GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

GEF Council Meeting Washington, D.C. October 25 - 27, 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. Carlos Sersale di Cerisano. Mr. Sersale represents the constituency comprised of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. This meeting's elected Chairperson will be nominated by the non-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 7, "Business Plans "; agenda item 8, "Facilitating Council Oversight of GEF Budget, including proposed terms of reference for a Budget Committee", and agenda item 9, "Annual Report".
- 4. The elected Chairperson and the CEO will jointly chair the Council meeting during discussions on agenda item 10, "Other Business", and agenda item 11, "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.6/1/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 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 the Council Members to address questions to the representative.

Agenda Item 5

GEF operational strategy

(CEO chairs)

8. At its meeting in July 1995, the Council reviewed a preliminary operational strategy for the GEF (document GEF/C.5/3). Document GEF/C.6/3 is a revised draft of the GEF operational strategy. It has been prepared by the Secretariat, in consultation with the Implementing Agencies, STAP and the convention secretariats. In preparing the revision, account was taken of the comments made by Council Members, other GEF Participants and nongovernmental organizations. The operational strategy is presented to the Council for review and approval.

Agenda Item 6

Work Program

(CEO chairs)

9. Document GEF/C.6/4, 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 proposed work program is consistent with the guidance for the programming of GEF resources in 1995 approved by the Council at its second meeting. 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 7

Facilitating Council Oversight of GEF Budget, including proposed terms of reference for a Budget Committee

(Elected Chairperson chairs)

The Council at its fifth meeting requested the CEO to propose 10. terms of reference for a Council Budget committee to be reviewed by the Council. Recognizing the need to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of the Council in discharging its responsibility to "review and approve the administrative budget of the GEF", the Secretariat has prepared document GEF/C.6/6 which discusses a number of alternatives that may be considered for improving Council review and oversight of the budget. This document includes a proposal for terms of reference for a Council Budget committee. The Council is invited to review the document with a view to reaching agreement on follow-up steps.

Agenda Item 8

Business Plans and other budgetary matters

(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).
- A proposed three year business plan is presented in document 12. GEF/C.6/5, GEF Business Plan FY97-99. The Council is invited to review and comment upon the business plan, and, in particular, to provide guidance to the CEO on the preparation of the GEF corporate budget for FY97.
- At its meeting in July 1995, the Council reviewed the STAP 13. business plan and budget proposal for FY96 presented in document GEF/C.5/6. The Council requested UNEP to prepare a revised business plan and budget taking into account the Council's discussions on document GEF/C.5/6 as well as its discussions on the STAP terms of reference. The Council requested that the revised document be submitted to it for information. The revised STAP business plan and budget are presented in document GEF/C.6/8. The Council is invited to review the document and to approve the STAP budget.

- 14. The Council also requested UNEP to submit to the present meeting an audit of the STAP FY95 accounts. The audit is presented to the Council in document GEF/C.6/Inf.11, Audit of STAP FY95 Accounts. The Council is invited to raise any questions that it may have on the audit during its Executive Session.
- 15. At its meeting in February 1995, the Council authorized the CEO "to approve additional expenditures [in FY95] in exceptional circumstances where such expenditures are necessary in order not to disrupt the agreed work program provided that the total GEF FY95 budget with such additional expenditures does not exceed a ceiling of 20% above the budget expenditures for FY94. Any such exceptional expenditures will be reported to the Council." The CEO did approve additional expenditures for FY95, and a report on those expenditures has been presented to the Council in document GEF/C.6/Inf.6. The Council is invited to raise any questions that it may have on the document during its Executive Session.
- 16. In approving the administrative budget request for the International Finance Corporation (IFC) (see document GEF/C.5/13/Rev.1), the Council requested the IFC to provide a breakdown of its administrative costs. The IFC has prepared document GEF/C.6/Inf.9 in response to the Council's request. The Council is invited to raise any questions that it may have on the document during its Executive Session.

Agenda Item 9 Annual Report

(Elected Chairperson chairs)

17. 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.6/7 is a draft Annual Report covering GEF activities in FY94. The Council is invited to review and approve the Annual Report.