. Document GEF/C.45/12, *Progress Report on the Pilot Accreditation of GEF Project Agencies*, presents the current status of applicant agencies, the status of Stage II reviews, and grant ceilings for WWF-US and CI.
42. Draft decision: *The Council, having reviewed GEF/C.45/12, "Progress 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 as planned and that WWF-US and CI have received approval from the Panel to move from Stage II to Stage III.*
43. *The Council noted that the current ceiling for a GEF grant is \$65,000,000 for WWF-US and \$120,000,000 for CI in accordance with the provisions set forth in Council document GEF/C.40/09, "Broadening the GEF Partnership under Paragraph 28 of the Instrument." The Secretariat is requested to report to the Council whenever these ceilings change.*
44. *The Council requested the Secretariat to continue to present a progress report on the accreditation pilot at every Council meeting.*

**Agenda Item 17.**

**Note on the Organization of the Fifth GEF Assembly**  
*(Elected Chairperson Chairs)*

45. Document GEF/C.45/07, *Note on the Organization of the Fifth GEF Assembly*, provides the Council with an update on the preparation of the Fifth GEF Assembly and associated meetings to be held in Cancun, Mexico during the week of May 26, 2014. The Council is invited to approve additional resources to cover the costs of Assembly-related activities that are to be undertaken during FY14. This note provides information on the activities to be financed with those resources. This document includes, as an attachment, the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Undersecretary of Finance and Public Credit of the United Mexican States Government, the GEF CEO and the Vice President, Concessional Finance and Global Partnerships of the IBRD.
46. Draft decision: *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.

**Agenda Item 18.**

**Work Program**  
*(CEO Chairs)*

- 47. Document GEF/C.45/08, Work Program, presents to the Council 41 new stand-alone projects covering five of the six focal areas in biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, and persistent organic pollutants, as well as one non-expedited enabling activity and five sub-projects of a programmatic approach.
- 48. Draft decision: *The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.45/08, "Work Program," approved the work program comprising forty (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, five project concepts associated with a previously approved programmatic approach are also approved. Total resources approved in this work program amounted to \$259.84 million which include GEF project grants and Agency fees.*

**Agenda Item 19.**

**Report of the Selection and Review Committee**  
*(Elected Chairperson Chairs – Executive Session)*

- 49. The Chair of the Selection and Review Committee will present the report of the SRC to the Council for consideration and appropriate decision.

**Agenda Item 20.**

**Other Business**  
*(Jointly Chaired)*

- 50. Members and the Chairs may raise any other business under this agenda item.
- 51. The Chair will inform the Council of possible dates for holding the fall 2014 and spring 2015 Council meeting.

**Agenda Item 21.**

**Joint Summary of the Chairs**  
*(Jointly Chaired)*

- 52. The Elected Chair and the CEO/Chairperson will present a joint summary of the conclusions of the meeting. Decisions approved by the Council during the meeting will be included in the Chairs' Joint Summary.

## Provisional Timetable

*Tuesday, November 5, 2013*

*Morning Session*

09:00 – 09:30	<b>Agenda Item 1.</b>	<b>Opening of the Meeting</b> (CEO Chairs)
	<b>Agenda Item 2.</b>	<b>Election of a Chairperson</b> (CEO Chairs)
	<b>Agenda Item 3.</b>	<b>Adoption of the Agenda</b> (Elected Chairperson Chairs)
09:30 – 10:30	<b>Agenda Item 4.</b>	<b>Annual Monitoring Review FY 13: Part I</b> (Elected Chairperson Chairs)
10:30 – 11:30	<b>Agenda Item 5.</b>	<b>Annual Report on Impact and Management Response</b> (Elected Chairperson Chairs)
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Agenda Item 16.</b>	<b>Progress Report on the Pilot Accreditation of GEF Project Agencies</b> (CEO Chairs)
12:00 – 12:30	<b>Agenda Item 17.</b>	<b>Note on the Organization of the Fifth GEF Assembly</b> (CEO Chairs)

*Afternoon Session*

02:00 – 03:00	<b>Agenda Item 6.</b>	<b>Progress Report of the GEF Evaluation Office Director, including the OPS5 Progress Report and Management Response</b> (Elected Chairperson Chairs)
03:00 – 04:00	<b>Agenda Item 7.</b>	<b>Mid-Term Evaluation of the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources and Management Response</b> (Elected Chairperson Chairs)
04:00 – 05:00	<b>Agenda Item 8.</b>	<b>Mid-Term Evaluation of the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) and Management Response</b> (Elected Chairperson Chairs)
05:00 – 06:00	<b>Agenda Item 9.</b>	<b>Progress Report on the GEF Project Cycle Streamlining Measures</b> (CEO Chairs)

