



CBD

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

22 May 2007
International Day for Biological Diversity



Biodiversity and Climate Change

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13 April 2007

CALL FOR TENDERS

Pursuant to decision VII/22 (paragraph 5 of the annex), the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity invites tenders for the third review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Terms of Reference for the review can be found in the attachment to the present call.

The successful tender will be contracted as an independent evaluator to conduct survey and undertake such desk studies, interviews, field visits and collaboration with the GEF Secretariat, as may be required for the preparation of the study. The evaluator will prepare a compilation and synthesis of the information and recommendations for future improvements received in response to the questionnaire and shall prepare a final report on the review.

The deadline for submissions of detailed proposals to the Secretariat is

14 May 2007

Please send your proposal or relevant questions to:

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Terms of Reference

THIRD REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM (REFM-3) PURSUANT TO DECISION VIII/13, PARAGRAPH 11

Introduction

1. The objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted in 1992 are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding.
2. In Articles 20 and 21, the Convention provides for a mechanism for the provision of financial resources to developing country Parties for purposes of this Convention on a grant or concessional basis, and that the mechanism shall function under the authority and guidance of, and be accountable to, the Conference of the Parties for purposes of this Convention. The Conference of the Parties subsequently designated the Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure to carry out the operations of the financial mechanism.
3. Article 21, paragraph 3 further provides that the Conference of the Parties shall review the effectiveness of the mechanism established under this Article, and based on such review, it shall take appropriate action to improve the effectiveness of the mechanism if necessary. In decision VIII/13, the Conference of the Parties decided to undertake the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism every four years and that this review should coincide with the meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
4. The fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties conducted the first review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism (REFM-1), and requested the Council of the Global Environment Facility to take a number of actions with a view to improving the effectiveness of the financial mechanism. The requests to the Global Environment Facility are contained in decision IV/11.
5. The Conference of the Parties at its six meeting completed the second review (REFM-2) and also adopted several measures to improve the effectiveness of the financial mechanism. The outcomes of the second review are contained in decision VI/17.
6. Decisions VII/22 provides that under the authority and with the support of the Conference of the Parties, the Executive Secretary shall contract an experienced independent evaluator to undertake the review, in accordance with the objectives, methodology and criteria contained in that decision. In decision VIII/13, the Conference of the Parties has further requested the Executive Secretary to make the necessary

arrangements for an evaluation of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism (REFM-3) to be conducted in time for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Objectives of REFM-3

7. In accordance with Article 21, paragraph 3, the Conference of the Parties will review the effectiveness of the mechanism, including the criteria and guidelines referred to in Article 21, paragraph 2, with a view to taking appropriate action to improve the effectiveness of the mechanism if necessary. For this purpose, effectiveness will include:

- (a) The effectiveness of the financial mechanism in providing and delivering financial resources, as well as in overseeing, monitoring and evaluating the activities financed by its resources;
- (b) The conformity of the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism, with the guidance of the Conference of the Parties;
- (c) The efficiency and effectiveness of the process of providing guidance to the financial mechanism to promote the implementation of the Convention and the achievement of its three objectives;
- (d) The efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of the GEF-funded activities on the implementation of the Convention and in the achievement of its three objectives, taking into account the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties.

Methodology of REFM-3

8. The third review will cover all the activities of the financial mechanism for the period between July 2001 and June 2007.

9. The review shall draw upon, *inter alia*, the following sources of information:

- (a) Information provided by both developed and developing countries and Parties regarding the financial mechanism, including national reports with respect to the financial mechanism;
- (b) Reports prepared by the Global Environment Facility, including its reports to the Conference of the Parties;
- (c) Reports of the GEF Office of Evaluation that relate to GEF biodiversity activities within the framework of the financial mechanism;
- (d) The Third Overall Performance Study and other major studies of the Global Environment Facility;

- (e) Information provided by other relevant stakeholders.

Criteria to Assess Effectiveness

10. The effectiveness of the financial mechanism shall be assessed taking into account, *inter alia*:

- (a) The steps and actions taken by the financial mechanism in response to the actions requested by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting to improve the effectiveness of the financial mechanism, as set out in the annex to its decision IV/11 as well as in decision VI/17;
- (b) The actions taken by the financial mechanism in response to the guidance of the Conference of the Parties, as contained in decisions I/2, II/6, III/5, IV/13, V/13, VI/17 and VII/20;
- (c) Any other significant issue raised by the Parties.

Execution of the Review

11. The Third Review of the Effectiveness of the Financial Mechanism (REFM-3) will be undertaken from 1 July 2007 through 30 November 2007 by an experienced independent evaluator.

12. The evaluator shall undertake necessary follow-up to a survey that was sent to the Parties and other stakeholders in January 2007 and design additional questionnaire complementing the existing survey to collect necessary information, and prepare a compilation and synthesis of the information received.

13. The evaluator will undertake such desk studies, interviews, field visits and collaboration with the GEF Office of Evaluation, as may be required, for the preparation of the review, subject to the availability of resources.

14. The draft compilation and synthesis, and the recommendations of the evaluator, will be made available to GEF for its review and comments. Such comments shall be included in the documentation and identified by source.

15. Based on the synthesis report and recommendations of the independent evaluator, the Executive Secretary shall prepare, in consultation with the GEF, a draft decision on the third review of the financial mechanism, including specific suggestions for action to improve the effectiveness of the mechanism if necessary, for consideration of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

16. The Executive Secretary shall submit all the relevant documents to Parties at least three months prior to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Deliverables

17. Within two months of accepting the contract, the REFM evaluator will produce an Inception Report to be shared with the Executive Secretary and the COP Bureau for feedback. The Inception Report will provide a detailed practicable plan for carrying out the review, and should include, as a minimum:

- Purpose and methodology of the Review;
- Areas/issues to be covered in-depth (Guidance, country ownership and priorities, incremental costs, catalytic role, project cycle and procedural matters, geographical consideration, Small Grants Program, monitoring and evaluation, replenishment), criterion for selection;
- Methodology to address the major areas of REFM-3;
- Data and information needed, availability, and how to address data gaps;
- Organization of interviews and field visits;
- Proposed interaction with the GEF Office of Evaluation and the Convention Secretariat.

18. The main expected output is the comprehensive draft report of the review that should be circulated to the Global Environment Facility no later than December 2007, and final report of the review that should be circulated to Parties and Governments by the end of January 2008. The final report by the REFM-3 evaluator should contain:

- Executive Summary including specific and actionable conclusions and recommendations
- Compilation and synthesis of the information received
- Recommendations from the evaluator
- Annexes, as appropriate

19. Upon completion of the review, the REFM-3 evaluator will make available, on request, any supporting documentation or studies as background material to the main report.

20. The Executive Secretary will prepare, in consultation with the GEF, a draft decision on the third review of the financial mechanism, including specific suggestions for action to improve the effectiveness of the mechanism if necessary, for consideration of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.