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GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

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Excerpts from the Joint Summary of the Chairs & Highlights of the Council's Decisions, 32nd GEF Council Meeting, November 14–17, 2007

Decisions of the Council

Decision on Agenda Item 12 Work Program

The Council reviewed the proposed work program submitted to Council in document GEF/C.32/6 Rev. 1 (with a total in GEF financing of **\$237.46** million), subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted to the Secretariat by Nov. 30, 2007.

The approved work program is comprised of 26 free-standing Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and three programmatic approaches, which contain 14 PIFs as follows:

Free-Standing PIFs

Biodiversity

- **Regional (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam)** : Development and Application of Decision-support Tools to Conserve and Sustainably use Genetic Diversity in Indigenous Livestock and Wild Relatives (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 1.98 m)
- **Brazil** : Rio Grande Do Sul Biodiversity Conservation (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **Brazil** : Espirito Santo Biodiversity and Watershed Conservation and Restoration Project (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.00 m)
- **Chile** : Building a Comprehensive National Protected Areas System: A Financial and Operational Framework (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **Ecuador** : Management of Chimborazo's Natural Resources (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.90 m)
- **Indonesia** : Citarum Watershed Management and Biodiversity Conservation Project (ADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.75 m)

- **Peru** : Strengthening Biodiversity Conservation through the National Protected Areas Program (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 8.89 m)
- **Ukraine** : Strengthening Governance and Financial Sustainability of the National Protected Area System (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 1.80 m)

Climate Change

- **Global** : Global Market Transformation for Efficient Lighting (UNEP/UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **China** : Enabling China to Prepare Its Second National Communications to UNFCCC (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.00 m)
- **China** : Market Transformation of Energy-Efficient Bricks and Rural Buildings (MTEBRB) (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 7.00 m)
- **China** : Thermal Power Efficiency (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 19.70 m)
- **India** : Sustainable Urban Transport Project (World Bank/UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 22.50 m)
- **Indonesia** : Geothermal Power Generation Development Program (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.00 m)
- **Indonesia** : Micro-turbine Cogeneration Technology Application Project (MCTAP) (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.59 m)
- **Thailand** : Promoting Renewable Energy in Mae Hong Son Province (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.99 m)
- **Global (Yemen)** : Adaptation to Climate Change Using Agrobiodiversity Resources in the Rainfed Highlands of Yemen (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.00 m)

International Waters

- **Regional (Angola, Namibia, South Africa)** : Implementation of the Benguela Current LME Action Program for Restoring Depleted Fisheries and Reducing Coastal Resources Degradation (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.14 m)
- **Regional (Antigua And Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago)** : Sustainable Management of the Shared Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 7.08 m)
- **Regional (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela)** : Integrated and Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Resources in the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 7.00 m)

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

- **Ghana** : Capacity Building for PCB Elimination (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 3.50 m)
- **Mexico** : Environmentally Sound Management and Destruction of PCBs (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.63 m)
- **Morocco** : Safe Management and Disposal of PCBs (UNDP/UNIDO) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.76 m)
- **Russian Federation** : Building the Capacity of the Russian Federation to Implement the Stockholm Convention on POPs and Develop a National Implementation Plan (UNEP) (GEF Grant : \$ 1.44 m)¹
- **Tunisia** : Demonstrating and Promoting Best Techniques and Practices for Managing Healthcare Waste and PCBs (World Bank) (GEF Grant : \$ 5.50 m)
- **Vietnam** : Building Capacity to Eliminate POPs Pesticides Stockpiles (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.30 m)

Programmatic Approaches

The Council, having reviewed the three Programmatic Approaches, identified below, endorses the overall objectives and scope of the Approaches and approves the associated PIFs presented in this work program as follows:

China Biodiversity Partnership Framework for Action

- **China** : CBPF Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Headwaters of the Huaihe River Basin (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.73 m)
- **China** : CBPF Priority Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Development to Implement the China Biodiversity Partnership and Framework for Action (UNDP) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.54 m)
- **China** : CBPF Shaanxi Qinling Mountains Integrated Ecosystem Development (ADB) (GEF Grant : \$ 4.27 m)

Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

- **Brazil** : SFM Catalyzing the Contribution of Indigenous Lands to the Conservation of Brazil's Forest Ecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 6.00 m)

¹ This project will not be CEO endorsed until Russia deposits its Instrument of Ratification to the Stockholm Convention with the United Nations in New York.

