

GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

Report of the Tenth Meeting of the Board, 6-9 July 2015

GCF/B.10/18

13 October 2015

Meeting of the Board

6-9 July 2015

Songdo, Republic of Korea

Agenda item 33

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Report of the Tenth Meeting of the Board, 6-9 July 2015

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

1. The Co-Chairs of the Board of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Mr. Gabriel Quijandria and Mr. Henrik Harboe, opened the meeting on Monday, 6 July 2015, at 9.46 a.m.
2. They welcomed the new members and alternate members of the Board (hereinafter referred to as Board members or alternate members): Mr. Atsuyuki Oike replacing Mr. Shuichi Hosoda as Board member; Mr. Shuichi Hosoda replacing Mr. Tomonori Nakamura as alternate member; Ms. Kate Hughes replacing Mr. Joscelyne Wheatley as alternate member; Mr. Ewen McDonald replacing Ms. Natasha Smith as Board member; Mr. Marcin Korolec replacing Mr. Zoltán Ajtony Hevesi as Board member; Ms. Caroline Leclerc replacing Mr. Marcin Korolec as alternate member.
3. The Co-Chairs acknowledged those Board members and alternate members who were not able to join the meeting: Mr. Christian N. Adovelande, Mr. Andrey Bokarev, Mr. Newai Gebre-ab, Ms. Audrey Joy Grant, Mr. Tosi Mpanu-Mpanu and Mr. Jose Clemente Salceda.
4. They welcomed the four active observers identified by the observer community present in the board room, Ms. Meenakshi Raman (Third World Network), Ms. Liane Schalatek replacing Mr. Brandon Wu (Action Aid International) for the first day of the meeting, Ms. Gwen Andrews (World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)) and Ms. Alexandra Tracy replacing Mr. Abyd Karmali ((Climate Markets & Investment Association (CMIA)), also for the first day of the meeting. They welcomed nearly 200 observers following proceedings from the headquarters of the Green Climate Fund (the Fund), including representatives from national designated authorities (NDAs), and thanked all new partners for their role in delivering the Fund's mandate on the ground. They also thanked the management and staff of the Fund for their hard work and commitment.
5. They expressed their appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea and to the City of Songdo for their hospitality.
6. The Co-Chairs underlined that the meeting celebrated the first three years of work in the life of the Board. At the same time, it marked a key moment as the Fund signalled to the world its readiness to begin disbursing resources. This tenth meeting needed to make significant strides towards finalizing all structural elements needed to continue moving the Fund forward.
7. The Executive Director, Ms. HÉla Cheikhrouhou, was invited to make introductory remarks. She highlighted a number of areas of progress since the Fund was established at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010, including its record-breaking initial resource mobilization, its country engagement achievements and the fast progress to have funding proposals ready for the consideration of the Board at its next meeting.
8. The Secretary to the Board reminded the Board of the Rules of Procedure, governing advisers to Board members and alternate members. In addition, following decision B.09/03, she noted that only those advisers who had been nominated by respective Board members and alternate members, and who had signed a declaration of impartiality and confidentiality, were allowed in the boardroom. She also briefed members on the current status of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome outbreak in the Republic of Korea.
9. The Co-Chairs thanked the Executive Director for her welcoming words, as well as the procedural information provided, and moved to the following agenda item.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

10. The Co-Chairs introduced the provisional agenda as set forth in document GCF/B.10/01 titled *Provisional Agenda*.

11. The provisional agenda was first distributed as document GCF/B.10/01/Drf.01 on 11 June 2015, in accordance with paragraphs 18 and 19 of the Rules of Procedure of the Board. A revised version of the provisional agenda with a sequence of agenda items and a tentative timetable was later distributed as document GCF/B.10/01 on 2 July 2015.

12. One Board member noted that the Secretariat had requested guidance from the Board regarding an update to the Fund's salary structure. The Board member suggested postponing this issue to the eleventh meeting of the Board when other human resources issues would be discussed. Several Board members also requested further details and documentation on the matter. Others noted the need to consult with their authorities on the issue. The Co-Chairs agreed that this matter would be included as an agenda item for the eleventh meeting.

13. Several Board members raised the issue of the initial resource mobilization (IRM) and the need to further discuss the formal replenishment of the Fund. One Board member noted that no progress had been made on the essential requirements for the consideration of project proposals, despite the efforts of the African group to do so. They noted that a guide was needed on this matter, and urged that the item be included on the agenda of the current meeting. Clarity was requested by several Board members on the remaining pledges that had not yet been signed into contribution agreements, and on the status of the replenishment arrangements, noting the need for a plan to be in place on this matter. Two Board members noted that IRM was covered by agenda item 7, 'Status of the Initial Resource Mobilization process', which was echoed by the Co-Chairs. The Co-Chairs noted further that agenda item 20, 'Further development of the initial approval process' would cover the essential elements for the consideration of projects.

14. The Co-Chairs and some Board members noted that the tenth meeting of the Board also marked the third anniversary of the current Board and the upcoming end of the initial three-year term of Board membership, and therefore constituted a good time to take stock and plan for the future.

15. In this respect, one Board member raised a procedural issue: the lack of an item on the work plan for 2015 on the agenda for the tenth meeting of the Board. Another Board member agreed, and noted that the usual practice in other organizations would be for the agenda of the following meeting to be included as one of the final agenda items. The Co-Chairs noted that the 2015 work plan was in essence covered by the agendas of the ninth, tenth and eleventh meetings of the Board. However, following the discussions, they suggested including a separate item on the agenda for the tenth meeting titled 'Items for consideration at the eleventh meeting of the Board' to cover the work plan for 2015, which was accepted.

16. Many Board members then expressed the need for a multi-year work plan beyond 2015 to map out the work of the Board, set milestones and measurements, achieve short and medium-term objectives, and ensure the Fund sets itself apart from others. One Board member stated that the certainty of such a plan was required to command confidence from all parties. Another noted that the rotating nature of membership of developing countries also meant that a multi-year plan was essential. Several Board members expressed the view that, as the Fund was now operational, having a clearer picture on, inter alia, the resource envelope, project monitoring or the approval process was of vital importance.

17. Some Board members expressed a preference for a four-year rolling plan with a one-year firm plan for 2015-2016, given the critical nature of the period with the twenty-first

session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 21) and the beginning of the disbursement of funds to projects by the end of 2015.

18. One Board member highlighted that the African group had already distributed a work plan for 2015 with strategic and business plan orientations, and called for this to be included as a document of the tenth meeting of the Board.

19. A debate was held on what to call such a plan. While some Board members thought 'business plan' would be more appropriate, another expressed unease with the term, as the Fund is not a for-profit business. Following agreement from other Board members, the term 'strategic plan' was preferred.

20. Discussions between the Co-Chairs and Board members then focused on the best way to proceed with regard to the strategic plan. One Board member noted that discussions on this subject had been held at the informal Board dialogue held from 19 to 20 January at The Hague, the Netherlands, and had been further elaborated in document GCF/B.09/06 titled *Analysis of the Expected Role and Impact of the Green Climate Fund* which was discussed at the ninth meeting of the Board. As a result, some Board members believed it would be best to include this matter on the agenda for the first meeting of the Board in 2016, and hold informal talks before then on the matter, given other urgent issues such as the imminent consideration of projects for approval and the heavy workload of the meetings in 2015.

21. Other Board members, however, believed that a discussion had to be held at the current Board meeting to provide guidance to the Secretariat so that they could begin preparing a plan. While the Co-Chairs suggested taking this discussion under other matters, some Board members expressed a preference for a separate agenda item, to send a clearer message to the outside world that this subject was being given careful consideration. Following further debate, a decision was reached to include an additional agenda item on such a strategic plan at the tenth meeting of the Board. Another Board member called for a standing item on a strategic plan to be included on the agenda at all future Board meetings.

