



GEF COUNCIL DECISIONS 2021

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Decision by Mail – February 2021

Decision 1/2021 STAP Biodiversity Panel Member

1. The Council, having reviewed the proposal by the Executive Director of UNEP, approves the appointment of Dr. John Donaldson as a Member of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel.

Decision by Mail – March 2021

Decision 2/2021 Report to the CoP 10 to the Stockholm Convention

1. The Council, having reviewed the document [Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Tenth Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants](#), approves the report for submission to the tenth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

Decision by Mail – April 2021

Decision 3/2021 Elected Chairperson for 2021

1. The Council, at its 59th meeting, adopted a decision whereby it would pilot for one year an adjusted co-chairing arrangement appointing the elected Chairperson from among its Members for the duration of one year instead of just one meeting. In accordance with paragraph 30 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council and having received a nomination from the non-recipient Council Members, the Council appoints Ms. Mette Møglestue, Council Member for Denmark, Norway, Latvia and Lithuania, as the Elected Chair for the year 2021.

60th Council Meeting – June 2021

Decision 4/2021 Work Program for GEF Trust Fund

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.60/04, [Work Program for GEF Trust Fund](#), approves the Work Program comprising 33 projects and 3 programs, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by July 15, 2021¹.

¹ The United States, in light of its policies for certain development projects in countries whose governments (i) are not addressing trafficking in persons; (ii) have engaged in a pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights; (iii) have repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism; or (iv) do not have in place a functioning system for reporting to civilian authorities audits of receipts and

2. Total resources approved in this Work Program amounted to \$281.1 million which include GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs), Program Framework Documents (PFDs), and Non-expedited Enabling Activity:
 1. **Global (Cote d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Guinea, Mali, Nicaragua, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Global):** Opportunities for Long-term Development of artisanal and small-scale gold mining ASGM) Sector Plus - GEF GOLD + (addendum) , UNEP, CI, UNDP, UNIDO, [GEF Program Financing: \$30,485,696] [GEF ID 10802]
 2. **Regional (Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe):** Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS), UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$9,000,000] [GEF ID 10786]
 3. **Global:** IFC-GEF Hotel Green Revitalization Program (HGRP), World Bank, [GEF Program Financing: \$9,132,420] [GEF ID 10766]
 4. **Tuvalu:** Increasing Access to Renewable Energy in Tuvalu, ADB, [GEF Program Financing: \$2,752,294] [GEF ID 10788]
 5. **Lebanon:** Reduction of UPOPs through Waste Management in a Circular Economy, World Bank, [GEF Program Financing: \$8,858,447] [GEF ID 10803]
 6. **Philippines:** Reduction of unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants and mercury through an environmentally-sound approach on health care wastes management in the Philippines with a special focus on the pandemic, UNIDO, [GEF Program Financing: \$4,880,000] [GEF ID 10798]
 7. **Regional (Benin, Togo):** Regional Initiative for Water and Environment in the transboundary basin of the Mono River (RIWE-Mono), IUCN, [GEF Program Financing: \$5,000,000] [GEF ID 10799]
 8. **Regional (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu):** Pacific I2I Regional Project: Ocean Health for Ocean Wealth - The Voyage to a Blue Economy for the Blue Pacific Continent, UNEP, ADB, [GEF Program Financing: \$15,000,000] [GEF ID 10783]

expenditures that fund activities of the armed forces and security forces, opposes the following projects and therefore does not join a Council decision that would support: GEF projects 10785 in Burundi, 10800 in Cuba, 10797 in Comoros, 10770 and 10790 in China, and 10789 in Eritrea. Further, the United States, in light of its policies related to development projects in Zimbabwe, opposes and therefore does not join a Council decision that would support GEF project 10785 in Zimbabwe. Finally, the United States, in light of its policies related to development projects in Nicaragua, opposes and therefore does not join a Council decision that would support GEF project 10802 in Nicaragua.