- **Mongolia:** SFM Forest Landscapes Development and Conservation (World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$ 1.73 m)
- **Russian Federation :** SFM - Strengthening Protected Area System of the Komi Republic to Conserve Virgin Forest Biodiversity in the Pechora River Headwaters Region (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 4.50 m)
- **Tanzania:** SFM Extending the Coastal Forest Protected Area Subsystem (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 3.55 m)
- **Global :** SFM Carbon Benefits Project (CBP): Modeling, Measurement, and Monitoring (UNEP/World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$ 5.00 m)
- **Regional (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Brunei) :** SFM Rehabilitation and Sustainable Use of Peatland Forests in South-East Asia (IFAD) (GEF Grant: \$ 4.51 m)
- **Indonesia :** SFM Strengthening Community Based Forest and Watershed Management (SCBFWM) (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$ 7.00 m)
- **Iran :** SFM Rehabilitation of Forest Landscapes and Degraded Land with Particular Attention to Saline Soils and Areas Prone to Wind Erosion (FAO) (GEF Grant : \$ 2.67 m)²
- **Paraguay:** SFM Improving the Conservation of Biodiversity in Atlantic Forest of Eastern Paraguay (World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$ 4.50 m)

India Country Partnership Program: Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management (SLEM)

- **India:** SLEM/PPP-Sustainable Land Management in Shifting Cultivation Areas of Nagaland for Ecological and Livelihood Security (UNDP) (GEF Grant: \$3.6 m)
- **India:** SLEM/PPP-Sustainable Rural Livelihood Security through Innovations in Land and Ecosystem Management (World Bank) (GEF Grant: \$10 m)

For all programmatic approaches, the Council requests that future PIFs to be financed under these programmatic approaches are included in work programs submitted to the Council for approval.

With respect to any PIF approved in this work program, either under one of the programmatic approaches or as a stand alone PIF, the Council requests the Secretariat to arrange for Council Members to receive a copy of the draft final project document that is submitted to the CEO for endorsement. Council Members may transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concern they may have prior to the CEO endorsing a project document for final approval by a GEF Agency.

² 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 this objective.

With respect to the *Regional (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa) : Development and Adoption of a Strategic Action Program for Balancing Water Uses and Sustainable Natural Resource Management in the Orange-Senqu River Transboundary Basin* project, the Council withholds its approval of the project pending resolution of the project financing issues. When the issues are resolved, the project maybe resubmitted at the next Council meeting.

Highlights of the Council Decisions

Agenda Item 12 Work Program

33. A number of Council Members praised the work program that was prepared under the new project cycle. The Project Identification Form (PIF) included in the work program was generally viewed as very solid, providing a great deal of information; although a suggestion was made that the PIF should also include short sections to address sustainability and replicability at the outset at project level.
34. Some Council Members commented that the quality of the PIFs in the work program was uneven; since some contain comprehensive information, while others contain very little information. Suggestions were made to further harmonize the format and provide a standardized approach.
35. Council Members requested that a new program document be designed specifically for the programmatic approach, and used in the place of PIFs.
36. A few Council Members also expressed satisfaction on STAP's upstream project review and welcomed the news that the comments of STAP would be published on the web.
37. One Council Member expressed interest in receiving more information on co-financing for the work program. In response, the CEO suggested that in the next work program, information regarding co-financing details, such as how much governments, bilateral agencies, private sector, and NGOs, are contributing, will be provided.
38. A section in the Project Cycle paper that was approved by Council in June 2007 impeded the speed of processing PIFs linked to programmatic approaches. It was proposed that an amendment on the project cycle paper be made to improve the processing of projects submitted under the programmatic approach. The amendment would allow subsequent projects (PIFs) financed under the program to be submitted to the GEF Secretariat on a rolling basis for inclusion in the first work program available, whether for a Council meeting or through an intercessional work program. The GEF Secretariat will respond to demand to expedite the project cycle by increasing the number of intercessional work programs on a trial basis for review by Council in April.

39. The Council Member representing India provided a presentation on the India Sustainable Land Management Program.

40. The Council Member representing China also provided a presentation of its Biodiversity Partnership Framework for Action (CBPF) included in this work program. China has decided to use its full RAF allocation in biodiversity for this program.