22. The Board adopted the agenda as set forth in document GCF/B.10/01/Rev.01 titled *Agenda*, as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Adoption of the report of the ninth meeting
4. Report on activities of the Co-Chairs
5. Report on activities of the Secretariat
6. Reports from committees and panels
7. Status of the Initial Resource Mobilization process
8. Level of concessional terms for the public sector
9. Brief guideline on the application of the case-by-case provisions in the financial terms and conditions of the Fund's instruments
10. Additional modalities that further enhance direct access: Terms of reference for a pilot phase
11. Selection process and terms of reference for the heads of the accountability units: Recommendations of the Appointment Committee
12. Consideration of accreditation proposals
13. Initial monitoring and accountability framework for accredited entities (progress report)

14. Report on the implementation of legal and formal arrangements with accredited entities
15. Recommendations for further accrediting national, regional and private sector entities (progress report)
16. Initial risk management framework: Methodology to determine and define the Fund's risk appetite
17. Appointment of experts of the independent Technical Advisory Panel
18. Progress report on the readiness and preparatory support programme
19. Country ownership
20. Further development of the initial proposal approval process
21. Recommendations from the Private Sector Advisory Group to the Board of the Green Climate Fund
22. Template for the bilateral agreement on privileges and immunities
23. Decision-making procedures for the Board in the absence of consensus
24. Policies on ethics and conflicts of interest
25. Methodology for decisions taken in between meetings
26. Strategic plan for the Fund
27. Items for consideration at the eleventh meeting of the Board
28. Further consideration of the initial term of Board membership
29. Investment Framework: Applying scale in the assessment of funding proposals
30. Fourth report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
31. Date and venue of the following meeting of the Board
32. Other matters
33. Report of the meeting
34. Closure of the meeting

Agenda item 3: Adoption of the report of the ninth meeting

23. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item.
24. The Co-Chairs drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.09/24 titled *Report of the Ninth Meeting of the Board, 24-26 March 2015*, a draft version of which was transmitted to the Board as document GCF/B.08/24/Drf.01 on 17 June 2015 for a two-week review period. The Co-Chairs noted that the report should be read in conjunction with document GCF/B.09/23 titled *Decisions of the Board – Ninth Meeting of the Board, 24-26 March 2015*.
25. One Board member questioned the decision not to include Board decisions in the body of the report, and called for the Secretariat to revert to the previous format, for reasons of practicality, and to embed decisions within their proper context.
26. Another Board member asked why the report had not been posted on the website of the Fund. The Secretariat informed them that this was due to the final date of the two-week review period being very close to the tenth Board meeting and to the fact that comments were received

during that period, but that once the report was adopted by the Board it would be posted on the website.

27. One Board member highlighted an omission in the report of a point they had raised on accountability, transparency and fairness in the accreditation process, and called for its inclusion.

28. Another Board member raised a specific issue relating to paragraph 187 of the document, which covered a statement by the General Counsel on the disclosure of information by the Fund, and asked the General Counsel to comment on its veracity and legal grounding. The Board member explained that the report stated that some confidential information could not leave the Fund due to the Fund's confidentiality commitments to third parties, and that the Fund would decide what confidential information could be shared with the Board and what not. The Board member requested an explanation of the difference between the Fund and the Board as it read in the paragraph 187, and asked who would decide on which information was divulged.

29. Another Board member supported this request, noting that though the statement presented itself as a fact, they had received contrasting legal advice. They noted that the statement should be flagged as the opinion of the General Counsel. Some Board members called instead for the deletion of the passage, though this was objected to by others who stressed that the report of the meeting should accurately reflect the content of discussions; the latter opinion was accepted by the Board.

30. The General Counsel explained that as per the Governing Instrument, there was only one Fund as a legal entity, comprised of various bodies, including the Board. He explained that his statement aimed to note the confidentiality obligations of the Fund as a legal entity, with all staff members and consultants subject to strict confidentiality obligations. However, an exception to a strict confidentiality obligation had been made by the Board in its ethics policy due to the dual capacity of Board members, who also performed other duties within their countries. As a result, not all confidential information could be shared with Board members, as they could be forced under domestic rules to disclose this information with the general public thereby bringing the Fund into a breach of confidentiality obligations. He noted further that this scenario was not unique and other international organizations had similar policies in place.

31. The General Counsel confirmed that the report accurately reflected his comments, and that the confidentiality of information was governed by the interim information disclosure policy adopted by the Board, and that the permanent information disclosure policy would be addressed by the Board at its eleventh meeting.

32. The Co-Chairs noted the following:

- (a) Comments on information disclosure would be reflected in the report of the tenth meeting of the Board;
- (b) The omission of a specific statement in the report of the ninth meeting of the Board as highlighted by one Board member would be corrected; and
- (c) The Secretariat would revert to the practice of including decisions in the reports of meetings, including the report of the ninth meeting of the Board.

33. With this understanding, the Board adopted decision B.10/01.

DECISION B.10/01

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.09/24/Drf.01 titled Draft Report of the Ninth Meeting of the Board, 24-26 March 2015:

- (a) Requests the Secretariat to revise the draft report of the ninth meeting to reflect the amendments suggested by the Board;

- (b) Adopts the report of the ninth meeting of the Board contained in document GCF/B.09/24 on the understanding that it includes the decisions of the ninth meeting of the Board and the amendments suggested by Board members; and
- (c) Agrees to publish the report on the Fund's website (document GCF/B.09/24 Report of the Ninth Meeting of the Board, 24-26 March 2015).

Agenda item 4: Report on activities of the Co-Chairs

34. The Co-Chairs opened the item and informed the Board that document GCF/B.10/Inf.02 titled *Report on Activities of the Co-Chairs* had been communicated to the Board prior to the tenth meeting of the Board. This report provided information on the main activities undertaken by the Co-Chairs since the ninth meeting of the Board held in March 2015.
35. The Co-Chairs highlighted some of their main activities:
- (a) Meetings and teleconferences with the Secretariat;
 - (b) Joint determination of five information documents and four draft decisions tabled between meetings;
 - (c) Addressing the Board request to follow up and communicate promptly on the status of signed contributions to enable the Fund to become effective;
 - (d) Preparations for the tenth meeting of the Board;
 - (e) Engagement with UNFCCC thematic bodies; and
 - (f) Approving the seventh round of applications for accreditation of observer organizations to the Green Climate Fund.
36. Some Board members thanked the Co-Chairs for their efforts and commended them on their participation in the various relevant bodies under the UNFCCC, indicating that such activities should be continued.
37. The Board took note of the information provided in document GCF/B.10/Inf.02.

Agenda item 5: Report on activities of the Secretariat

38. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/Inf.03 titled *Report on Activities of the Secretariat*. They invited the Secretariat to introduce the item.
39. The Executive Director highlighted key areas of day-to-day operations and progress, including:
- (a) Country programming, and in particular in two main areas – accreditation, and readiness and country dialogue;
 - (b) Fund pipeline development including the consideration of project ideas and concept notes;
 - (c) The execution of staff recruitment;
 - (d) Engagement with UNFCCC bodies and relevant climate funds;
 - (e) Engagement with policymakers, and in particular diplomatic entities based in the Republic of Korea;
 - (f) Work on the visibility of the Fund in the media through communications and outreach; and

(g) The drafting and dissemination of the *Elements* document to NDAs.

40. In the field of accreditation, the Executive Director informed members about the intensive work conducted to process the large number of applications received from interested entities. She explained that from this process 13 entities were to be presented to the Board for consideration at its tenth meeting. She also explained that work had been conducted with the seven entities accredited in the ninth meeting of the Board either to ensure they met their conditions of accreditation. In addition, work on the accreditation master agreement (AMA) of the Fund had also taken place.

41. With regard to readiness, she informed the Board that close to 130 countries had nominated an NDA or focal point, and that more than half of them, around 74, had expressed their interest in receiving readiness support. She underlined that standardized packages were developed in order to expedite the execution of readiness support in activities areas 1 and 2 of the readiness programme, namely the strengthening of NDAs and focal points and the development of strategic frameworks. She also noted that a readiness disbursement had taken place for Mali and that nine country readiness programmes had made substantial progress during the reporting period. She further noted that in-kind support has been provided to all direct access entities during the accreditation process.

42. With regard to pipeline development, the Executive Director highlighted the short time frame available to process proposals. She pointed out that a crosscutting team was working on reviewing early project ideas and early concept notes. In this regard, she observed that an initial template had been prepared taking into account existing Board decisions, the operations manual and appraisal toolkit, and updates based on experience. She noted that, as a result of this effort, around 120 project ideas (76 for public sector, 50+ for private sector) and early concepts had been presented amounting to total US\$ 6 billion, half (US\$ 3 billion) for public sector and half for the private sector.

43. The Executive Director also outlined two specific requests to the Board:

(a) With regard to the salary table, she noted that the Asian Development Bank as the benchmark organization for the Fund as decided by the Board, had updated its table, prompting a request for the Board to offer guidance on how to proceed; and

(b) With regard to the budget for bodies established by the Board, she noted the need to increase the budget for Board functions for 2015 to take into account the speed and scale at which these bodies were developing. Given the importance of having the budgetary provisions to support core activities of the Fund she informed the Board that the mid-term budget review proposal for 2015 would be circulate to the Board between the tenth and eleventh meetings of the Board.

44. Several Board members thanked the Secretariat for the report, and noted the impressive amount of work carried out, recognizing the intense pressure and workload on the Secretariat. They also noted that the international profile of the Fund had improved considerably over recent months thanks to the outreach activities of the Secretariat, which they commended. Particular appreciation was voiced by one Board member for the help provided by the Secretariat to the Ethics and Audit Committee, while another member voiced their appreciation for legal support provided in trying to pass a law in the member's country in order to justify contributions.

45. Many Board members also set out requests for additional information and clarification from the Secretariat on a wide range of topics.

