



Naoko Ishii
CEO and Chairperson

April 19, 2016

Dear Council Member:

I am writing with reference to my letter of March 15, 2016, under cover of which we circulated for GEF Council review and approval of the April 2016 Intersessional Work Program.

I am pleased to inform you that the Council has approved by mail the proposed work program as amended.

The approved decision, taking into account Council Members' comments, reads as follows:

The GEF Council reviewed the proposed work program¹ posted on March 15, 2016, and approves the work program as amended, comprising of the following 34 stand-alone Project Identification Forms (PIFs) subject to the comments submitted to the Secretariat by April 12, 2016:

Non-Grant Instrument Projects

- 1. Regional (Africa) : Investing in Renewable Energy Project Preparation under the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA)(non-grant) (AfDB) (GEF Project Financing : \$10,000,000) GEF ID 9043***
- 2. Regional (Indonesia, Philippines) : The Meloy Fund : A Fund for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in SE Asia (non-grant) (CI) (GEF Project Financing : \$6,000,000) GEF ID 9370***

¹ The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of its policies for certain development projects, opposed the following projects: 1) ***Regional (Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Chad): Enabling Implementation of the Regional SAP for the Rational and Equitable Management of the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System (UNDP)***, 2) ***Regional (Central African Republic, Congo, Cameroon, Kenya, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe): Regional project on the Development of National Action Plans for the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Africa (UNEP)***, 3) ***Regional (Africa): Investing in Renewable Energy Project Preparation under the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (AfDB)***; and abstained from participating in the decision on the following projects: 1) ***Belarus : GEF-6 POPs Legacy and Sustainable Chemicals Management (UNDP)***, and 2) ***China : Capacity Strengthening For Implementation Of Minamata Convention On Mercury (World Bank)***

Multi Focal Area Projects

3. **Regional (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar) : Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems in Mekong Countries (IUCN)** (GEF Project Financing : \$2,907,064) GEF ID 9232
4. **Regional (Guatemala, Honduras) : Integrated Environmental Management of the Río Motagua Watershed (UNDP)** (GEF Project Financing : \$5,329,452) GEF ID 9246
5. **Afghanistan : Community-based sustainable land and forest management in Afghanistan (FAO)** (GEF Project Financing : \$10,495,873) GEF ID 9285
6. **Bolivia : Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Bolivia (UNDP)** (GEF Project Financing : \$3,634,703) GEF ID 9248
7. **Ecuador : Implementation of the Strategic Plan of Ecuador's Mainland Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network (CI)** (GEF Project Financing : \$5,813,303) GEF ID 9369
8. **Guatemala : Promoting Sustainable and Resilient Landscapes in the Central Volcanic Chain (UNDP)** (GEF Project Financing : \$11,144,497) GEF ID 9059
9. **Madagascar : Sustainable Agriculture Landscape Project (World Bank)** (GEF Project Financing : \$13,699,083) GEF ID 9330
10. **Mexico : Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Mexico (UNDP)** (GEF Project Financing : \$4,429,223) GEF ID 9167
11. **Myanmar : Rural Productivity and Ecosystems Services Enhanced in Central Dry Zone Forest Reserves (ADB)** (GEF Project Financing : \$4,650,000) GEF ID 9267
12. **Pakistan : Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Pakistan (UNDP)** (GEF Project Financing : \$2,659,726) GEF ID 9331
13. **Palau : Integrating Biodiversity Safeguards and Conservation into Development in Palau (UNDP)** (GEF Project Financing : \$4,233,562) GEF ID 9208
14. **Peru : Sustainable Management of Agro-Biodiversity and Vulnerable Ecosystems Recuperation in Peruvian Andean Regions Through Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems GIAHS Approach (FAO)** (GEF Project Financing : \$9,369,864) GEF ID 9092
15. **Serbia : Contribution of Sustainable Forest Management to a Low Emission and Resilient Development (FAO)** (GEF Project Financing : \$3,274,658) GEF ID 9089
16. **Uzbekistan : Sustainable Management of Forests in Mountain and Valley Areas (FAO)** (GEF Project Financing : \$3,187,023) GEF ID 9190

