

Excerpts from the Joint Summary of the Chairs & Highlights of the Council's Decisions, 42nd GEF Council Meeting, May 5th – 7th, 2012

Joint Summary of the Chairs

Decision on Agenda Item 13 Work Program

33. The Council, having reviewed document *GEF/C.42/06, Work Program*, approved the work program¹ comprising eighty four (84) project concepts and two programmatic approaches, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by June 21, 2012. Thirteen (13) other project concepts associated with previously approved programmatic approaches are also approved.

34. Total resources requested in this work program amounted to \$667.26 million which include GEF project grants and Agency fees. The approved work program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and Program Framework Documents (PFDs):

Biodiversity

1. **Global (Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mozambique, Timor Leste, Vanuatu)** : Enhancing the Conservation Effectiveness of Seagrass Ecosystems Supporting Globally Significant Populations of Dugong Across the Indian and Pacific Oceans Basins (Short Title: The Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project). (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,902,272)
2. **Argentina** : Strengthening of Governance for the Protection of Biodiversity through the Formulation and Implementation of the National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (NSIAS). (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,870,000)
3. **Azerbaijan** : Increasing Representation of Effectively Managed Marine Ecosystems in the Protected Area System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,291,500)
4. **Colombia** : Conservation of Biodiversity in Landscapes Impacted by Mining in the Choco Biogeographic Region (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,850,000)

¹ The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of its national legislation regarding its country's voting position for development projects financed by certain development institutions, opposed the project *Cuba: A Landscape Approach to the Conservation of Threatened Mountain Ecosystems*.

5. **Costa Rica** : Conservation, Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, and Maintenance of Ecosystem Services of Internationally Important Protected Wetlands (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,705,873)
6. **Costa Rica** : Sustainable Management of Ecosystem Services: A model for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Terrestrial Landscapes (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,485,330)
7. **Croatia** : Strengthening the Institutional and Financial Sustainability of the National Protected Area System (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,953,000)
8. **Cuba** : A Landscape Approach to the Conservation of Threatened Mountain Ecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,481,944)
9. **Ecuador** : Integrated Management of Marine and Coastal Areas of High Value for Biodiversity in Continental Ecuador (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,058,788)
10. **Ecuador** : Mainstreaming of the Use and Conservation of Agrobiodiversity in Public Policies through Integrated Strategies and In Situ Implementation in Three Provinces in the Andean Highlands. (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,250,000)
11. **Georgia** : Expansion and Improved Management Effectiveness of the Adjara Region's Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,283,636)
12. **Indonesia** : Enhancing the Protected Area System in Sulawesi (E-PASS) for Biodiversity Conservation (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,265,000)
13. **Indonesia** : Transforming Effectiveness of Biodiversity Conservation in Priority Sumatran Landscapes (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$9,000,000)
14. **Kenya** : Enhancing Wildlife Conservation in the Productive Southern Kenya Rangelands through a Landscape Approach Kenya (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,990,909)
15. **Mexico** : Enhancing National Capacities to Manage Invasive Alien Species (IAS) by Implementing the National Strategy on IAS (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,354,545)
16. **Mexico** : Integrating the Management of Protection and Production Areas for Biodiversity Conservation in the Sierra Tarahumara of Chihuahua (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,900,000)
17. **Philippines** : Strengthening the Marine Protected Area System to Conserve Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,000,000)
18. **South Africa** : Improving Management Effectiveness of the Protected Area Network (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$8,550,000)
19. **South Africa** : Strengthening Wildlife Forensic Capabilities to Combat Wildlife Crime for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Species (target: Rhinoceros) (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,690,455)

20. **Tanzania** : Kihansi Catchment Conservation and Management Project (World Bank)
(GEF Project Grant : \$5,980,554)
21. **Trinidad and Tobago** : Improving Forest and Protected Area Management (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,790,000)
22. **Uruguay** : Strengthening the Effectiveness of the National Protected Area System by Including a Landscape Approach to Management (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,621,000)
23. **Vietnam** : Conservation of Critical Wetland PAs and Linked Landscapes (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,180,287)