46. Several Board members asked for more information on the human resources situation of the Secretariat and for an overarching vision of the current status and future needs. One Board member asked for a more detailed breakdown of the proportion of members of staff compared with consultants. Another Board member lamented the relatively low proportion of

staff members from developing countries and called for a better balance. A Board member underlined that an initial staffing structure had been approved at the fifth Board meeting, yet the Secretariat had submitted an informal document at the eighth Board meeting making changes to this, and expressed concern that the Secretariat was undermining the Board in this respect. Finally, several Board members encouraged the Secretariat to flag any causes for concern, noting in particular potential issues with staff recruitment and retention.

47. One Board member noted the information on the participation of observers in the report, but also highlighted the need to improve information disclosure and facilitate participation; since the Fund aimed to enact transformational change, it should set the highest standards on observer participation.

48. Two Board members requested additional information on the budget. One suggested the submission of an analysis of additional budget requirements to help build up independent units before the eleventh meeting of the Board, while another requested more information on future budgetary needs, in particular for portfolio management and monitoring mechanisms. A Board member asked for clarification on the implications of increasing the 2015 budget, as this would be a retrospective measure. With regards to the information on financial statements and auditing referred to in paragraph 41 above, one Board member asked why financial statements had not been attached as annexes.

49. One Board member commended the positive progress in terms of the Private Sector Facility (PSF), and encouraged this to continue.

50. Several Board members noted the importance of engagement with other climate-related funds to ensure coherence and complementarity with other organizations working in the same field. Other Board members stressed that the Fund should also engage with other funds not necessarily linked to climate matters, as they could offer interesting lessons in terms of generic functions such as evaluation and gender.

51. One Board member placed particular emphasis on the usefulness of the Technology Executive Committee in helping to boost the pipeline of projects in line with developing country needs. The Board member went on to request more information on Secretariat cooperation with the technology mechanism of the UNFCCC, and suggested including such information in the report to the COP. Another Board member asked for more information on the specifics of engagement with UNFCCC thematic bodies, and stressed that this should go beyond just attending meetings.

52. Several Board members asked questions on the accreditation process. In particular, one Board member enquired as to the main barriers for potential accredited entities (AEs). Another asked for an explanation of the exact meaning of the term 'potential accredited entity', and wondered whether the Secretariat had sought permission from the Accreditation Committee before engaging with these entities, and whether such engagement would influence judgment in the selection process.

53. One Board member expressed concern that multilateral financial institutions with billions of US dollars in resources were approaching the Fund for financing, drawing on its scarce resources. The member thought that this should be reversed, with these institutions also contributing to the Fund.

54. Another Board member lamented the delay in signing and finalizing AMAs with the seven entities accredited at the ninth Board meeting and urged expediency in the matter.

55. One Board member noted that a considerable amount of money had been spent on Secretariat travel to provide readiness support, and questioned whether the Secretariat should continue to work as a surrogate implementing entity or whether this function should be taken over by an international implementing entity.

56. Many Board members touched upon NDA and country engagement, noting how crucial this was. A few Board members acknowledged the Secretariat's good intentions and efforts in outreach efforts and communicating transparently with NDAs, though also called for a broader strategy to be defined in this regard.
57. Other Board members noted the need for more engagement with specific groups, in particular least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), as well as other country-level stakeholders besides NDAs. Appreciation was expressed by one Board member for the initiative to engage with the diplomatic community in the Republic of Korea as a good way of conducting outreach at a low cost with many countries, including those with limited resources.
58. However, one Board member expressed concern over the practice of contacting countries to inform them of AEs already working in their countries, as this seemed to reflect a business-as-usual approach and not respecting country ownership. They called for serious reflection on this issue to ensure the enhanced direct access of countries as enshrined in the Governing Instrument.
59. Pipeline development received a great deal of attention from most of the Board members during discussions under this agenda item.
60. Several Board members expressed appreciation at seeing a sound balance between public and private sector, adaptation, mitigation and cross-cutting, LDCs, SIDS and African state proposals in the pipeline of projects, and encouraged the Secretariat to continue to strive towards this balance.
61. However, other Board members expressed concern at the high number of mitigation proposals, and urged the Secretariat to follow past decisions on the 50/50 allocation of funds.
62. While some Board members encouraged the Secretariat to increase the number of private sector adaptation and resilience proposals, others raised concerns that undue focus was being placed on private sector proposals across the Board, and urged greater attention to be paid to public sector projects. One Board member wished to record their objection to the current situation. They urged a greater mix and balance of public and private, loans and grants, adaptation and mitigation to send a positive signal. This was particularly important as these concerns had also been raised by the Group of 77 and China (G77 and China), and the current pipeline of projects did not reflect the aspirations of developing countries.
63. A few Board members noted with concern that a significant proportion of concept notes required major revision, and wondered how that could be tackled through readiness support in order to achieve better quality work and alleviate the burden on the Secretariat. One Board member asked for specific information on how engagement was taking place from the Secretariat side on this, and what the future resource needs would be for the Secretariat as the number of ideas and concept notes increased.
64. Another Board member asked for information on the degree to which requests for funding would be fully funded by the Fund, or through co-funding and partnerships.
65. Several Board members asked for a more detailed breakdown on how many concept notes were coming through direct access and international tracks, while one wondered whether the Secretariat knew the source of concept notes. They also asked if these were new or older proposals finding their way to the Fund.
66. One Board member questioned the process to be used for the pipeline. They wondered whether a request for proposals should be posted or whether to rely on spontaneous proposals. The member raised a concern that the wrong message was being sent to entities at present, and that care needed to be taken not to create false expectations.

67. One Board member raised a procedural issue, noting that between-meeting documents had been received containing important information which was not covered in Board meetings. The member urged for space to be provided for the discussion of all important issues at meetings.
68. Another Board member urged the Secretariat to exercise caution in interpreting the term ‘independent Secretariat’; and stated that the Secretariat did not have freedom to interpret decisions of the Board in any way they saw fit.
69. The Executive Director and other members of the Secretariat then proceeded to respond to all the queries and comments from the Board members.
70. With regard to questions about the ease of recruitment and the rates of retention, the Executive Director explained that factors such as the nature of the Fund as a newly established organization, the heavy workload, and the fact that the Secretariat is based in Songdo have affected both rate of retention and the ability to recruit. However, this said, the Secretariat is confident that it can attract well qualified people to join the Fund.
71. On composition of current staff, she explained that the Secretariat currently has 34 international staff, 10 support staff, 23 consultants, and 11 interns at its Headquarters. In addition, 37 consultants work for the Secretariat remotely. She pointed out that the Fund is proud to be multilingual. More than 20 languages are spoken at the Fund’s Headquarters and the Secretariat will continue to encourage that. She also informed the Board that the Secretariat is preparing a new report about staffing, which will be submitted to the Board at its eleventh meeting.
72. On the need for additional staff, the Executive Director highlighted that the level of staffing was initially proposed at the conceptual stage of the Fund and submitted to the Board at its fifth meeting. However, as the Fund now enters the post-operation stage, there is a need for a more substantive discussion on the structure and multi-year plan for the level of capacity of the Secretariat, because some additional functions were not expected at the pre-operation stage, such as portfolio management, disbursement management, the entire risk management function, and so forth.
73. With regard to the traveling costs arising from the Secretariat’s readiness support activities, the Executive Director highlighted that the Secretariat always prioritizes events which allow it to reach out to the widest audience possible. The Secretariat staff are best placed to inform others about the Fund and how it operates. She further emphasized that it has proved very important to have early discussion with national entities that are to be accredited under direct access.
74. In addition, she informed the Board about a new innovation on outreach, which is to invite entities to visit the Fund’s Headquarters. The NDAs of Fiji and Mongolia have visited the Headquarters and had a very positive and productive interaction with Secretariat staff. The Secretariat is expecting to host NDAs from the Bhutan and Pakistan very soon.
75. The Executive Director then reflected on questions about helping national entities to overcome barriers in accreditation. She informed the Board that all direct access entities have received considerable in-kind support from the Secretariat. She noted that the Secretariat has been providing in-kind support to 24 entities seeking accreditation under the direct access track (note: some of those entities have already been accredited by the Fund) and has also arranged support for the institutional assessment of 15 entities, 6 of which will be receiving such support.
76. With regard to questions about how to make sure other stakeholders in country are engaged other than NDAs and AEs, the Executive Director explained that through readiness support on activity area 1 and 2, the Secretariat is working with the active observers to develop guidance for NDAs and focal points to effectively undertake multi-stakeholder engagement at country level.

77. With regard to questions on the status of the readiness programme, the Executive Director informed the Board that 9 countries are now slated to receive support, of which 6 are LDCs and three are SIDS. These countries will receive up to US\$ 300,000 for capacity building of NDAs or focal points and for the development of country strategic frameworks, reviewing existing frameworks such as Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)/National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA), National Adaptation Plans (NAP), etc., as well as the country's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).

78. On questions about the review process for project concepts, the Executive Director highlighted that there are two independent teams designated for accreditation review and project concept review, respectively. She further explained that it is the NDA and AEs that review the project and move the concept notes towards funding proposals. The Secretariat provides feedback to support. For NDAs or AEs who lack the capacity to develop bankable projects on their own, pillar 4 of the readiness programme will provide corresponding technical support.