Biodiversity Projects

17. **Brazil: National Strategy for Conservation of Threatened Species (PROSPECIES) (FUNBIO)** (GEF Project Financing: \$13,435,000) GEF ID 9271
18. **Chile : Establish a Network of National Important Agricultural Heritage Sites (NIAHS) (FAO)** (GEF Project Financing : \$3,046,347) GEF ID 9068
19. **Djibouti : Mitigating Key Sector Pressures on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity and Further Strengthening the National System of Marine Protected Areas in Djibouti (UNDP)** (GEF Project Financing : \$2,822,374) GEF ID 9215
20. **South Africa : Development of Value Chains for Products derived from Genetic Resources in Compliance with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and the National Biodiversity Economy Strategy (UNDP)** (GEF Project Financing : \$6,210,046) GEF ID 9255

21. **Turkey** : Addressing Invasive Alien Species Threats at Key Marine Biodiversity Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$3,344,654) GEF ID 9233

Climate Change Projects

22. **India** : Grid-Connected Rooftop Solar PV Program (World Bank) (GEF Project Financing : \$22,935,780) GEF ID 9249
23. **Tonga** : Outer Island Renewable Energy Project (ADB) (GEF Project Financing : \$2,639,269) GEF ID 9355

International Waters Projects

24. **Regional (Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Chad)** : Enabling Implementation of the Regional SAP for the Rational and Equitable Management of the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System (NSAS). (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$3,990,000) GEF ID 9165
25. **Regional (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone)** : West Africa Regional Fisheries Program, Additional Financing (World Bank) (GEF Project Financing : \$10,000,000) GEF ID 9360

Land Degradation Project

26. **Global** : Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Project (IUCN) (GEF Project Financing : \$2,752,294) GEF ID 9365

Chemicals and Waste Projects

27. **Regional (Central African Republic, Congo, Cameroon, Kenya, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe)** : Regional Project on the Development of National Action Plans for the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Africa (UNEP) (GEF Project Financing : \$4,000,000) GEF ID 9276
28. **Belarus** : GEF-6 POPs Legacy and Sustainable Chemicals Management (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$8,400,000) GEF ID 8017
29. **China** : Capacity Strengthening for Implementation of Minamata Convention on Mercury (World Bank) (GEF Project Financing : \$8,000,000) GEF ID 9240
30. **Ecuador** : National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Live Cycle Management of Chemical Substances (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$8,490,000) GEF ID 9203
31. **Jordan** : Reduction and Elimination of POPs and Other Chemical Releases through Implementation of Environmentally Sound Management of E-Waste, Healthcare Waste and Priority U-POPs Release Sources Associated with General Waste Management Activities (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$5,090,000) GEF ID 9189
32. **Mexico** : Environmentally Sound Management and Destruction of PCBs in Mexico: Second Phase (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$4,800,000) GEF ID 9214
33. **Nigeria** : Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$6,930,000) GEF ID 9236
34. **Thailand** : Greening the Scrap Metal Value Chain through Promotion of BAT/BEP to Reduce U-POPs Releases from Recycling Facilities (UNIDO) (GEF Project Financing : \$4,500,000) GEF ID 9222

With respect to the following two PIFs approved as part of the work program, the Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for Council Members to receive draft final project documents at least four weeks prior to the CEO endorsing the project document for final approval by the GEF Agency to provide Council Members the opportunity to transmit to the CEO any concerns they may have:

- 1) **Regional (Indonesia, Philippines) : The Meloy Fund : A Fund for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in SE Asia (non-grant) (CI) GEF ID 9370**
- 2) **South Africa : Development of Value Chains for Products derived from Genetic Resources in Compliance with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and the National Biodiversity Economy Strategy (UNDP)) GEF ID 9255**

With respect to the following three PIFs, the Council requests that the project proposals be deferred for consideration at the June 2016 Council meeting:

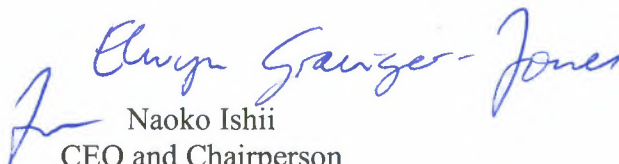
- 1) **Cameroon : Integrated Sustainable Urban Development (SUDP) and Environmentally Sound Management of Municipal Solid Waste Project in Cameroon (AfDB) (GEF Project Financing : \$7,956,880) GEF ID 9234**
- 2) **Kazakhstan : Conservation and Sustainable Management of Key Globally Important Ecosystems for Multiple Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$8,069,178) GEF ID 9193**
- 3) **Pakistan : Pakistan Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing : \$4,644,521) GEF ID 9231**

With respect to all PIFs approved in this 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.

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.

The detailed funding decisions taken by the Council is appended as Annex 1.

Sincerely yours,


Naoko Ishii
CEO and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility

cc: Alternates, all those invited to Council meetings

Global Environment Facility

**Table 1: Record of GEF Trust Fund Resources Requested for Projects/Programs and Resulting Council Decisions
Inter-Sessional Work Program, April 19, 2016**

GEF ID	Agency	Title	Country	Project Funding Amounts Requested for Funding in US\$			Project Funding Amounts Approved by Council in US\$				
				Project Financing Requested	Agency Fee Requested	Total Amount Requested	Project Financing Approved	Agency Fee Approved	Total Amount Approved	40% of Agency fee to be committed by Trustee	
<u>Non-Grant Instrument Projects</u>											
1	9043	AfDB	Investing in Renewable Energy Project Preparation under the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) (Non-grant)	Regional (Africa)	10,000,000	950,000	10,950,000	10,000,000	950,000	10,950,000	380,000
2	9370	CI	The Meloy Fund : A Fund for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in SE Asia (Non-grant)	Regional (Indonesia, Philippines)	6,000,000	540,000	6,540,000	6,000,000	540,000	6,540,000	216,000
<u>Sub-total Non-Grant Instrument Projects</u>					16,000,000	1,490,000	17,490,000	16,000,000	1,490,000	17,490,000	596,000
<u>Multi Focal Area Projects</u>											
3	9232	IUCN	Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems in Mekong Countries	Regional (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar)	2,907,064	261,636	3,168,700	2,907,064	261,636	3,168,700	104,654
4	9246	UNDP	Integrated Environmental Management of the Rio Motagua Watershed	Regional (Guatemala, Honduras)	5,329,452	506,298	5,835,750	5,329,452	506,298	5,835,750	202,519
5	9285	FAO	Community-based Sustainable Land and Forest Management in Afghanistan	Afghanistan	10,495,873	944,628	11,440,501	10,495,873	944,628	11,440,501	377,851
6	9248	UNDP	Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Bolivia	Bolivia	3,634,703	345,297	3,980,000	3,634,703	345,297	3,980,000	138,119
7	9369	CI	Implementation of the Strategic Plan of Ecuador Mainland Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Network	Ecuador	5,813,303	523,197	6,336,500	5,813,303	523,197	6,336,500	209,279