Climate Change

24. **Global (Antigua and Barbuda, Burkina Faso, Dominica, Fiji, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, Myanmar, Niue, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Suriname, Tuvalu, St. Vincent and Grenadines)** : Umbrella Programme for National Communication to the UNFCCC (UNEP)
(GEF Project Grant : \$7,210,000)
25. **Global (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Cote d'Ivoire, China, Georgia, India, Jamaica, Montenegro, Mauritius, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Vietnam)** : Stabilizing GHG Emissions from Road Transport through Doubling of Global Vehicle Fuel Economy: Regional Implementation of the Global Fuel Efficiency Initiative (GFEI) (UNEP)
(GEF Project Grant : \$1,713,637)
26. **Regional (Africa)** : AfDB-PPP Public-Private Partnership Program (AfDB) (GEF Project Grant : \$20,000,000)
27. **Regional (Africa)** : Pilot African Climate Technology Finance Center and Network² (AfDB)
(GEF Project Grant : \$9,090,000)
28. **Regional (Europe and Central Asia)** : Regional Climate Technology Transfer Center³ (EBRD)
(GEF Project Grant : \$9,090,909)
29. **Regional (Latin America and Caribbean)** : Climate Technology Transfer Mechanisms and Networks in Latin America and the Caribbean⁴ (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$9,082,500)
30. **Argentina** : Introduction of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Measures in Design, Construction and Operation of Social Housing and Community Equipment (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,281,838)
31. **Brazil** : Production of Sustainable, Renewable Biomass-based Charcoal for the Iron and Steel Industry in Brazil (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,150,000)

² This is a multi-trust fund project drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here. For the entire project, refer to Annex A-2 in the work program cover note.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

32. **Cameroon** : Promoting Investments in the Fight against Climate Change and Ecosystems Protection through Integrated Renewable Energy and Biomass Solutions for Productive Uses and Industrial Applications (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,000,000)
33. **China** : Establish Measurement and Verification System for Energy Efficiency in China (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$17,800,000)
34. **China** : Promoting Energy Efficiency in Industrial Heat Systems and High Energy-consuming (HEC) Equipment (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,375,000)
35. **China** : Urban-Scale Building Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$12,000,000)
36. **India** : Efficient and Sustainable City Bus Services (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$9,200,000)
37. **India** : Facility for Low Carbon Technology Deployment (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$9,000,000)
38. **India** : Partial Risk Sharing Facility for Energy Efficiency (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$18,000,000)
39. **India** : Promoting Industrial Energy Efficiency through Energy Management Standard, System Optimizatoin and Technology Incubation (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,465,455)
40. **Indonesia** : Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,500,000)
41. **Malaysia** : GHG Emissions Reductions in Targeted Industrial Sub-Sectors through EE and Application Of Solar Thermal Systems (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,000,000)
42. **Maldives** : Strengthening Low-Carbon Energy Island Strategies (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,885,000)
43. **Nepal** : Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihood (RERL) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,000,000)
44. **Peru** : Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions in the Energy Generation and End-Use Sectors (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,500,000)
45. **Timor Leste** : Promoting Sustainable Bio-energy Production from Biomass (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,743,000)
46. **Turkey** : Small and Medium Enterprise Energy Efficiency Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,640,000)
47. **Ukraine** : Development and Commercialization of Bioenergy Technologies (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,700,000)

48. **Uruguay** : Towards a Green Economy in Uruguay: Stimulating Sustainable Production Practices and Low-emission Technologies in Prioritized Sectors (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,392,727)
49. **Vietnam** : Promotion of Non-fired Brick (NFB) Production and Utilization (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,800,000)

International Waters

50. **Regional (Cook Islands, Fiji, Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Samoa)** : Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) (UNDP/FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,000,000)