79. As regards the composition of current project ideas and concept notes, the Executive Director informed the Board that the total requested GCF amount is US\$ 6.5 billion at present, including both public sector and private sector.

80. Regarding balance between public sector and private sector, adaptation and mitigation, and geographic allocation, the Executive Director pointed out that the project portfolio is growing fast, and that she is optimistic that a balanced portfolio can be shaped with a growing numbers of pipelines.

81. The Executive Director then also reflected on concerns about whether some project proposals could may be rejected ones from other funds. She highlighted that the Secretariat evaluates project proposals based on their maturity and the Fund's investment framework. There is no such check as "has this project been rejected by other Funds?" in the project proposal template. So long as the NDAs and AEs have made efforts to make sure their projects are ready and echo to the Fund's needs, the Secretariat will consider it. The sources of the Fund's project proposals are NDAs and AEs, not other climate funds at this stage.

82. As to whether the Fund is acting as the implementing entity for the readiness programme, the Executive Director clarified that the readiness programme is conducted by international or national entities. The Secretariat leaves the matter of selection of delivery partners to NDAs; some NDAs choose international organizations and others prefer governmental or non-governmental national entities.

83. Following this, one Board member requested that these responses, and the additional information provided, be recorded in document GCF/B.10/Inf.03, and a revised version, containing these additions, be circulated to the Board before the end of the meeting. Seeing no objection from the Board, the Co-Chairs accepted this proposal.¹

Agenda item 6: Reports from committees and panels

84. The Co-Chairs opened the item and drew the Board's attention to document GCF/B.10/Inf.04 titled *Report from Committees and Panels*. They thanked the different committees and panels that had submitted written reports through this document and invited the Chairs and Coordinators of the different committees and panels to briefly present any

¹ Due to time constraints and the number of the matters addressed by the Board during its 10th meeting the revised version of the report on activities of the Secretariat was not presented nor considered before the closure of the meeting.

particular matters about which they wished to inform the Board or for which they wished to seek guidance.

A. Accreditation Committee – Ambassador Jan Cedergren (Chair)

85. Ambassador Jan Cedergren referred the Board to document GCF/B.10/Inf.04.

B. Accreditation Panel – Mr. Peter Carter (Chair)

86. Mr. Peter Carter also referred the members of the Board to document GCF/B.10/Inf.04. He noted that he would go into more detail on the activities of the Accreditation Panel (AP) under agenda item 12, ‘Consideration of accreditation proposals’.

87. He noted that the AP had met virtually on many occasions since the ninth meeting of the Board. He also stressed that they were working at full capacity, and could not further increase their workload without additional resources.

88. He explained that, between the tenth and eleventh meetings of the Board, the AP would take stock of and draw lessons from the process to date in order to make subsequent improvements. To that end, he noted that it would be useful to have a clear overview of the Fund’s vision on accreditation, including how many entities it could expect to accredit within the next three years.

C. Investment Committee – Mr. Dipak Dasgupta (Coordinator)

89. Mr. Dipak Dasgupta outlined that, since the ninth meeting of the Board, the Investment Committee (IC) had worked in two main areas: the nomination of candidates for the independent Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), and the recommendation of a subset of proposals to which a scaling pilot would apply. He noted that consensus had been reached on four of the six candidates for the TAP within the IC, but not for the remaining two, and the IC was therefore presenting options to the Board on this matter. He also stated that the IC was presenting a set of options on the scaling pilot for consideration by the Board.

90. He noted that, since the ninth meeting of the Board, the IC had held three virtual meetings and two in-person meetings.

D. Risk Management Committee – Mr. Irfa Ampri (Chair)

91. Mr. Irfa Ampri noted that, since the ninth meeting of the Board, the Risk Management Committee (RMC) had held two virtual meetings and one in-person meeting to discuss documents GCF/B.10/07 titled *Initial Risk Management Framework: Methodology to Determine and Define the Fund’s Risk Appetite*, and GCF/B.10/06 *Level of Concessional Terms for the Public Sector*, and finalize recommendations on these items for the Board.

E. Ethics and Audit Committee – Mr. Marcin Korolec (Chair)

92. Mr. Marcin Korolec noted that the Ethics and Audit Committee (EAC) had held five virtual meetings and two in-person meetings since the ninth meeting of the Board.

93. He explained that an agreement had been reached on the draft policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for external members of panels established by the Board, as set out in document GCF/B.10/13 titled *Policies on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest*, and that the EAC was nearing agreement on a policy on ethics for the Executive Director.

94. He noted that, in future, the Board would need to consider policies on ethics and conflicts of interest for other Board-appointed officials and active observers, an information disclosure policy, and the implementation of the provisions in the policies on ethics and conflicts of interest for the Board already taken.

F. Private Sector Advisory Group – Mr. Zaheer Fakir (Co-Chair) and Mr. Stefan Schwager (Co-Chair)

95. Mr. Stefan Schwager presented the report of the Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG). Following the ninth meeting of the Board, he noted that they had held two virtual meetings and developed the draft work plan attached to the report. A formal in-person one-and-a-half day meeting was also held on 18 and 19 May in Paris to discuss items including the mobilization of resources at scale and the engagement with the private sector (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises), accreditation and the link to the private sector, readiness for private sector entities, and interaction with the RMC.

96. He referred the Board to their recommendations as set out in document GCF/B.10/16 titled *Recommendations from the Private Sector Advisory Group to the Board of the Green Climate Fund*.

97. Finally, he noted that the terms of PSAG members would expire by the end of the current year, and all members were set to continue in their roles with the exception of one.

G. Appointment Committee – Mr. Zaheer Fakir (Chair)

98. Mr. Zaheer Fakir noted that agenda item 11 for the tenth meeting of the Board covered the Appointment Committee (APC), and that they would therefore present a full report on the issue under said item. His report under that item is also replicated below.

99. Mr. Zaheer Fakir presented the report of the APC. He referred the Board to the APC's recommendations as contained in document GCF/B.10/09 titled *Selection Process and Terms of Reference of the Heads of the Accountability Units: Recommendations of the Appointment Committee*.

100. He explained that the APC requested that the Board approve the selection process in Annex II of the document, the terms of reference (TOR) for the recruitment firm and the TOR for the heads of the units.

101. The Chair highlighted a number of recommendations, including that:

- (a) The Head of the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) should be based in Songdo, whilst guidance was sought on the seats of the other two units;
- (b) All roles should be full time, but with the proviso that this might not be feasible initially for the Independent Redress Mechanism ;
- (c) An international recruitment firm should be procured. The total budget estimate by the APC was US\$ 300,000, including a maximum of US\$ 200,000 for the firm and approximately US\$ 100,000 for the interview process. Board guidance was sought on the budget line for this expenditure.
- (d) Salary levels should be subject to a comparative analysis of equivalent roles in other funds. The posts should be advertised initially within a salary range, not a salary scale, which would involve an amendment to the selection process contained in Annex II;
- (e) Consideration should be given to including performance indicators and evaluation measures as part of contract negotiations once candidates had been selected;

- (f) Further guidance should be provided to the APC with reference to decision B.09/14 paragraph (f) concerning the establishment of a standing committee in relation to appointments, salary reviews, accountability and performance evaluations.
102. The Board took note of the reports from the committees and panels.

Agenda item 7: Status of the Initial Resource Mobilization process

103. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item, and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/Inf.09 titled *Status of the Initial Resource Mobilization Process*.

104. A representative of the Secretariat provided a general overview of the current status of the IRM process. The General Counsel continued with a presentation on the legal documentation process

105. Several Board members enquired as to the difference between the two tables on commitment authority and cash available explained by the Secretariat. A Board member requested that the contribution from the United Kingdom in the tracker table be revised to one line from two, as their grant and capital grant were the same.

106. Another Board member raised the following points:

- (a) They requested clarification on the funding sources for commitment authority for the next meeting of the Board;
- (b) They noted the need for 60 per cent funding decisions necessary to trigger replenishment, and wondered when the Fund would be able to meet this based on present forecasts;
- (c) They noted a gap between the available funding forecast and the actual amount of projects which have been proposed, and enquired as to how the Fund would manage this gap; and
- (d) They asked what proportion of the funds would be provided as loans and as grants.

107. Another member asked the General Counsel the following questions:

- (a) Were all contributions in line with IRM policies and guidelines?
- (b) Was there any earmarking of resources in the agreements?
- (c) If there was any failure to pay based on the encashment schedule, would penalties be applied, perhaps mentioned in the standard provisions?
- (d) Was there any way to enforce the commitment to pay according to the encashment schedule?

108. Several Board members expressed the importance of the resources being used to combat climate change and wished to see more resources flowing into the Fund to meet such a mandate.

109. There was another enquiry as to whether there were any plans to expect private contributions, while another Board member wanted to see paid-in contributions included in the pledge tracker.

