Excerpts from the Joint Summary of the Chairs & Highlights of the Council’s Decisions, 54th GEF Council Meeting, June 2018

Joint Summary of the Chairs

Decision on Agenda Item 17                 Work Program

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.54/14, Work Program for GEF Trust Fund, approves the Work Program comprising 8 projects and one program concept, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by July 24, 2018.

2. Total resources approved in this Work Program amounted to $63.4 million which include GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and Program Framework Document (PFD):

Climate Change

1. **Global (Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, St. Lucia, Moldova, Madagascar, Mongolia, Mauritius, Niue, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Solomon Islands, Vietnam):** Umbrella Program for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports to the UNFCCC (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 7,383,040) GEF ID 10019

2. **Equatorial Guinea:** Promoting Community-based Forestry for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Livelihoods in Equatorial Guinea: (FAO) ($ 5,329,455) GEF ID 100341

3. **Nauru:** Supporting Mainstreamed Achievement of Roadmap Targets on Energy in Nauru (SMARTEN) (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 3,302,968) GEF ID 9974

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1 The United States, in light of its policies for certain development projects in countries whose governments do not have in place a functioning and transparent military audit and have violated human rights, abstains from participating in the decision on the Promoting Community-Based Forestry for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Livelihoods project in Equatorial Guinea.
International Waters

4. **Regional (Bhutan, India):** Manas Integrated River Basin Management Project (WWF-US) (GEF Financing: $ 8,974,312) GEF ID 10033

5. **Regional (Burkina Faso, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Togo):** Reversing Ecosystem and Water Degradation in the Volta River Basin (REWarD-Volta River Basin) (UNEP/IUCN) (GEF Financing: $ 7,122,566) GEF ID 9910

Land Degradation

6. **Lesotho:** Integrated Watershed Management for Improved Agro-pastoral Livelihoods in the Sepabala Sub-catchment (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 2,101,826) GEF ID 10020

Programmatic Approaches

7. **Regional (Bangladesh, Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Maldives, Malaysia, Thailand):** Sustainable Management of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (FAO/ADB) (GEF Financing: $ 14,266,055) GEF ID 9909

Multi Focal Area

8. **Regional (Marshall Islands, Palau, Tuvalu):** Managing Coastal Aquifers in Selected Pacific SIDS (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 5,261,356) GEF ID 10041

9. **Sao Tome and Principe:** Enhancing Capacity for Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Area Management (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 4,262,559) GEF ID 10007

3. 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.

4. 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 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. be circulated for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval.

5. The Detailed funding decisions taken by the Council during this 54th session of the work program is part of the associated Annex 1 appended to this Joint Summary of the Chairs.
Highlights of the Council Decisions

Agenda Item 17  Work Program

1. Council members welcomed the priority given to the SIDS and LDCs and the balance among focal areas.

2. Some Council members expressed the need for more information on organization participating, on co financing, on transparency, on the role of NGO/CSOs and private sector engagement.