9. **Regional (Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines):** Caribbean BluEFin (Caribbean Blue Economy Financing Project), UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$6,000,000] [GEF ID 10782]
10. **Egypt:** Greening Hurghada, UNIDO, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,889,996] [GEF ID 10796]
11. **Niue:** Robust sustainable tourism and agriculture sectors in Niue supported by biodiversity mainstreaming and sustainable land management, UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,502,968] [GEF ID 10769]
12. **Regional (Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam):** Promoting the blue economy and strengthening fisheries governance of the Gulf of Thailand through the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (GoTFish), FAO, [GEF Program Financing: \$7,320,794] [GEF ID 10703]
13. **Eswatini:** Restoration of ecosystems, integrated natural resource management and promotion of SLM in Mbuluzi River Basin of Eswatini, UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,916,950] [GEF ID 10695]
14. **North Macedonia:** Biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management and sustainable tourism development in North Macedonia, UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,713,422] [GEF ID 10676]
15. **Senegal:** Land Degradation Neutrality for biodiversity conservation, food security and resilient livelihoods in the Peanut Basin and Eastern Senegal (Dékil Souf), FAO, [GEF Program Financing: \$5,786,073] [GEF ID 10384]
16. **Somalia²:** Adaptive Agriculture and Rangeland Rehabilitation Project (A2R2) – Somalia, IFAD, [GEF Program Financing: \$8,043,545] [GEF ID 10792]
17. **Eritrea:** Building Community Based Integrated and Climate Resilient Natural Resources Management and Enhancing Sustainable Livelihood in the South-Eastern Escarpments and Adjacent Coastal Areas of Eritrea, FAO, [GEF Program Financing: \$6,678,226] [GEF ID 10789]
18. **Kiribati:** Securing Kiribati's Natural Heritage: Protected areas for community, atoll, and island climate resilience (Securing Kiribati), IUCN, [GEF Program Financing: \$5,518,841] [GEF ID 10775]
19. **Global (Bahamas, Bolivia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Dominica, Gambia, Georgia, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Peru, Senegal, Seychelles, Uganda, Uruguay,**

² Projects on paragraphs 24, 25, 26 and 34 are multi-trust fund projects. Only the GEF Trust Fund component is presented in this Work Program. The LDCF components are presented separately in the LDCF/SCCF Work Program

- Zimbabwe):** Global Development, Review and Update of National Implementation Plans (NIPs) under the Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$8,007,500] [GEF ID 10785]
20. **Global (Antigua and Barbuda, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Liberia, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritania, Zambia):** Umbrella Programme for Preparation of Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) and National Communications (NCs) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$4,090,130] [GEF ID 10781]
3. With respect to the following 8 projects, the Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for Council members to receive draft final project documents and to transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concerns they may have prior to the CEO's endorsing the project document for final approval by the GEF Agency:
21. **Mauritania:** Integrated Management of Protected Areas in the Arid Regions of Mauritania (IMPADRA), UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$2,639,726] [GEF ID 10586]
22. **Regional (Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe):** GEF Sustainable Groundwater Management In SADC Member States Project Phase 2, World Bank, [GEF Program Financing: \$4,566,210] [GEF ID 10797]
23. **Global:** Scaling Up CRAFT: Mobilizing Private Capital to Mitigate Climate Change and Reduce Land Degradation through Resilience Investments, CI, [GEF Program Financing: \$4,000,000] [GEF ID 10765³]
24. **Timor Leste:** Adapting to climate change and enabling sustainable land management through productive rural communities in Timor-Leste, UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,578,536] [GEF ID 10713]
25. **Indonesia:** Strengthened Systems for Community-based Conservation of Forests and Peatland Landscapes in Indonesia (CoPLI), IFAD, [GEF Program Financing: \$5,329,452] [GEF ID 10731]

³ The final approval and associated disbursements of the project "*Scaling Up CRAFT: Mobilizing Private Capital to Mitigate Climate Change and Reduce Land Degradation through Resilience Investments* [GEF ID 10765]" submitted in the ambit of the June 2021 GEF Work Program, will be contingent on the following stipulations being met at the CEO endorsement stage:

1. At least US\$30 million in new private sector capital raised.
2. Compliance with additional conditions required by current fund investors, and to be agreed with the fund manager, which include, but are not limited to:
 - a. disbursement to at least one more CRAFT-funded project before the end of the extension period to be granted by existing investors;
 - b. development of an additional pipeline of viable projects; and
 - c. strengthening the fund's internal capacity (staff) to ensure that new investments are made in a timely manner.