110. A Board member noted the need for flexibility of the encashment schedule to front-load the payments. They also drew the Board's attention to an exchange of letters between the United Kingdom and the Secretariat, which they felt suggested an earmarking of a proportion of their contribution to the Fund for the private sector. The Board member asked when they could have some rules about the Fund receiving private contributions.

111. A civil society organization (CSO) active observer enquired as to how promissory notes and their encashment were being tallied. They also pointed out the difficulty of finding the signed contribution agreements on the website of the Fund. They further asked how all pledges would be turned into legal agreements would be completed by 2015. They stressed that the total contributions received were not enough to achieve the Fund's mandate and noted the importance of raising more resources for grant funding.

112. The Secretariat representative proceeded to respond to the points raised. On the question of commitment authority, it was noted that this was expected to stand at US\$ 1.4 billion equivalent by the end of September, emphasizing that there would always be a fluctuation due to foreign exchange. On the question of resource mobilization from non-public contributions, the Secretariat noted that this was clearly an important matter to discuss, and the Board would need to decide when they wished to discuss it.

113. In addition to this, the Executive Director reiterated that projections were based on all that had been signed to date. She underscored that the Secretariat was working signed with the contributors to agree on the encashment schedule, and that the risk of sovereign contributors not meeting the agreed payments would also be part of the risk dashboard which the Board would soon discuss.

114. The General Counsel confirmed that (a) the current arrangement agreements complied with the policies for contributions, and (b) the Board has full authority to commit the funds within the policies for contribution. He provided further clarification that in the policies for contributions, there is a specific provision on capital contributions where there is further guidance on how such funds may be spent. This is reflected in the agreement for capital contributions. With reference to the letter exchange with the United Kingdom he stated that this has no legal standing. It was a letter received from the United Kingdom to which the Executive Director acknowledged receipt. It had been placed on the Fund's website for transparency purposes. With reference to the location of signed contribution agreements on the Fund's website he explained that these could be found by navigating to 'documents' and then 'key documents'.

115. Following the answers provided by the Secretariat, another enquiry was raised by a Board member, who asked how the US\$ 1.8 billion commitment authority by December 2015 equivalent would be used for grants and loans.

116. Furthermore, several Board members asked why grants would only be given on an exceptional basis, and many of them requested clarity on and justification of such conditions for grants. One Board member suggested that grants received should be used as grants and loans received should be used as loans. However, another member stated that it was not necessary for the grant contribution of their country to be used as grants, as it could be used in other ways as per the Governing Instrument.

117. A few Board members emphasized that the Fund was not a bank, but a fund, and also agreed that the Fund should operate under its agreed mandate and according to decisions taken by the Board.

118. One Board member recommended reading decision B.05/07 and its accompanying Annex III to better understand this matter.

119. The representative of the Interim Trustee provided an explanation on asset liability management by the Secretariat for the purpose of commitment authority, noting that assets recorded were the amount of cash paid in and promissory notes deposited. Regarding the encashment schedule, they explained that there was flexibility for contributors to accelerate the encashment schedule, so long as the present value is the same as the normal encashment schedule. In terms of commitment with the implementing entities to execute projects, they noted that this arrangement would depend on the legal arrangement between the Fund and the

implementing entities and not the contributor. The representative of the Interim Trustee concluded by stating that they did not see the commitment authority based on cash and promissory notes as much of a risk given past experience with other funds.

120. The Executive Director confirmed that:

- (a) The paper on replenishment to be presented at the eleventh meeting of the Board could include the issue on the 60 per cent trigger for replenishment;
- (b) The Fund would continue to receive funds on an ongoing basis; and
- (c) The aim is for pledges made at the 2014 pledging conference to be preferably all signed into agreements before the end of 2015.

121. Afterwards, the discussion continued on to the issue of setting deadlines to finalize the contribution agreements. One Board member pointed out that pledges should be converted into contribution agreements and stressed the need for a deadline on this. There were suggestions from some Board members to set October or November as a deadline.

122. Other Board members disagreed with the idea of setting a deadline, questioning its usefulness and suggested taking stock of the situation in November. Moreover, one Board member also stated that, although finalizing the contribution was a priority for their country, the budget approval process was ongoing. They noted that since this process was complex and governed by domestic mechanisms, they could not support a specific deadline.

123. One Board member insisted that a clear trigger for replenishment was needed to secure funding without discontinuity for the Fund. Although another member stressed that it was a priority for the Fund to discuss actual operations rather than replenishment at the present time, consensus was reached amongst Board members on the need to include consideration of the trigger mechanism in the replenishment report presented at the eleventh Board meeting.

124. The Co-Chairs adjourned the session with the following suggestions:

- (a) To take note of and explain the lack of convergence on setting a deadline in the report of the tenth meeting of the Board;
- (b) To incorporate consideration of the trigger mechanism issue in the replenishment paper for the eleventh meeting of the Board; and
- (c) To present a draft decision on this item for consideration by the Board.

125. The Co-Chairs reopened the agenda item and the draft decision was distributed to Board members.

126. One Board member questioned the added value of the decision. The Co-Chairs explained that taking this decision would send a message to the outside world that issues surrounding IRM had been discussed in depth at the tenth meeting of the Board, and further urge contributing countries to convert pledges into agreements.

127. Seeing no objection, decision B.10/02 was adopted.

DECISION B.10/02

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/Inf.09 titled Status of the Initial Resource Mobilization Process:

- (a) *Takes note of the information presented in document GCF/B.10/Inf.09 Status of the Initial Resource Mobilization Process;*
- (b) *Welcomes the progress made by those countries that have converted their pledges to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) into fully executed contribution agreements/arrangements; and*

- (c) *Urges other contributing countries to confirm their pledges to the Fund in the form of fully executed contribution agreements/arrangements.*

Agenda item 8: Level of concessional terms for the public sector

128. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item.
129. A representative of the Secretariat presented an introduction to Board document GCF/B.10/06 titled *Level of Concessional Terms for the Public Sector*. He recalled paragraph 54 of the Governing Instrument which stated that the Fund could provide financing in the form of grants, concessional lending and other instruments. He also recalled the guiding principles and factors of the Fund's financial terms and conditions, stressing that they were the foundations of the Fund's financial terms and conditions. He highlighted two key principles:
- (a) Tailoring the grant element to cover incremental costs and make the investment viable; and
 - (b) Seeking the right level of concessionality so as not to displace investments that would otherwise have taken place.
130. The Secretariat representative highlighted that different projects had different barriers, including higher upfront costs, lower returns, the need for long-term financing and unwillingness to finance new technologies, and that the Fund could overcome these barriers by providing a tailored grant element. He highlighted that the Fund accounted for its funding in grant equivalent terms.
131. He outlined the proposed funding instruments:
- (a) Grants (with 100 per cent grant element);
 - (b) High-level concessional loans (66 per cent grant element);
 - (c) A mix of 50/50 high-level and low-level concessional loans (49 per cent concessional element); and
 - (d) Low-level concessional loans (32 per cent grant element).
132. He informed Board members of the four principles by which the instruments could be determined:
- (a) Project-based;
 - (b) Financial sustainability;
 - (c) Income and debt sustainability level; and
 - (d) Vulnerability of recipient communities.
133. He also outlined the three options for applying these principles:
- (a) Project-based;
 - (b) Project- and income-based; and
 - (c) Project-, income- and vulnerability-based.
134. Another representative of the Secretariat outlined the purpose of the document, which was to guide the Secretariat to allow it, in turn, to guide AEs. He highlighted that the Board would retain ultimate decision-making power over projects and programmes through the approval process. He stressed that the Fund needed to provide loans as well as grants because of the contributions received.
135. The Chair of the RMC presented its recommendations.

