



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S DISCUSSIONS

### SECOND GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK FUND COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 19, 2024

The following is a brief record prepared by the GEF Secretariat of comments, understandings, and clarifications made by Council members. These points are supplemental to the Joint Summary of the Chair, which records the decisions agreed by the Council. The full video of the Council meeting can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/GEFSecretariat>

#### ***Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting***

1. The CEO and Chairperson of the GEF, Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, and the Elected Chairperson, Mr. Dawda Badgie, opened the second Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) Council meeting.
2. An observer highlighted the importance of meaningful participation of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC), women, and youth in the GBFF.
3. The representative from the Québec Government Office in Washington DC addressed the participants about the roles of subnational governments in international cooperation and resource mobilization for tackling climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.
4. For video recording see:

<https://youtu.be/pSHo0G-X3kl?t=435> Minute 7:15

#### ***Agenda Item 2. Adoption of Agenda***

5. The Agenda was adopted.
6. For video recording see:

<https://youtu.be/pSHo0G-X3kl?t=2260> Minute 37:40

### ***Agenda Item 3. Terms of Reference for Advisory Group(s) and Auxiliary Body***

7. The Secretariat presented the council document, which reflected the comments raised during the first GBFF Council meeting as well as during consultations with stakeholders.
8. The Council members appreciated the Terms of Reference presented. Several Council members highlighted the importance of including non-sovereign and future contributors in the Advisory Group(s). Some Council members also noted the need to include diverse experts in the Auxiliary Body, taking into consideration geographical representation, while other members mentioned the importance of securing the independence, compactness, and frequent rotation of the Auxiliary Body and its experts.
9. A group of observers, emphasized the importance of reflecting the views and expertise of IPLC, women, and youth, as well as expertise on the non-material contribution of nature in the Advisory Group(s) and the Auxiliary Body.
10. For video recording see:

<https://youtu.be/pSHo0G-X3kl?t=2415> Minute 40:16 (Presentation)

<https://youtu.be/pSHo0G-X3kl?t=3272> Minute 54:32 (Council comments)

### ***Agenda Item 4. Work Program for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund***

11. The Secretariat presented the first GBFF Work Program, amounting to \$37.8 million, and also summarized the results of the first and second selection rounds.
12. Most Council members recognized the historic and swift development of this first Work Program.
13. Several Council members representing recipient countries requested the Secretariat to provide more detailed feedback on the results of the competitive selection process and provide a longer application period for the upcoming selection rounds.
14. Several Council members mentioned the importance of partnership with international finance institutions and balanced funding allocation in terms of geographical regions, as well as least developed countries and small island developing states.
15. For video recording see:

<https://youtu.be/pSHo0G-X3kl?t=8301> Minute 2:18:23 (Presentation)

<https://youtu.be/pSHo0G-X3kl?t=9139> Minute 2:32:19 (Council comments)

### ***Agenda Item 5. Other Business***

16. The Acting Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Mr. David Cooper, congratulated the Council and commended on how quickly the Council responded to the request of the 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to CBD to establish the fund, and invited donors to mobilize resources.

17. For video recording see:

<https://youtu.be/pSHo0G-X3kl?t=14339> Minute 3:58:59