

GLOBAL
ENVIRONMENT
FACILITY

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL
AGENDA

GEF Council Meeting
Washington, D.C.
July 18 - 20, 1995

GEF/C.5/2
June 21, 1995

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 Mr. Hans-Peter Schipulle. Mr. Schipulle represents the German constituency. This meeting's elected Chairperson will be nominated by the recipient Council Members.
3. Consistent with paragraph 18, 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 and Climate Change Conventions followed by questions and answers"; agenda item 6, "GEF Secretariat staffing plan for FY96 "; agenda item 9, "Arrangements with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change", agenda item 10, "Draft response to inquiry made by the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Convention to Combat Desertification as to whether the GEF has the interest and capacity to host the Global Mechanism to be established under the convention", agenda item 11, "Draft Report to second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity", and agenda item 14(b), "Proposed meeting dates for the Council in 1996".
4. The elected Chairperson and the CEO will jointly chair the Council meeting during discussions on agenda item 7, "STAP", agenda item 8, "World Bank Accountability for Executing Agency Activities", agenda item 14(c), "Other business: Miscellaneous", 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.5/1/Rev.1. *The Council is invited to adopt its agenda for the meeting.*

Agenda Item 4

Statements on behalf of Biological Diversity and Climate Change Conventions 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 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 the Council Members to address questions to the representative.

Agenda Item 5

GEF operational strategy
(CEO chairs)

8. At its first meeting, the Council approved a "two track" approach for purposes of programming GEF resources in 1995. The first track called for the development of a long-term comprehensive operational strategy to be developed. Document GEF/C.5/3 is a preliminary draft of the GEF operational strategy. *It is presented to the Council for review and comments.*
9. In reviewing the document, the Council should bear in mind that this is a "work in progress". On the basis of the Council's review, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Implementing Agencies, STAP and the secretariats of the global conventions will continue to revise the document for review by the Council with a view to its adoption at its meeting in October 1995.

Agenda Item 6

GEF Secretariat staffing plan for FY96
(Elected Chairperson chairs)

10. At its meeting in May 1995, the Council requested the CEO to provide a justification for the Secretariat staffing plan for FY96. Document GEF/C.5/4 reviews the principal responsibilities of the Secretariat and the staffing strategy being followed. The document describes the staffing plan for FY96, briefly reviewing existing positions and the proposed new positions. *The Council is invited to review the document and to note the justification for*

the Secretariat staffing provided by the CEO. Since the Secretariat staffing is directly related to the Secretariat's administrative budget, discussion of this document will be conducted in an executive session.

Agenda Item 7

STAP

(Jointly chaired)

11. The Chairperson of STAP has been invited to address the Council under this agenda item to inform the Council of the work of STAP since the last Council meeting. An opportunity will be provided for Council Members to address questions to the Chairperson.
12. At its meeting in November 1994, the Council requested STAP to propose for Council approval criteria to guide the selective review of projects by STAP. STAP has now prepared proposed criteria which are presented in document GEF/C.5/7. *The Council is invited to review the STAP proposal with a view to approving the criteria.*
13. At its meeting in November 1994, the Council reviewed a paper that had been prepared by UNEP on the role and mandate of STAP (document GEF/C.2/4). The Council invited UNEP to revise the paper on the basis of the Council discussions. The revised paper prepared by UNEP in response to the Council request is before the Council as document GEF/C.2/5. *The Council is invited to review the paper and to approve the mandate, composition and role of STAP and the terms of reference presented therein.*
14. During its discussion of the proposed administrative budget for FY96 at the Council meeting in May 1995, the Council requested UNEP to prepare a report on the staffing of the STAP secretariat and to present the report together with the STAP business plan. Document GEF/C.5/6 has been prepared in response to that request. *The Council is invited to review and approve the STAP business plan and to take note of the justification for the STAP secretariat staffing.* Since the business plan and justification for staffing are directly related to the administrative budget, discussion of this document will be conducted in an executive session. Furthermore, since the STAP business plan is dependent upon the STAP terms of reference (see paragraph above), it is proposed that the two documents be discussed sequentially in the executive session.

Agenda Item 8

World Bank Accountability for Executing Agency Activities
(Jointly chaired)

15. At its meeting in February 1995, the Council reviewed the submissions of the three Implementing Agencies concerning their accountability for the activities of executing agencies working with them. In considering the submission of the World Bank, the Council requested the World Bank to review with the Regional Development Banks the requirements of the Instrument that each Implementing Agency be fully accountable to the Council for their GEF-financed activities, and to explore whether the World Bank and the Regional Development Banks could provide the Council with confirmation that their cooperative arrangements can ensure such accountability. The World Bank has prepared a report on its accountability for executing agency activities that is before the Council as document GEF/C.5/13. *The Council is invited to review the document and to take note of the steps outlined therein through which the World Bank intends to fulfill its responsibilities for accountability to the Council.*
16. Document GEF/C.5/13 also sets forth proposals for administrative expenses which may be incurred by the Multilateral Development Banks, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and the International Finance Corporation as executing agencies of GEF-financed activities. *The Council is invited to review the proposed administrative fees with a view to their approval.* Since this document presents a request for administrative expenses, it will be reviewed in executive session.

Agenda Item 9

Arrangements with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
(Elected Chairperson chairs)

17. At its meeting in May 1995, the Council reviewed document GEF/C.4/8 which provided information on progress that had been made within the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change towards developing arrangements with their financial mechanisms. The Council also took note of the request of each convention that its secretariat consult with the GEF on the content of such arrangements, and requested the GEF Secretariat to carry out appropriate consultations on its behalf with each convention secretariat with a view to transmitting to the Parties to the Convention and the GEF Council a jointly prepared draft text for their consideration.