136. Many Board members backed the project-based approach in determining the level of concessionality. In particular, many Board members backed the principle that loans should be the norm for revenue-generating projects, but that non-revenue-generating projects should be eligible to receive grants. Some Board members stressed the importance of this in enabling sufficient allocation to adaptation in order to meet the 50/50 balance between mitigation and adaptation in the context of the Fund's initial allocation framework (decision B.06/06). Some Board members called for the impact of the project to be considered.
137. Some Board members sought clarity on the definition of vulnerability. A number of Board members felt that, instead of referring to income levels, the definition should correspond to existing definitions in the context of the UNFCCC.
138. Several Board members did not see access modality as a relevant criterion by which to determine the level of concessionality for the public sector. One Board member stated that many developing countries would initially rely on international entities. Another member highlighted that this could be particularly important for SIDS, which were very vulnerable with frequently high levels of debt.
139. Some Board members saw criteria relating to income and sovereign indebtedness as useful and felt that it should be taken into account, whilst others did not support this approach. One Board member saw it as pre-judging the ability of countries to promote the paradigm shift through access to the Fund. Another Board member stressed that there should be no further categorization of developing countries in the Fund as this would contradict the UNFCCC. One Board member saw it as equally important to consider countries' access to finance. Another Board member stated that the Fund should take into account country capacities and existing debt structures.
140. One Board member stated that some LDCs would be excluded from the list of low-income economies (LIEs), and some Board members felt that the special needs of LDCs and SIDS should be taken into account as outlined in sections 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 of the UNFCCC.
141. Another Board member highlighted that the Fund is an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the UNFCCC, created to address the needs of developing countries, and that the level of concessionality should not be determined by financial considerations.
142. One Board member stressed that determination of financial terms and conditions should be considered in the context of incremental costs. Two members stated that there should be reference to full agreed costs as well as incremental costs.
143. Some Board members wanted assurance that there would be no mandatory co-financing by AEs.
144. One Board member stated that the Board should aspire to an initially higher grant allocation and balance over time. Some members stressed that the Fund must maximize the use of its limited resources, underlining the need for AEs to justify their request for resources. One Board member stated that the Fund should avoid giving grants to revenue-generating projects. They underlined that it was important that AEs avoided using grants to do business-as-usual projects, and placing unsustainable debt burdens on countries. A Board member highlighted that the restricted use of grants could limit the financing of new and innovative technologies.
145. One Board member stated that loans should not be for adaptation. Another Board member highlighted that adaptation projects sometimes generate revenue, making them eligible for loans in certain cases. One Board member emphasized that the Fund should aspire for a higher grant component in the beginning. They also stated that in order to achieve the Fund's allocation balance between mitigation and adaptation, it was important for the Fund to preserve grant resources for adaptation projects. Another Board member highlighted the importance of concessional loans in certain sectors such as renewable energy generation.

146. Some Board members stated that the determination of concessionality should take a country-driven approach. One Board member stated that countries, and not the Secretariat, should be able to choose between grants or loans. Another Board member stated that governments would need to plan to receive loans from the Fund, including the need, or lack thereof, for a sovereign guarantee.
147. Two Board members stated that a clearer definition of the public and private sectors was required, to be aligned with international standard definitions. They stressed the importance of avoiding the crowding out of the commercial sector. They further emphasized the role of third-party leverage in mobilizing more resources for the Fund.
148. One Board member stated that the Fund was a mechanism for developed countries to reimburse developing countries with grants for all of the damage caused to them, and should therefore provide grants.
149. Many Board members backed an approach to determine the level of concessionality on a case-by-case basis. Some Board members agreed that the Board had to provide sufficient guidance based on decision B.05/07 to ensure clear parameters, but to retain enough flexibility to allow the Secretariat to negotiate with AEs and protect the interests of the Fund. One Board member stated that the Fund should have a yearly review of the case-by-case provision of instruments.
150. A CSO active observer stated that the Fund was not a bank and should address developing country needs. They also stated that there was a bias against grant financing in the paper despite its importance in the context of country indebtedness and currency fluctuations. They argued against the use of the World Bank LIE classification, and advocated that the Fund follow the Governing Instrument. They stated that grants were important to support non-revenue-generating projects, particularly for adaptation. They stressed that no new criteria were needed, as all the relevant criteria were contained in the investment framework. They further stated that direct access entities should have easy access to grants, and that international access should be limited to certain conditions. They emphasized that grants were a priority, but that they were not averse to loans.
151. One Board member stated that they felt the Secretariat was charging itself with the sustainability and continuity of the Fund, when this was in fact the role of the Board. It was the Secretariat's role to outline everything for the Board to decide. The same Board member stated that guidelines should not be set out for the allocation of grants on a case-by-case basis, and argued that such guidelines should only apply to the various levels of concessionality for loans.
152. One Board member stated that it was not a priority for the Fund to fund projects at the next meeting of the Board, and that this issue should be put on hold until the Fund had more experience. Two Board members stated that the Secretariat should cease to liaise with AEs on concepts until the matter was resolved.
153. The Secretariat stressed that it would be helpful for NDAs and AEs to have further guidance on terms and conditions due to the current confusion. They stressed that if these entities had free choice, they would always choose grants, and that the Fund should offer further guidance in this area, highlighting that the Fund could learn from experience as it began to approve projects and programmes.
154. It was agreed that the Co-Chairs would revise the decision, incorporating comments by the Board, in order to guide the Secretariat in determining the level of concessionality for public sector projects, taking existing principles into account.
155. A revised decision was brought back to the plenary. As no consensus was reached the Co-Chairs mandated a small group, consisting of Mr. Shuichi Hosoda, Ms. Kate Hughes, Mr. Ayman Shasly, and open to other Board members, to consult further.

156. The small group presented a revised draft decision. Following further discussions by Board members and owing to a lack of consensus it was agreed that the RMC, with the support of the Secretariat, would present a revised decision to the Board at its twelfth meeting.

157. The decision was adopted.

DECISION B.10/03

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/06 titled Level of Concessional Terms for the Public Sector:

Requests the Risk Management Committee, with the support of the Secretariat, to present a revised document on this matter for the Board's consideration at its twelfth meeting.

Agenda item 9: Brief guideline on the application of the case-by-case provisions in the financial terms and conditions of the Fund's instruments

158. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/Inf.10 titled *Brief Guideline on the Application of the Case-by-case Provisions in the Financial Terms and Conditions of the Fund's Instruments*.

159. A representative of the Secretariat provided an introductory presentation. They highlighted that providing terms and conditions on a case-by-case basis may be appropriate given the Fund's aim to provide bespoke solutions for climate change projects and programmes in developing countries and frontier markets, where there is a lack of homogeneity as well as a lack of required data points to enable the application of a one-size-fits-all formulaic approach.

160. They outlined a three-pronged approach that the Fund would take when determining financial terms and conditions on a case-by-case basis:

- (a) First, the Fund would rely on the expertise of AEs who had relevant market knowledge;
- (b) Second, the Fund would use what limited data points were available; and
- (c) Third, the Fund would rely on the mature judgement of the Board to make decisions on the financial terms and conditions of the Fund's financing, on a case-by-case basis.

161. They emphasized that concessionality could be provided through all of the Fund's instruments. They provided the following examples: grants were always concessional; concessionality could be provided through equity by the Fund receiving lower or subordinate returns to other investors, by taking a higher risk-bearing tranche or by being the last to exit; concessionality could be provided through debt by charging a lower interest rate, accepting a longer tenor, allowing more flexible repayment schedules, or taking a junior rank; concessionality could be provided through guarantees by charging sub-market fees, taking a first loss position, or by providing a greater risk cover than is available on the market.

162. One Board member stated that:

- (a) The Board should consider how terms and conditions on projects and programmes relate to the guiding factors and principles for financial terms and conditions as outlined in decision B.05/07;
- (b) The Secretariat should be given flexibility to revise terms and conditions post Board-approval of a project or programme if market conditions change, so as to be able to increase concessionality if required; and
- (c) Financial terms and conditions would need to be kept confidential in some cases.

163. A CSO active observer expressed concern that the document had not provided further guidance on the use of different financial instruments. They noted that the Fund had been created in large part because of the poor track record of multilateral development banks (MDBs), and that there should be guidance given to MDBs on the blending of the Fund's resources. They also rejected the reference to the World Bank-IMF debt sustainability framework.

164. A private sector organization (PSO) active observer agreed with the importance of determining financial terms on a case-by-case basis, and stated that there was a need for flexibility. They stated that there were two kinds of market-moving events that could change cash flow requirements: large-scale unexpected events, and expected events where the trajectory was known.

165. One Board member suggested that the Fund should provide guidance to AEs and sought clarity on what was meant by maximizing efficiency of the Fund's resources.

166. The Board took note of document GCF/B.10/Inf.10.

167. The Co-Chairs closed the agenda item.

Agenda item 10: Additional modalities that further enhance direct access: Terms of reference for a pilot phase

168. The Co-Chairs opened the item and asked the Board to consider document GCF/B.10/05 titled *Additional Modalities that Further Enhance Direct Access: Terms of Reference for a Pilot Phase*.

169. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the document, highlighting the changes that had been made to the document following comments received from the Board at the ninth Board meeting.

170. The Chair of the Accreditation Committee (AC) indicated that the pilot would be important in enhancing direct access for developing countries. The Chair proceeded to provide comments from the AC on the proposed approach of the pilot.

171. Several Board members welcomed the initiative and added that it was critical for the Fund and provided an opportunity to demonstrate that enhancing direct access could be successful.

172. A number of Board members pointed out that small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) should be included as entities that should be involved in the pilot, as these were critical entities in the economies of developing countries for which the pilot had been developed. Several Board members suggested that reporting on the pilot be brought forward to the twelfth meeting of the Board, instead of the fourteenth meeting as indicated in the document. Additionally, a few Board members requested that the monitoring and review of the pilot be carried out much earlier than after the three years indicated in the document, suggesting that monitoring and evaluation activities under the pilot could be carried out annually or after two years to ensure that corrective action could be taken in a timely manner. They suggested that the results of monitoring and evaluation could be used to inform the potential scaling up of the pilot.