Compliance with additional conditions and requirements, if any, that may be submitted by GEF Council members as part of the 4-week comment period following the approval of the PIF.

26. **China:** Pathways for Decarbonizing Transport towards Carbon Neutrality in China, World Bank, [GEF Program Financing: \$10,091,743] [GEF ID 10790]

27. **China:** China Energy Transition Towards Carbon Neutrality Project, World Bank [GEF Program Financing: \$17,431,193] [GEF ID 10770]

28. **Regional (El Salvador, Honduras):** Gulf of Fonseca Transboundary Management, World Bank, [GEF Program Financing: \$5,000,000] [GEF ID 10778]

4. With respect to the PIFs and Non-expedited Enabling Activity approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs and Non-expedited Enabling Activity (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the Work Program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.
5. With respect to any PIF and Non-expedited Enabling Activity approved in this Work Program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If there are major changes to the project objectives or scope since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.
6. With respect to the PFDs approved as part of the Work Program, the final child project documents fully incorporating and addressing the Council's and STAP reviews shall be circulated for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval.
7. In light of the recent audit report by the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) of UNDP GEF Management, all projects included in the Work Program implemented by UNDP shall be circulated by email for Council review at least four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval. This shall take place as actions of the Management Action Plan that address the OAI recommendations are being implemented, and as the independent, risk based third-party review of compliance by UNDP with the GEF Policy on Minimum Fiduciary Standards is being completed. Project reviews will take into consideration the relevant findings of the external audit and the UNDP management responses and note them in the endorsement review sheet that will be made available to the Council during the 4-week review period:

29. **Regional (Benin, Mali, Niger, Sao Tome and Principe, Zambia):** GEF-7 Africa Minigrids Program, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$8,110,966] [GEF ID 10804]

30. **Viet Nam:** Promote Wildlife Conservation and Responsible Nature Based Tourism for Sustainable Development in Vietnam, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$7,150,000] [GEF ID 10787]
31. **Cook Islands:** Enhancing biodiversity considerations and effective protected area management to safeguard the Cook Islands integrated ecosystems and species, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,502,968] [GEF ID 10780]
32. **Regional (Moldova, Ukraine):** Advancing transboundary co-operation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Dniester River Basin through implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$6,000,000] [GEF ID 10805]
33. **Regional (Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago):** Protecting and Restoring the Ocean's natural Capital, building Resilience and supporting region-wide Investments for sustainable Blue socio-Economic development (PROCARIBE+), UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$15,429,817] [GEF ID 10800]
34. **Regional (Georgia, Turkey, Ukraine):** Implementing Ecosystem Based Management approaches in the Black Sea LME, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,000,000] [GEF ID 10725]
35. **Brazil:** Fifth National Communication, Biennial Update Report and Biennial Transparency Reports to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$7,500,000] [GEF ID 10801]
36. **Nigeria:** Enabling the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Prepare Its Fourth National Communication (4NC) and First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) to the UNFCCC, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$2,404,733] [GEF ID 10795]

Decision 5/2021 Progress Report on the Independent Third Party Review of UNDP

1. The Council, having reviewed document, GEF/C.60/05, [Progress Report on the Third Party Review of UNDP](#), takes note of the report.

Decision 6/2021 Third Joint GEF-UNDP Evaluation of the Small Grants Programme

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.60/01, [Third Joint GEF-UNDP Evaluation of the Small Grants Programme](#), and the [Management Response](#), takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.