8	9059	UNDP	Promoting Sustainable and Resilient Landscapes in the Central Volcanic Chain	Guatemala	11,144,497	1,003,004	12,147,501	11,144,497	1,003,004	12,147,501	401,202
9	9330	World Bank	Sustainable Agriculture Landscape Project	Madagascar	13,699,083	1,232,917	14,932,000	13,699,083	1,232,917	14,932,000	493,167
10	9167	UNDP	Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Mexico	Mexico	4,429,223	420,777	4,850,000	4,429,223	420,777	4,850,000	168,311
11	9267	ADB	Rural Productivity and Ecosystems Services Enhanced in Central Dry Zone Forest Reserves	Myanmar	4,650,000	441,750	5,091,750	4,650,000	441,750	5,091,750	176,700
12	9331	UNDP	Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Pakistan	Pakistan	2,659,726	252,674	2,912,400	2,659,726	252,674	2,912,400	101,070
13	9208	UNDP	Integrating Biodiversity Safeguards and Conservation into development in Palau	Palau	4,233,562	402,188	4,635,750	4,233,562	402,188	4,635,750	160,875
14	9092	FAO	Sustainable Management of Agro-Biodiversity and Vulnerable Ecosystems Recuperation in Peruvian Andean Regions Through Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems GIAHS Approach	Peru	9,369,864	890,136	10,260,000	9,369,864	890,136	10,260,000	356,054
15	9089	FAO	Contribution of Sustainable Forest Management to a Low Emission and Resilient Development	Serbia	3,274,658	311,092	3,585,750	3,274,658	311,092	3,585,750	124,437
16	9190	FAO	Sustainable Management of Forests in Mountain and Valley Areas	Uzbekistan	3,187,023	302,767	3,489,790	3,187,023	302,767	3,489,790	121,107
<u>Sub-total Multi Focal Area Projects</u>					84,828,031	7,838,361	92,666,392	84,828,031	7,838,361	92,666,392	3,135,344
<u>Biodiversity</u>											
17	9271	Funbio	National Strategy for Conservation of Threatened Species (PROSPECIES)	Brazil	13,435,000	1,209,150	14,644,150	13,435,000	1,209,150	14,644,150	483,660
18	9068	FAO	Establish a Network of National Important Agricultural Heritage Sites (NIAHS)	Chile	3,046,347	289,403	3,335,750	3,046,347	289,403	3,335,750	115,761
19	9215	UNDP	Mitigating Key Sector Pressures on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity and Further Strengthening the National System of Marine Protected Areas in Djibouti	Djibouti	2,822,374	268,126	3,090,500	2,822,374	268,126	3,090,500	107,250
20	9255	UNDP	Development of Value Chains for Products derived from Genetic Resources in Compliance with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and the National Biodiversity Economy Strategy	South Africa	6,210,046	589,954	6,800,000	6,210,046	589,954	6,800,000	235,982
21	9233	UNDP	Addressing Invasive Alien Species Threats at Key Marine Biodiversity Areas	Turkey	3,344,654	317,742	3,662,396	3,344,654	317,742	3,662,396	127,097
<u>Sub-total Biodiversity</u>					28,858,421	2,674,375	31,532,796	28,858,421	2,674,375	31,532,796	1,069,750