18. The Council also requested the Secretariat to submit to its July meeting a report on its consultations, including the most current elements of the draft agreements. The Secretariat has transmitted to the Council the draft memorandums of understanding that have resulted from its consultations with the convention secretariats in the annexes to document GEF/C.5/8. *The Council is invited to review and comment on the draft texts, and to request the Secretariat to transmit its comments to the appropriate bodies under each convention with a view to concluding the final arrangements for cooperation with each convention.*

Agenda Item 10

Draft response to inquiry made by the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Convention to Combat Desertification as to whether the GEF has the interest and capacity to host the Global Mechanism to be established under the convention

(Elected Chairperson chairs)

19. The CEO has received a letter from Mr. Bo Kjellen, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, requesting a statement on the interest and capacity of the Global Environment Facility to host the Global Mechanism to be established in accordance with Article 21 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa. After consultation with Council Members, the CEO has prepared a draft reply to Mr. Kjellen's letter which is before the Council in document GEF/C.4/9. *The Council is invited to review and approve the draft response.*

Agenda Item 11

Draft Report to the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

(Elected Chairperson chairs)

20. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity took place in Nassau, the Bahamas, from 28 November to 9 December 1994. At that meeting, the Conference of the Parties decided "that the restructured Global Environment Facility (GEF) shall continue to serve as the institutional structure to operate the financial mechanism under the Convention on an interim basis, in accordance with Article 39 of the Convention". (See Document GEF/C.3/Inf.6, "Decision of the First Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on Financial Resources and Mechanism"). The Conference of the Parties also requested the GEF to prepare and submit an annual report on its operations

in support of the Convention.

Document GEF/C.5/9 has been prepared in response to that request. *The Council is invited to review the document and to approve it for transmittal to the Second Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.*

Agenda Item 12

**Guidelines for the management of the GEF voluntary fund
(CEO chairs)**

21. At its meeting in May 1995 the Council requested "... the Secretariat to take steps to create a voluntary fund for the purpose of financing two global NGO consultations and, if desirable, other consultations in relation to Council meetings." The Council requested further the Secretariat to disburse \$50,000 from its administrative budget into the fund, and to actively seek additional, voluntary funding from interested non-governmental sources. It called on the Secretariat to manage the voluntary fund under guidelines to be approved by the Council at its July 1995 meeting. *Document GEF/C.5/11 presents the proposed Voluntary Fund (VF) guidelines for Council's review and approval.*

Agenda Item 13

**Funding of in-country non-program/non-project activities
(CEO chairs)**

22. At its meeting in February 1995, the Council requested the Secretariat to identify "alternative vehicles" for funding non-project and non-program activities that were described in the Secretariat paper on the Project Development and Preparation Facility (PDF). In response to the Council's request, the Secretariat has prepared document GEF/C.5/12 which addresses the scope of such in-country activities and alternatives for their funding. *The Council is invited to review and discuss the alternatives presented in the document and to provide the Secretariat with guidance to direct the implementation of the concepts presented in the paper.*

Agenda Item 14

Other business

**(a) Small Grants Program
(CEO chairs)**

23. Document GEF/C.5/14 presents a proposal prepared by UNDP

for interim funding of the GEF Small Grants Programme. The purpose of the proposal is to extend funding for the Small Grants Programme for the period July through December 1995, pending consideration by the Council at its October meeting of a proposal for a three-year funding replenishment. *The Council is invited to review the attached proposal with a view to approving the interim funding for the Small Grants Programme.*

(b) Proposed meeting dates for the Council in 1996
(Elected Chairperson chairs)

24. Document GEF/C.5/Inf.4 proposes dates for the two regular Council meetings to be convened in 1996. *The Council is invited to review and take note of these dates.* In proposing these dates, the Secretariat has made every effort to avoid conflicts with any scheduled meetings concerned with environment and development issues.

(c) Miscellaneous
(Jointly chaired)

25. Members and the Chairpersons may raise any other business under this agenda item.

Agenda Item 15

Joint Summary of the Chairs
(Jointly chaired)

26. 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, JULY 18-20, 1995**

Tuesday, July 18

Morning session

9:00am - 10:00am	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 followed by questions and answers
11:00am - 1:00pm	Agenda Item 5.	Operational strategy

Afternoon session

2:30pm - 6:00pm	Agenda Item 5.	continued
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Evening session

7:00pm - 9:00pm	Agenda Item 5.	continued
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Wednesday, July 19

Morning session

9:00am - 11:00pm	Agenda Item 7	Statement by Chair of STAP and proposed Criteria for Selective Review of Projects
11:00am - 1:00pm <i>(Executive Session)</i>	Agenda Item 7	Revised terms of reference for STAP and STAP business plan (including staffing)

Afternoon session

2:30pm - 4:30pm <i>(Executive Session)</i>	Agenda item 6	Secretariat staffing plan for FY96
	Agenda Item 8	World Bank Accountability for Executing Agency Activities

5:00pm - 6:00pm	Agenda Item 9	Arrangements with conventions
Wednesday, July 19		
<i>Evening session</i>		
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Agenda Item 9	Continued
	Agenda Item 13	Funding of in-country non-program/non-project activities
Thursday, July 20		
<i>Morning session</i>		
9:00am - 10:00am	Agenda Item 13	Continued
10:00am - 11:00am	Agenda Item 10	Response to Convention to Combat Desertification
11:00am - 12:00am	Agenda Item 11	Draft Report to the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
12:00am - 1:00pm	Agenda Item 12	Guidelines for management of GEF voluntary fund
<i>Afternoon session</i>		
2:30pm - 4:00pm	Agenda Item 14	Other business
		(a) Small Grants Programme
		(b) Proposed dates for Council meetings in 1996
		(c) Miscellaneous
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Agenda Item 15	Joint Summary of the Chairs