Decision 7/2021 GEF Support to Innovation – Findings and Lessons

1. The Council, having considered the document GEF/E/C.60/02, [GEF Support to Innovation - Findings and Lessons](#), and the [Management Response](#), takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.

Decision 8/2021 Evaluation of the Country Support Programme (CSP)

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.60/03, [Evaluation of the Country Support Programme \(CSP\)](#), and the [Management Response](#), takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.

Decision 9/2021 Formative Evaluation of the GEF Integrated Approach to Address the Drivers of Environmental Degradation

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.60/04, [Formative Evaluation of the GEF integrated Approach to Address the Drivers of Environmental Degradation](#), and the [Management Response](#), takes note of the relevant recommendations and endorses the management response to address the first two recommendations and requests the GEF SEC to consider ways to also address the third recommendation noting the relevance of integrated programming for the GEF moving forward.

Decision 10/2021 Evaluation of GEF Engagement with Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.60/05, [Evaluation of GEF Engagement with Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises](#), and the [Management Response](#), takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.

Decision 11/2021 Evaluation of Institutional Policies and Engagement of the GEF

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.60/06, [Evaluation of Institutional Policies and Engagement of the GEF](#), and the [Management Response](#), takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.

Decision 12/2021 Results Based Management – Evaluations of the Agency Self-Evaluation Systems and the GEF Portal

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.60/07, [Results Based Management – Evaluations of the Agency Self-Evaluation Systems and the GEF Portal](#), and the

[Management Response](#), takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.

Decision 13/2021 GEF Business Plan and Corporate Budget for FY22

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.60/03, [GEF Business Plan and Corporate Budget for FY22](#), takes note of the business plan, and approves an FY22 corporate budget from the GEF Trust Fund of US\$30.768 million, comprised of:
 - (a) US\$24.708 million for the GEF Secretariat;
 - (b) US\$2.725 million for STAP; and
 - (c) US\$3.335 million for the Trustee, including its core budget and Special Initiative
2. The Council also approves a total FY22 administrative budget for the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) of US\$18,500, comprised of the following allocations from the NPIF to cover the Secretariat's and Trustee's expenses for NPIF administration and implementation:
 - (a) US\$13,500 for the GEF Secretariat; and
 - (b) US\$5,000 for the Trustee
3. The Council also approves a total FY22 administrative budget for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) from the CBIT Trust Fund of US\$421,000, comprised of:
 - (a) US\$392,000 for the GEF Secretariat; and
 - (b) US\$29,000 for the Trustee
4. The Council requests the Secretariat, in consultation with STAP and the Trustee, to present a combined FY23 corporate budget and business plan for discussion at its June 2022 meeting.

Decision 14/2021 Work Program and Budget of the Independent Evaluation Office: June 2021

1. The Council, having reviewed, [Work Program and Budget Report of the GEF Independent Evaluation Office: June 2021](#), acknowledges the progress made by the Independent Evaluation Office in the reporting period, and approves the IEO budget for FY22.

Decision 15/2021 Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.60/06, [Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions](#), welcomes the report and requests the GEF network to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities.

Decision 16/2021 Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence and Collaboration between the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.60/08, [Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence, and Collaboration between the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility](#), welcomes the document and in particular the establishment of a joint steering committee, and looks forward to the annual joint progress report to be submitted to the GEF Council and the GCF Board and requests the GEF Secretariat to inform the Council at its 61st session about comments received by the GCF Board and the GEF Council and potential follow-up actions as applicable.

Decision 17/2021 Strengthening Consultations with Civil Society: Proposed Topics for Discussion at the Consultations of the 61st GEF Council Meeting

1. The Council, having considered Document GEF/C.60/07, [Strengthening Consultations with Civil Society: Proposed Topic for Discussion at the Consultations Prior to the 61st GEF Council Meeting](#), selects the following topic to be addressed as part of the Council Consultations with Civil Society: Engaging Young people in promoting GEF's mission: Youth-led solutions to the planet's environmental crisis.