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**Table 1: Record of GEF Trust Fund Resources Requested for Projects/Programs and Resulting Council Decisions
Intersessional Work Program, April 19, 2016**

GEF ID	Agency	Title	Country	Project Funding Amounts Requested for Funding in US\$			Project Funding Amounts Approved by Council in US\$				
				Project Financing Requested	Agency Fee Requested	Total Amount Requested	Project Financing Approved	Agency Fee Approved	Total Amount Approved	40% of Agency fee to be committed by Trustee	
<u>Climate Change</u>											
22	9249	World Bank	Grid-Connected Rooftop Solar PV Program	India	22,935,780	2,064,220	25,000,000	22,935,780	2,064,220	25,000,000	825,688
23	9355	ADB	Outer Island Renewable Energy Project	Tonga	2,639,269	250,731	2,890,000	2,639,269	250,731	2,890,000	100,292
<u>Sub-total Climate Change</u>					25,575,049	2,314,951	27,890,000	25,575,049	2,314,951	27,890,000	925,980
<u>International Waters</u>											
24	9165	UNDP	Enabling Implementation of the Regional SAP for the Rational and Equitable Management of the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System (NSAS).	Regional (Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Chad)	3,990,000	379,050	4,369,050	3,990,000	379,050	4,369,050	151,620
25	9360	World Bank	West Africa Regional Fisheries Program Additional Financing	Regional (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone)	10,000,000	900,000	10,900,000	10,000,000	900,000	10,900,000	360,000
<u>Sub-total International Waters</u>					13,990,000	1,279,050	15,269,050	13,990,000	1,279,050	15,269,050	511,620
<u>Land Degradation</u>											
26	9365	IUCN	Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Project	Global	2,752,294	247,706	3,000,000	2,752,294	247,706	3,000,000	99,082
<u>Sub-total Land Degradation</u>					2,752,294	247,706	3,000,000	2,752,294	247,706	3,000,000	99,082
<u>Chemicals and Waste</u>											
27	9276	UNEP	Regional project on the Development of National Action Plans for the Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Africa	Regional (Central African Republic, Congo, Cameroon, Kenya, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe)	4,000,000	380,000	4,380,000	4,000,000	380,000	4,380,000	152,000
28	8017	UNDP	GEF-6 POPs Legacy and Sustainable Chemicals Management	Belarus	8,400,000	798,000	9,198,000	8,400,000	798,000	9,198,000	319,200
29	9240	World Bank	Capacity Strengthening For Implementation Of Minamata Convention On Mercury	China	8,000,000	760,000	8,760,000	8,000,000	760,000	8,760,000	304,000
30	9203	UNDP	National Program for the Environmental Sound Management and Live Cycle Management of Chemical Substances	Ecuador	8,490,000	806,550	9,296,550	8,490,000	806,550	9,296,550	322,620
31	9189	UNDP	Reduction and Elimination of POPs and Other Chemical Releases through Implementation of Environmentally Sound Management of E-Waste, Healthcare Waste and Priority U-POPs Release Sources Associated with General Waste Management Activities	Jordan	5,090,000	483,550	5,573,550	5,090,000	483,550	5,573,550	193,420
32	9214	UNDP	Environmentally Sound Management and Destruction of PCBs in Mexico: Second Phase	Mexico	4,800,000	456,000	5,256,000	4,800,000	456,000	5,256,000	182,400
33	9236	UNDP	Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs	Nigeria	6,930,000	658,350	7,588,350	6,930,000	658,350	7,588,350	263,340
34	9222	UNIDO	Greening the Scrap Metal Value Chain through Promotion of BAT/BEP to Reduce U-POPs Releases from Recycling Facilities	Thailand	4,500,000	427,500	4,927,500	4,500,000	427,500	4,927,500	171,000
<u>Sub-total Chemicals and Waste</u>					50,210,000	4,769,950	54,979,950	50,210,000	4,769,950	54,979,950	1,907,980
GRAND TOTAL					222,213,795	20,614,393	242,828,188	222,213,795	20,614,393	242,828,188	8,245,757

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**Table 2: Record of GEF Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency and Resulting Council Decisions
Intersessional Work Program, April 19, 2016**

Summary of Council Decisions

	GEFTF
Funding status as of 03/31/2016	\$ 513,783,373
Approvals by Council	\$ 242,828,188
Funding status after Council Meeting	<u>\$ 270,955,185</u>

Agency	GEFTF Amounts Requested for Funding in US\$			GEFTF Amounts Approved by Council in US\$			
	Project Financing	Agency Fee	Total	Project Financing	Agency Fee	Total	40% of Agency fee to be committed by Trustee
Project/Programmatic Approach funding							
ADB	7,289,269	692,481	7,981,750	7,289,269	692,481	7,981,750	276,992
AFDB	10,000,000	950,000	10,950,000	10,000,000	950,000	10,950,000	380,000
CI	11,813,303	1,063,197	12,876,500	11,813,303	1,063,197	12,876,500	425,279
DBSA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FAO	29,373,765	2,738,026	32,111,791	29,373,765	2,738,026	32,111,791	1,095,210
Funbio	13,435,000	1,209,150	14,644,150	13,435,000	1,209,150	14,644,150	483,660
IADB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IFAD	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IUCN	5,659,358	509,342	6,168,700	5,659,358	509,342	6,168,700	203,737
UNDP	81,508,237	7,687,560	89,195,797	81,508,237	7,687,560	89,195,797	3,075,024
UNEP	4,000,000	380,000	4,380,000	4,000,000	380,000	4,380,000	152,000
UNIDO	4,500,000	427,500	4,927,500	4,500,000	427,500	4,927,500	171,000
World Bank	54,634,863	4,957,137	59,592,000	54,634,863	4,957,137	59,592,000	1,982,855
WWF-US	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-total	222,213,795	20,614,393	242,828,188	222,213,795	20,614,393	242,828,188	8,245,757
GRAND TOTAL	222,213,795	20,614,393	242,828,188	222,213,795	20,614,393	242,828,188	8,245,757