Land Degradation

51. **Global (Afghanistan, Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Benin, Central African Republic, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Cook Islands, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Algeria, Gabon, Grenada, Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kenya, Comoros, St. Kitts And Nevis, Lao PDR, Sri Lanka, Liberia, Morocco, Moldova, Mongolia, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Nepal, Nauru, Niue, Philippines, Paraguay, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Sao Tome and Principe, Chad, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Vanuatu, Serbia, South Africa, Congo DR, Iraq)** : Support to GEF Eligible Parties for Alignment of National Action Programs and Reporting Process under UNCCD (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,830,000)
52. **China** : Shaanxi Weinan Luyang Integrated Saline and Alkaline Land Management (ADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,000,000)
53. **Namibia** : Sustainable Management of Namibia's Forested Lands (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,446,000)

Multi Focal Area

54. **Regional (Antigua And Barbuda, Barbados, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines)** : Implementing Integrated Land, Water & Wastewater Management in Caribbean SIDS (UNEP/UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$20,448,598)
55. **Regional (Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone)** : Mano River Union Ecosystem Conservation and International Water Resources Management (IWRM) Project (AfDB) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,336,364)

56. **Regional (Ecuador, Peru) :** Multiplying Environmental and Carbon Benefits in High Andean Ecosystems (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,796,364)
57. **Regional (Latin America and Caribbean) :** IDB-PPP MIF Public-Private Partnership Program (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$15,000,000)
58. **Regional (Mongolia, Russian Federation) :** Enhancing the Resilience of Pastoral Ecosystems and Livelihoods of Nomadic Herders (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,695,454)
59. **Afghanistan :** Establishing Integrated Models for Protected Areas and their Co-management (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,441,819)
60. **Albania :** Environmental Services Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,884,848)
61. **Bosnia-Herzegovina :** Sustainable Forest and Abandoned Land Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,575,757)
62. **Brazil :** Consolidation of National System of Conservation Units (SNUC) and Enhanced Flora and Fauna Protection (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$32,621,820)
63. **Brazil :** Recovery and Protection of Climate and Biodiversity Services in the Paraiba do Sul Basin of the Atlantic Forest of Brazil (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$26,670,000)
64. **Cameroon :** Sustainable Forest Management under the Authority of Cameroonian Councils (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,573,333)
65. **Chile :** Supporting Civil Society and Community Initiatives to Generate Global Environmental Benefits Using Grants and Micro Loans in the Mediterranean Ecoregion (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,311,614)
66. **China :** Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Management in the Soda Saline-alkaline Wetlands Agro Pastoral Landscapes in the Western Area of the Jilin Province (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,627,000)
67. **Cote d'Ivoire :** Integrated Management of Protected Areas in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,240,000)
68. **Ecuador :** Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, Forests, Soil and Water to Achieve the Good Living (Buen Vivir / Sumac Kasay) in the Napo Province (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,628,283)
69. **India :** Integrated Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Services Improvement (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$20,500,000)
70. **Kyrgyz Republic :** Sustainable Management of Mountainous Forest and Land Resources under Climate Change Conditions (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,454,545)
71. **Malaysia :** Improving Connectivity in the Central Forest Spine (CFS) Landscape - IC-CFS (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,860,000)

72. **Mexico** : Conservation of Coastal Watersheds in Changing Environments (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$39,518,181)
73. **Mongolia** : Securing Forest Ecosystems through Participatory Management and Benefit Sharing (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,586,364)
74. **Namibia** : Namibian Coast Conservation and Management Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,925,000)
75. **Paraguay** : Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land Management into Production Practices in all Bioregions and Biomes (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,861,817)
76. **Rwanda** : Landscape Approach to Forest Restoration and Conservation (LAFREC)⁵ (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,487,000)
77. **Turkey** : Sustainable Land Management and Climate Friendly Agriculture (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,750,000)
78. **Vietnam** : Implementation of Eco-industrial Park Initiative for Sustainable Industrial Zones in Vietnam (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,524,000)