Decision 18/2021 Report of the Selection and Review Committee

1. The Council, having received an oral report from the SRC and taking into account changes in the timing of relevant World Bank supporting documentation:
 - a) requests the SRC to present the performance evaluations and performance rating recommendations of the IEO Director and the GEF CEO for the Council's review at its 61st meeting, once all required supporting documentation becomes available.
 - b) Requests the SRC to permanently re-set its annual performance schedule, such that mid-year SRC reports are presented to the Council at its first meeting of the year and the end-year reports and rating recommendations are presented at its second meeting.

Decision 19/2021 Numbering system for GEF Council decisions

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.60/09, [Numbering System for GEF Council Decisions](#), welcomes the proposal and approves the numbering system for GEF Council Decisions.

Decision 20/2021 Dates for 64th and 65th Council Meetings

1. The Council decides that it will hold its 64th session the week of June 11-13, 2023 and the 65th meeting during the week of December 10-13, 2023.

Decision by Mail – July 2021

Decision 21/2021 Report to the CoP 26 to the UNFCCC

1. The Council, having reviewed the [Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#), approves the Report.

Decision 22/2021 Report to the CoP 4 to the Minamata Convention

2. The Council, having reviewed the [Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury](#), approves the Report.

Decision by Mail – September 2021

Decision 23/2021 GEF Submission on the Status of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports to the UNFCCC

1. The Council, having considered the GEF submission on the Status of [National Communications](#) and [Biennial Update Reports](#) to the 52nd to 55th session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, approves the submission and requests the GEF Secretariat to transmit it to the UNFCCC Secretariat.

Decision by Mail – November 2021

Decision 24/2021 Appointment of Members of the Selection and Review Committee

1. The Council, as prescribed in the relevant Council decisions, endorses Mrs. Brenda Janeth Pequeño Vargas, representing Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Venezuela; Mr. Ben Green, representing the United

Kingdom and Mr. Kazuo Kobayashi, representing Japan, as members of the SRC until December of 2024.

61st Council Meeting – December 2021

Decision 25/2021 The GEF Monitoring Report 2021

1. The Council, having considered GEF/C.61/03, [*The GEF Monitoring Report 2021*](#), welcomes the report, its use of the Portfolio Scorecard tracking effectiveness and efficiency, and the ongoing progress in reporting on results. The Council requests Agencies, through engagement with the Secretariat, to ensure the timely and quality delivery of Mid-Term Review as a tool to enhance implementation progress.

Decision 26/2021 UNDP Third Party Review of Compliance with GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards

1. The Council, having considered Document GEF/C.61/04, [*UNDP Third Party Review of Compliance with GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards*](#), takes note of the Independent Third-Party Review of UNDP and decides to:
 - i. Urge UNDP to continue to implement actions required to come into full compliance with GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards.
 - ii. Request UNDP to present a time-bound Action Plan to address the gaps identified by the Review, to be presented by March 31, 2022 for inter-sessional distribution to Council.
 - iii. Request UNDP to continue to provide monthly reports to the Secretariat on implementation of all actions under its Management Action Plan and the Secretariat to continue to provide updates to Council based on these reports until the end of 2022; Council would review this requirement at its 63rd meeting in December 2022.
 - iv. Request UNDP to provide an updated self-assessment by June 30, 2022 and the Secretariat to commission an Independent Third-Party Review of that assessment, focused on assessing implementation progress, to be presented to the Council at its 63rd meeting in December 2022.
 - v. Request UNDP to provide an updated self-assessment by June 30, 2023 and the Secretariat to commission an Independent Third-Party Review to be presented

to the Council at its 65th meeting in December 2023, with a focus on actions by UNDP that need a longer timeframe to be assessed, and any other potential issues of compliance that might still be present.

- vi. Require that all projects included in the Work Program implemented by UNDP be circulated by e-mail for Council review at least four weeks prior to CEO endorsement / approval. This shall take place until this requirement is reconsidered by the Council at its 65th meeting in December 2023. Project reviews will take into consideration the relevant findings of the UNDP audits and the management responses and note them in the endorsement review sheet that will be made available to Council during the 4-week review period.