173. Several Board members pointed out that the pilot would benefit from multi-stakeholder engagement, in particular with CSOs, throughout the project cycle. In their opinion, the involvement of stakeholders such as CSOs, women and academia would improve the transparency of the pilot during its implementation, for example during project proposal selection and monitoring and evaluation. A number of Board members welcomed the involvement of NDAs and focal points in an effort to enhance country ownership of the pilot,

adding that country ownership would assist in strengthening country institutions. A few Board members requested the Secretariat to provide further clarification on the role of NDAs and focal points in the process of submitting funding proposals under the pilot programme. The CSO active observers pointed out that the role of NDAs and focal points in the pilot should not be over-emphasized and suggested that the pilot aim for multi-stakeholder engagement with local, devolved decision-making as a core objective.

174. A few Board members requested reassurance from the Secretariat that LDCs and SIDS would be included in the pilot and get sufficient and appropriate support. A number of Board members indicated that more details were required on the oversight bodies that would be involved in order to ensure accountability, adding that this should be made mandatory. In addition, a Board member stated that NDAs and focal points would need to support the establishment and activities of any oversight bodies. A Board member requested clarification on the relationship between the pilot and the Fund's monitoring and accountability framework for AEs (to be developed).

175. Regarding the entities that would be involved in the implementation of the pilot, a few Board members suggested that entities go through fast-track accreditation to be allowed to submit funding proposals while going through the accreditation process simultaneously. A Board member requested the Secretariat to provide clarity on how the accreditation framework would be applied to the enhanced direct-access pilot entities. A Board member stated that entities with experience in the locations where the activities of the pilot would be undertaken should be involved in the pilot. A Board member highlighted the need to ensure that fiduciary and other risks were well managed in the implementation phase of the pilot. In addition, it was suggested that low environmental and social risk levels (categories B and C) be used in the activities of the pilot. A Board member requested that entities be required to inform stakeholders about activities being funded under the pilot, and appealed for this to be added to the document. The PSO active observer called for transparency in the selection of entities that would undertake activities under the pilot.

176. With respect to the activities that would be undertaken, a Board member stated that the amount of money proposed was inadequate to achieve the objectives of the pilot. Another Board member suggested a phased approach to implementing the pilot by approving projects in phases. A Board member also requested clarity on the type of activities that would be supported by the pilot and how proposals would be selected for funding under the pilot. Additionally, a Board member enquired about the basis for evaluating these proposals. Another Board member enquired as to whether readiness support was part of the financial volume of the pilot. A Board member called for the implementation of the pilot to follow best practice. A Board member indicated the activities implemented as part of the pilot should be in line with countries' climate action plans. Another Board member asked how the Fund's Private Sector Facility would be engaged in implementing the pilot.

177. The Co-Chairs requested that the AC work with the Secretariat to address the comments and requests for clarification raised by Board members, and come back to the Board with a revised draft decision.

178. The Co-Chairs reopened the item and requested the Board to consider the proposed draft decision and revised Annex II of the document that was circulated to the Board.

179. The Chair of the AC pointed out that there had been rich discussion on the matter at the ninth meeting of the Board, including a small group discussion in which comments made in plenary were incorporated. He explained the changes made and suggested that the Board move directly onto discussing and adopting the proposed draft decision in order to launch the enhanced direct access pilot which would be a great achievement for the Fund.

180. Several Board members thanked the AC and provided their comments, suggested amendments and requests for clarification on the amended Annex and proposed draft decision.

181. A few Board members requested that Annex II of the document include publication of projects or programmes on the websites of the NDAs and focal points, including non-governmental organizations as entities that could be nominated by NDAs and focal points to implement activities under the pilot. Another Board member requested clarification on the principles that would be used to select the 10 pilots that had been proposed in the document. A Board member requested clarity on the role of the Board in the proposed draft decision, including confirmation of whether the proposals under the pilot would be approved by the Board. Additionally, the same Board member asked whether environmental and social safeguards (ESS) compliance would be delegated to the entities implementing activities under the pilot, the NDA or focal point, or the Secretariat.

182. A Board member appealed for clarity on whether the request for proposals for activities under the pilot would be presented to the Board at its twelfth meeting. In addition, the same Board member enquired as to how the monitoring and accountability framework would be applied to ensure accountability of entities involved in the pilot. They felt that it was important to ensure that all the Fund's safeguards that apply to other projects also apply to the activities under the pilot for accountability purposes. The Board member suggested the addition of a specific reference to compliance with the Fund's monitoring and accountability framework and its processes and procedures by entities involved in the pilot.

183. The Chair of the AC clarified that the pilot would be selected by issuing a call for proposals. The proposals would be reviewed through the Fund's initial approval process and submitted to the Board for approval. As to whether the 10 pilots would be approved in a batch or individually, the Chair of the AC said that in the best case scenario, the 10 pilots would be approved in batches. Finally he indicated that activities implemented as part of the pilot would be subject to monitoring, the results of which would be used to evaluate the pilot and inform the extent to which the pilot packages were contributing to furthering the objectives of the Fund.

184. A Board member raised a concern over the use of public media in launching a request for proposals for the pilot in countries, as this may be counterproductive to enhancing country ownership and direct access, noting that the media did not always reflect the strategies of the government.

185. Following further discussion the Board adopted the decision with the suggested amendments.

DECISION B.10/04

The Board, having considered document GCF/B.10/05 titled Additional Modalities that Further Enhance Direct Access: Terms of Reference for a Pilot Phase:

- (a) Approves the terms of reference for a pilot phase enhancing direct access to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) as contained in Annex I to this document;*
- (b) Requests the Secretariat, under the guidance and oversight of the Accreditation Committee and in consultation with relevant stakeholders and the independent Technical Advisory Panel, to prepare and launch a request for proposal for countries, in accordance with Annex I hereto (Request for Proposal), through their national designated authorities or focal points and public media;*
- (c) Recalls that access to Fund resources will be through accredited entities. As such, nominated entities must be accredited by the Fund, in respect of the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach, prior to the review by the Board of their pilot proposals;*
- (d) Requests the Secretariat to publish the pilot proposals on the Fund's website at least 21 calendar days before the first day of the meeting at which they will be presented to the Board for approval;*

- (e) *Also requests the Secretariat and the independent Technical Advisory Panel to undertake the assessment of pilot proposals received in response to a request for proposal from countries in accordance with the Fund's initial proposal approval process,² and the initial investment framework and to provide recommendations on pilots to be approved with the initial aim of providing up to US\$ 200 million for at least 10 pilots, including at least four pilots to be implemented in small island developing States, the least developed countries and African States; and*
- (f) *Further requests the Secretariat to report back to the Board on the progress made on this request for proposal at the twelfth meeting of the Board.*

Agenda item 11: Selection process and terms of reference of the heads of the accountability units

186. The Co-Chairs opened the item.

187. The Board considered document GCF/B.10/09 titled *Selection Process and Terms of Reference of the Heads of the Accountability Units: Recommendations of the Appointment Committee*. The Chair of the Appointment Committee introduced the document.

188. The Board complimented the work of the APC and the Secretariat and reiterated the crucial need to establish the accountability units before fully operationalizing the GCF. Under this agenda item, Board members discussed matters relating to the terms of reference of each of the heads of the accountability units and other areas required to complete the selection process promptly.

189. Two Board members commented on the location of the units and their heads. The general concern was that the location should be cost-saving and follow international best practices. A CSO active observer supported the idea that the Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism should not be based in the headquarters; instead they should be based in a location which best allowed them to address complaints and deal with stakeholders on the ground.

190. The same CSO active observer also raised the issue of the cooling-off period of the Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism, which was too short compared to the directors of other funds, such as the African Development Bank or the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which have a cooling-off period of at least three years.

191. In terms of the selection process and terms of reference of the recruitment firm, one Board member stated that having three final candidates to present to the Board was too many; instead the Board member proposed reducing the number of the final candidates to one. Another Board member suggested striking a balance at two. With regard to the recruitment firm, several Board members raised the issue of cost and budget; they requested an accurate figure from the Secretariat as well as more information on the budget line.

192. Some Board members requested specific modifications to the text. One asked for Annex I, paragraph (g), to include NDAs, and for 'the Fund' to be changed to 'the Board' in paragraphs (k) and (l) of said Annex. Another Board member noted that the terms of reference for the Independent Redress Mechanism set out that it would be dealing with complaints by groups of people, whereas it should have referred to governments.

193. One Board member requested that the terms of reference of the three heads of the accountability units be in alignment with the terms of reference of the respective units.

² Decision B.07/03.

194. One Board member raised a concern regarding a potential gap in fiduciary standards with regards to anti money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, but proposed discussing that outside the confines of the Board meeting.

195. A few Board members questioned why the position of Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism had moved from a part-time to full-time position. The Chair of the APC noted that the initial decision on the position being part-time was taken at the sixth Board meeting, but that since then the responsibilities of the position had grown.