Ozone Depleting Substances

79. **Azerbaijan** : Initiation of the HCFCs Phase out and Promotion of HFCs-Free Energy Efficient Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Systems (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,620,000)

POPs

80. **Regional (Botswana, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe)** : Demonstration of Effectiveness of Diversified, Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Interventions, and Strengthening National Capacity for Innovative Implementation of Integrated Vector Management (IVM) for Disease Prevention and Control in the WHO AFRO Region (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$15,491,700)
81. **Regional (Ghana, Madagascar, Rwanda, Tanzania)** : Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,453,195)
82. **Armenia** : Elimination of Obsolete Pesticide Stockpiles and Addressing POPs Contaminated Sites within a Sound Chemicals Management Framework (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,700,000)
83. **China** : Reduction of POPs and PTS Release by Environmentally Sound Management throughout the Life Cycle of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Associated Wastes in China (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$11,650,000)

⁵ This is a multi-trust fund project drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here. For the entire project, refer to Annex A-2 in the work program cover note.

- 84. **Ecuador** : Integrated and Environmentally Sound PCBs Management in Ecuador (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,000,000)
- 85. **Lao PDR** : Strengthening POPs Management Capacities and Demonstration of PCB Destruction at the Energy Sector (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,400,000)
- 86. **Russian Federation** : Environmentally Sound Management and Final Disposal of PCBs at the Russian Railroad Network and Other PCB Owners (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,400,000)

Sub-projects of Previously Approved Programmatic Approaches⁶

Biodiversity

- 87. **China: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the Protected Area Network in the Daxing'anling Landscape** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,544,679) *under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program*
- 88. **China: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the Wetland Protected Area System in Anhui Province** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,654,771) *under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program*
- 89. **China: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the Wetland Protected Area System in Hainan for Conservation of Globally Significant Biodiversity** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,634,771) *under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program*
- 90. **China: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the Wetland Protected Area System in Hubei Province** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,654,771) *under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program*
- 91. **China: Piloting Provincial Level Wetland Protected Area System in Jiangxi Province** (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,289,000) *under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program*

Multi-focal Area

- 92. **Global: Oceans Finance Facility to Finance Effective Management and Transition Reform of Oceanic Fisheries** (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$9,174,311) *under the ABNJ Global*

⁶ Following the procedures established for programmatic approaches applicable to all GEF Agencies, the final project documents of these sub-projects will be circulated to Council for four weeks before the CEO can endorse them.

Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program

93. **Global: Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation of Deep-sea Living Marine Resources and Ecosystems in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction** (FAO/UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$7,315,597) *under the ABNJ Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program*
- 13.
94. **Cambodia: Collaborative Management for Watershed and Ecosystem Service Protection and Rehabilitation in the Cardamom Mountains, Upper Prek Thnot River Basin** (ADB) (GEF Project Grant: \$1,100,917) *under the GMS-FBP Greater Mekong Sub-region Forests and Biodiversity Program*
95. **Lao PDR: Strengthening Protection and Management Effectiveness for Wildlife and Protected Areas** (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$6,825,688) *under the GMS-FBP Greater Mekong Sub-region Forests and Biodiversity Program*
96. **Thailand: Strengthening Capacity and Incentives for Wildlife Conservation in the Western Forest Complex** (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$7,339,450) *under the GMS-FBP Greater Mekong Sub-region Forests and Biodiversity Program*
97. **Russian Federation: Arctic Environment Project (Financial Mechanism for Environmental Rehabilitation in Arctic)** (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$5,504,587) *under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)*
98. **Russian Federation: Improvement of Environmental Governance and Knowledge Management for SAP-Arctic Implementation** (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$2,178,978) *under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)*
99. **Russian Federation: Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) for Major Siberian Arctic Rivers to Achieving Comprehensive Benefits** (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$1,743,162) *under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)*
- 14.
35. With respect to the three regional projects namely:
- Regional (Africa) : Pilot African Climate Technology Finance Center and Network
 - Regional (Europe and Central Asia) : Regional Climate Technology Transfer Center

- Regional (Latin America and Caribbean) : Climate Technology Transfer Mechanisms and Networks in Latin America and the Caribbean

the Council reaffirmed that the GEF stands ready to continue to support the operationalization and activities of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) in response to UNFCCC Decision 2/CP.17, and in line with GEF procedures.