Decision 27/2021 The Share of GEF Financing in Agencies' Portfolios

1. The Council, having considered document, GEF/C.61/05, [The Share of GEF Financing in Agencies' Portfolios](#), takes note of the report and decides that:
 - a. in light of the lessons learned and reported data, additional measures are not warranted at this time;
 - b. the Secretariat should continue to monitor this issue and submit a recommendation to Council if it is determined that additional measures are warranted in the future.

Decision 28/2021 Work Program for GEF Trust Fund

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.61/06, [Work Program for GEF Trust Fund](#), approves the Work Program comprising 25 projects and 1 program, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by January 7, 2022^{4 5 6}.
2. Total resources approved in this Work Program amounted to \$190.7 million which include GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs), Program Framework Documents (PFDs), and Non-expedited Enabling Activity:

⁴ The United States, in light of its policies for certain development projects in countries whose governments (i) are not addressing trafficking in persons; (ii) have engaged in a pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights; or (iii) do not have in place a functioning system for reporting to civilian authorities audits of receipts and expenditures that fund activities of the armed forces and security forces, opposes the following projects and therefore does not join a Council decision that would support: GEF projects 10865 in Comoros and 10864 in China.

⁵ China opposes the following project and therefore does not join a Council decision that would support: GEF Project 10856 in St-Kitts and Nevis.

⁶ The decision with respect to project review for UNDP projects (Decision 26/2021) will apply to all UNDP projects in this WP.

1. **Global (Ecuador, India, Kenya, Lao PDR, Philippines, Uruguay, Viet Nam):** Financing Agrochemical Reduction and Management (FARM), UNEP, UNDP, ADB, UNIDO, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 37,441,500] [GEF ID 10872]
2. **Tonga:** Implementation of the Fanga'uta Lagoon Stewardship Plan and Replication of Lessons Learned to Priority Areas in Vava'u (Tonga R2R Phase 2), UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 3,864,685] [GEF ID 10518]
3. **India:** Strengthening institutional capacities for securing biodiversity conservation commitments, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 4,880,000] [GEF ID 10776]
4. **Cabo Verde:** Strengthening biodiversity governance systems for the sustainable management of living natural resources in Cabo Verde, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 3,484,703] [GEF ID 10871]
5. **Marshall Islands:** Marshall Islands Building Energy Efficiency, IUCN, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 2,193,578] [GEF ID 10859]
6. **Cabo Verde:** Towards Land Degradation Neutrality for Improved Equity, Sustainability, and Resilience, FAO, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 2,183,105] [GEF ID 10863]
7. **India:** Sustainable Management and Restoration of Degraded Landscapes for Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) in India, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 6,600,000] [GEF ID 10876]
8. **Sri Lanka:** Integrated Management and Environmentally Sound Disposal of POPs Pesticides and Mercury in Healthcare and Agricultural Sectors in Sri Lanka, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$5,040,000] [GEF ID 10868]
9. **Egypt:** Improved Management Of Ewaste And Healthcare Waste To Reduce Emissions Of Unintentionally Produced POPs (UPOPs), World Bank, [GEF Program Financing: \$9,132,421] [GEF ID 10879]
10. **Regional (Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal):** Enhancing the sustainable management of Senegalo-Mauritanian Aquifer System to ensure access to water for populations facing climate change (SMAS), UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 3,150,000] [GEF ID 10784]
11. **Regional (Malaysia, Thailand):** Enhancing Environmental Security and Transboundary Cooperation in the Golok/Kolok River Basin, FAO, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 4,000,000] [GEF ID 10794]
12. **Regional (Barbados, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago):** Strategies, technologies and social solutions to manage bycatch in tropical Large Marine

- Ecosystem Fisheries (REBYC-III CLME+), FAO, [GEF Program Financing: \$5,329,452] [GEF ID 10857]
13. **Regional (Indonesia, Timor Leste):** Towards Sustainable and Conversion-Free Aquaculture in Indonesian Seas Large Marine Ecosystem (ISLME), ADB, [GEF Program Financing: \$4,449,542] [GEF ID 10867]
 14. **Regional (Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo):** Using Marine Spatial Planning in the Gulf of Guinea for the implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services and Coastal Nature-based Solutions, IUCN, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,000,000] [GEF ID 10875]
 15. **Regional (Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia):** Implementing the Strategic Action Programme of the Drin Basin to Strengthen Transboundary Cooperation and Enable Integrated Natural Resources Management, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$7,105,936] [GEF ID 10881]
 16. **Armenia:** Conservation and Sustainable Management of Land Resources and High Value Ecosystems in Lake Sevan Basin for Multiple Benefits, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,598,631] [GEF ID 10854]
 17. **Micronesia:** Securing Climate-Resilient Sustainable Land Management and Progress Towards Land Degradation Neutrality in the Federated States of Micronesia, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$5,155,255] [GEF ID 10858]
 18. **Marshall Islands:** Sustainable food systems and integrated land/seascape management in the Marshall Islands, FAO, [GEF Program Financing: \$2,100,913] [GEF ID 10862]
 19. **Regional (Cabo Verde, Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles):** Supporting Sustainable Inclusive Blue Economy Transformation in AIO SIDS, UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 9,003,847] [GEF ID 10865]
 20. **Mexico:** Promoting sustainability in the agave-mezcal value chain through restoration and integrated management of biocultural landscapes in Oaxaca, UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$4,507,534] [GEF ID 10869]
 21. **South Sudan:** Promoting Sustainable Approaches to Ecosystem Conservation in the Imatong landscape of South Sudan, UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$3,502,968] [GEF ID 10870]
 22. **Regional (Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand):** Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS), UNDP, [GEF Program Financing: \$12,548,861] [GEF ID 10873]

3. With respect to the following 4 projects, the Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for Council members to receive draft final project documents and to transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concerns they may have prior to the CEO's endorsing the project document for final approval by the GEF Agency:
 23. **China:** Sustainable Mercury Management in Non-ferrous Metal Industry, World Bank, [GEF Program Financing: \$20,300,000] [GEF ID 10864]
 24. **St. Kitts and Nevis:** Achieving a rapid decarbonization of the energy sector in Saint Kitts and Nevis, UNEP, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 3,318,995] [GEF ID 10856]
 25. **India:** Improving thermal energy efficiency in the design, manufacture and operation of industrial boilers for low-carbon micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in India, UNIDO, [GEF Program Financing: \$ 2,664,690] [GEF ID 10878]
 26. **Regional (Ecuador, Peru):** Green Finance & Sustainable Agriculture in the Dry Forest Ecoregion of Ecuador and Peru, CAF, [GEF Program Financing: \$6,000,000] [GEF ID 10852]
4. With respect to the PIFs and Non-expedited Enabling Activity approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs and Non-expedited Enabling Activity (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the Work Program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.
5. With respect to any PIF and Non-expedited Enabling Activity approved in this Work Program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If there are major changes to the project objectives or scope since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.
6. With respect to the PFDs approved as part of the Work Program, the final child project documents fully incorporating and addressing the Council's and STAP reviews shall be circulated for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval.

Decision 29/2021 Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.61/07, [Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions](#), welcomes the report and requests the GEF network

to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities.

Decision 30/2021 Assessment of the Pilot on Adjusted Co-chairing Arrangements

1. The Council, having considered Document GEF/C.61/08, [Assessment of the Pilot on Adjusted Co-chairing Arrangements](#), recalls its decisions 22/2020 and 23/2020, and requests the Working Group on Governance to submit its assessment of the pilot co-chairing arrangement and options for the future, and recommendations as may be necessary, as requested in these decisions, at its 62nd meeting.
2. The Council further decides to extend the current pilot co-chairing arrangement until its 63rd Council meeting in December 2022.