36. Furthermore, the Council approved them with the understanding that they will seek, as appropriate, to collaborate with the future Climate Technology Centre to be set up in the framework of the UNFCCC.

37. With respect to the PIFs approved as part of the work program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs (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.

38. With respect to any PIF approved in this work program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If the GEF CEO determines that there have been major changes to the project scope and approach since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

39. The detailed funding decisions taken by the Council during this 42nd Council meeting are included in Table 1 annexed to this Joint Summary of the Chairs.

Highlights of the Council Decisions

Agenda Item 13 Work Program

15. The Council unanimously expressed its support and satisfaction with the robustness of the work program and congratulated the Secretariat, the donors, the countries, STAP and the GEF Agencies for a job well done.

16. A number of Council Members expressed concern regarding the lack of international waters projects, which is an area of importance for SIDS and coastal countries. Other Council Members also noted the absence of projects within the SIDS constituency and expressed hope to see more support for SIDS projects in subsequent work programs. One Council Member commented on the reason for having few projects in the SIDS countries as due to the lack of good executing agencies.

17. Several Council Members expressed concern over the low level of projects approved under the International Waters focal area; noting that these represented less than 4% of the total work program. The Secretariat was requested to ensure a more robust programming under this focal area in order to ensure that the amount allocated under GEF-5 is assigned. It was noted that it would be a shame if the so-called “Tragedy of the Commons” were to be repeated in GEF allocations.

18. The CEO clarified that not every work program can be fully balanced, in terms of geographical diversity, focal area, or resource allocations as submissions vary from work program to work program. Besides, the GEF is only halfway through its current replenishment cycle; at the end of the replenishment period, a better judgment can be made on whether there is a balance in the division of resources geographically or by focal area.

19. Several Council Members highlighted a number of outstanding and innovative projects and expressed their satisfaction regarding their inclusion in the work program. One Council Member welcomed the inclusion of the two public-private partnership programmatic approaches and suggested that as part of GEF Secretariat review of individual projects under the programs, particular attention be paid to ensure that the projects meet the global environmental benefits, and adhere to GEF environmental and social safeguards.

20. Several Council Members representing the SIDS raised the issue of the increasing difficulties faced by SIDS in providing the co-financing required of their projects and asked if there could be some flexibility. They also requested a review of the Global Environmental Benefits Index in the STAR to strengthen the marine biodiversity index.

21. Several Council Members expressed concerns about the three regional projects on climate technology transfer submitted in the work program in view of the on-going negotiations under the framework of the UNFCCC, and affirmed that these projects be developed for complementarity vis-à-vis with the CTCN network.

22. One Council Member requested the Secretariat to give more technical support for capacity building, particularly in the development of projects in Africa.

23. One Council Member expressed satisfaction on the number of multi-focal area projects in the work program.
24. The CSO representative provided analysis on the work program and expressed concern that there are projects that have not referenced CSO involvement and urged Council that public involvement policy be more forcefully applied in GEF projects.
25. A Council Member requested clarification on how the GEF would have surpassed the overall GEF-5 program target in million tonnes of CO² equivalent with the climate mitigation projects presented in the work program. The CEO pointed out that the question was fully explained by paragraph 37 in the cover note.
26. Several Council Members, including the CSO representative, have indicated that they will provide written comments on some projects to the GEF Secretariat for consideration by the Agencies.