Decision 31/2021 Note on the Organization of the 7th GEF Assembly

1. The Council, having considered Document GEF/C.61/09, [Note on the Organization of the Seventh GEF Assembly](#), approves \$1.7 million for the Special Initiative to fund the Organization of the Seventh Assembly.

Decision 32/2021 Management Response to Final Report of OPS7: Working Toward a Greener Global Recovery

1. The Council, having considered documents GEF/E/C.61/01, [Working Toward A Greener Global Recovery - Executive Summary of OPS7](#), GEF/E/C.61/Inf.01, [Working Toward A Greener Global Recovery - Final Report of OPS7](#), and GEF/C.61/10, the [Management Response](#), takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.

Decision 33/2021 Report of the Selection and Review Committee

1. The Council, having considered document GEF/C.61/11, *Report of the Selection and Review Committee (SRC)*:
 - a. Agrees with the SRC's assessment of the GEF CEO's performance for the Performance Year 21 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) and its recommended performance rating. The World Bank will provide its standard salary increase, in accordance with the World Bank's Merit Increase Matrix. The Council requests the SRC to communicate this decision to the World Bank Human Resource Department.

- b. Agrees with the SRC's assessment of the GEF IEO Director's performance for the Performance Year 21 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) and its recommended performance rating. The World Bank will provide its standard salary increase, in accordance with the World Bank's Merit Increase Matrix. The Council requests the SRC to communicate this decision to the World Bank Human Resource Department.
2. Takes note of the 2022 performance objectives for the GEF CEO and IEO Director and requests the SRC present the performance evaluations of the GEF CEO and IEO Director for the Council's review at its 63rd meeting.

Decision 34/2021 Dates for the 62nd Council Meeting

1. The Council, recalling its Decision 34/2020, decides that it will hold its 62nd meeting the week of June 20, 2022.

Decision 35/2021 Appointment of Members of the Ethics Committee

1. The Council, recalling its Decision 14/2020 and as prescribed in the [GEF Policy on Ethics and Conflict of Interest](#), approves the updated Membership of the Ethics Committee as follows:
 - a. Ms. Yoshiko Motoyama, Alternate Council Member of Japan, for a term of two years [until December of 2024] or until the expiration of her term as Council Member, whichever comes first. Ms. Motoyama will be Chair of the Ethics Committee.
 - b. Ms. Lavern Queeley, Council Member for Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, for a term of two years [until December 2024] or until the expiration of her term as Council Member, whichever comes first.
 - c. Mr. Miguel Stutzin, Council Member for Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, for a term of two years [until December 2024] or until the expiration of his term as Council Member, whichever comes first.
 - d. Mr. Gerard Bussier, Council Member for Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda, for a term of two years [until December 2024] or until the expiration of his term as Council Member, whichever comes first.

Decision 36/2021 Appointment of Members of the Working Group on Governance

1. The Council, recalling its Decisions 11/2020 and 23/2020, decides that the Working Group on Governance will be composed as follows:
 - a. Ms. Gabriela Blatter, Switzerland –Council Member of the Constituency of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.
 - b. Mr. Mathew Haarsager, United States – Council Member.
 - c. Mr. Tom Bui, Canada – Council Member
 - b. Mr. Richard Bontjer, Australia – Council Member of the Constituency of Australia, New Zealand and Republic of Korea.
 - c. Ms. Brenda Pequeño Vargas, Mexico –Council Member of the Constituency of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela.
 - d. Mr. Baba Drame, Senegal –Alternate Council Member of the Constituency of Burkina, Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and The Gambia.
 - e. Ms. Samantha Justin, St. Lucia –Alternate Council Member for the Constituency of Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Surinam, and Trinidad and Tobago.
 - f. Ms. Hoda Elshawadfy, Egypt –Council Member of the Constituency of Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia.

Decision 37/2021 Appointment of the Elected Chairperson for the Year 2022

1. The Council appoints as elected co-chair for the year 2022 Ambassador Aliioiga Feturi Elisaia, Council Member of the Constituency of Cook Islands, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.