196. Several Board members insisted upon the importance of the independent nature of the accountability units. In relation to this, one Board member wondered whether the units would always rely on the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) for legal support, or share other Secretariat resources, as this could generate issues if an investigation into the Executive Director or a member of the OGC needed to be carried out.

197. The General Counsel and also the Chair of the APC responded to the questions raised by Board members, in particular agreeing on the need to align the terms of reference of all units and heads of units. The General Counsel and the Executive Director noted that, The Fund's overhead would be available to the unit, such as ICT, procurement, HR, legal and finance. The Fund has only one General Counsel and one CFO.

198. The Co-Chairs requested the APC, with the Secretariat's support, to revise the document by incorporating comments, and adjourned the agenda item.

199. The agenda item was reopened and the Chair of the APC presented the document with the following modifications:

- (a) The draft decision endorsed a selection process with 20-25 candidates identified for a long list, six to ten candidates identified for a short list, and five candidates identified for interviews with the APC, with the APC then making a recommendation to the Board with the final two candidates, by preference no later than the twelfth meeting;
- (b) The recruitment firm would be presented to the Board via an in-between meetings Board decision in order to keep to the timeline;
- (c) The budget for the process would be discussed and approved in an executive session. In terms of salary, this would be advertised at a level comparable with the salary level for similar positions in other specialized global funds. For this, the APC requested the Secretariat to prepare a comparative table of the salary levels at these funds for a recommendation to the Board at its eleventh meeting;
- (d) In terms of the seats of the independent units, the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) and the Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) would be based in Songdo, Republic of Korea. The Board might wish to consider the location of the Independent Redress Mechanism at its next meeting; and
- (e) The heads of the units would have a performance-based contract. The Board was asked to adopt the terms of reference of the three heads. This decision would also amend decision B.06/09, changing the nature of the position of the Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism to a full-time position.

200. A Board member expressed strong views on the location of the heads of the accountability units and in particular on the location of the Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism. The Board member referred to the Governing Instrument, stating that these units were major and integral parts of the Fund and that the spirit of selecting a host country also included having its permanent standing bodies in the same location. If any locations were to be considered, the member believed that this matter should not be set out in the terms of reference but rather in a separate decision discussing the relationship with the host country. Several Board members supported this stance, although others suggested keeping an open mind and

having some flexibility in order to attract the best candidates. Another Board member highlighted that the Board had the authority to decide on where units should be located, and that this was not an issue to be negotiated with the host country. There was widespread consensus on the fact that the most important issue was to proceed swiftly on this matter. The Co-Chairs stressed that the option of locating a unit elsewhere in no way reflected a negative judgement regarding the host country, rather noting the importance of flexibility for different kinds of oversight or units.

201. One Board member called for the language of the decision text to be aligned with that in paragraph 8 of Annex I to document GCF/B.05/17/Add.1 *Draft Arrangements between the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the Green Climate Fund – Addendum*.

202. Another Board member reiterated that it should be clear that the terms of reference for the heads of units were aligned with the terms of reference of the units themselves.

203. The Co-Chairs suggested making the following modifications:

- (a) Deleting the reference to locating units outside the headquarters of the Fund;
- (b) Adjusting the annexes accordingly;
- (c) Aligning the terms of reference; and
- (d) Aligning the decision language with that in the guidance provided by the COP, as suggested by members of the Board.

204. Seeing no objections to the amendments proposed, the Co-Chairs stated the decision had been adopted subject to an executive session to discuss the budget. The Board then moved into an executive session to discuss said budget.

205. The decision was duly adopted.

DECISION B.10/05

The Board having taken note of the information presented in document GCF/B.10/09 titled Selection Process and Terms of Reference of the Heads of the Accountability Units: Recommendations of the Appointment Committee:

- (a) Endorses the selection process, as set out in Annex II to this document;
- (b) Takes note of the indicative timeline encompassing the entire selection process, as set out in Annex III to this document;
- (c) Endorses the terms of reference of the recruitment firm, as set out in Annex IV to this document;
- (d) Agrees to appoint a recruitment firm via an in-between meetings decision with an invitation to approve the decision within a period of one week;
- (e) Approves a budget for the selection process of the accountability units, including the costs of the recruitment firm;
- (f) Decides that the remuneration levels of the heads of the three accountability units will be comparable to the salary levels of equivalent roles in other specialized global funds;
- (g) Requests the Secretariat to provide a comparison of salary levels for comparable positions at other specialized global funds;
- (h) Also requests the Appointment Committee to provide additional recommendations on the salary levels for consideration by the Board at its eleventh meeting;
- (i) Decides that the heads of the units will be offered performance-based contracts;

- (j) *Requests the Appointment Committee to develop the performance criteria and measurement procedure for approval by the Board via an in-between meetings decision before the twelfth meeting of the Board;*
- (k) *Adopts the terms of reference of the Head of the Independent Evaluation Unit in accordance with decision B.09/14, paragraph (c), as set out in Annex V to this document;*
- (l) *Also adopts the terms of reference of the Head of the Independent Integrity Unit in accordance with decision B.09/14, paragraph (c), as set out in Annex VI to this document;*
- (m) *Further adopts the terms of reference of the Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism in accordance with decision B.09/14, paragraph (c), as set out in Annex VII to this document; and*
- (n) *Agrees to amend the terms of reference of the Independent Redress Mechanism, as set out in Annex V to decision B.06/09, to make the position of the Head of Independent Redress Mechanism a full-time post.*

Agenda item 12: Consideration of accreditation proposals

206. The Co-Chairs opened the item.

207. They informed Board members that they proposed to conduct the session in a regular open setting and to base deliberations on the information contained in the publicly available document GCF/B.10/03 titled *Consideration of Accreditation Proposals*, asking participants to disclose any conflict of interest.

208. They also reminded members that the information of a confidential nature transmitted in the limited distribution addendum may not be discussed in this open setting.

209. A Board member proposed that if the Board felt it necessary to discuss general accreditation matters that this be done in open session before moving to an executive discussion to discuss entities requesting accreditation. Members expressed a variety of views with some in favour of keeping the deliberations around this item completely open in order to improve transparency of the accreditation process, whilst others supported moving to a closed session but only when there was a need to discuss the identities of applicants on a case-by-case basis. They stated that this latter point would enable the Board to disclose identities without violating the Interim Information Disclosure Policy (IIDP).

210. The Co-Chairs proposed that the presentation by the AC and the AP be made in open session before moving to an executive session. The Board member who had originally requested an executive session expressed a procedural concern that the Co-Chairs had allowed further debate rather than immediately accepting the request. The Co-Chairs stated that they had acknowledged the request but felt other members should have an opportunity to share their views. A Board member recalled that the rules of procedure for an executive session required that only the Executive Director be present from the Secretariat. Other Secretariat staff required approval by the Board. The Co-Chairs confirmed they would proceed with a regular plenary before moving to an executive session.

211. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the document, highlighting the entities that were accredited by the Board at the ninth Board meeting, and the diversity of the entities under consideration by the Board at the tenth meeting. In addition, challenges and considerations in the accreditation process, particularly in the context of continued and growing interest in accreditation, were also pointed out.

212. The Chair of the AC, on the invitation of the Co-Chairs, provided his remarks on the document and expressed the AC's confidence in the AP. He suggested that a strategic approach from the Board was required in order to manage the high demand for accreditation to the Fund

by various entities, which included multilateral entities, whilst maintaining the balance of diversity of entities to avoid unfair access to the Fund by multilateral entities.

213. The Chair of the AP, on the invitation of the Co-Chairs, provided his remarks and pointed out the diversity of entities under consideration, highlighting that some of the entities had been recommended with conditions. The challenges that the AP was encountering in delivering its recommendations on accreditation applications and issues that it needed to address were also outlined. In addition, the Chair of the AP indicated the lessons that the AP had learned to date and the need for site visits in assessing some applicants.

214. The Co-Chairs invited CSO and PSO active observers to share their comments before the Board entered into an executive session.

215. A CSO active observer raised their concern over the lack of transparency of the accreditation process and recommended that the Fund's IIDP be revised to align it with the Adaptation Fund's. In addition they urged the AP to engage local stakeholders in order to obtain third-party sources of information on entities whose applications were under review. They suggested that the investment portfolios of entities, whose applications were under review, should be assessed to avoid recommending entities for accreditation that had a track record which indicated that they would not contribute to the objectives of the Fund. They registered their support for the Board to enter into an executive session to allow Board members to discuss entities on their merits rather than taking the package approach to deciding on entities that were recommended for accreditation.

216. A PSO active observer thanked the AP for their hard work in preparing the recommendations. They stated that it was crucial to accredit a variety of entities that had access to different resources and markets.

217. The Co-Chairs invited Board members to share their comments on the document and the proposed draft decision.

218. Several Board members thanked the AP for their hard work in preparing recommendations for the thirteen entities that were under consideration for accreditation by the Board and expressed their confidence in the Panel's recommendations.

219. A Board member enquired about the strategy that was being applied to reach out to entities in developing countries as a way of helping countries to access the Fund's resources.

220. Several Board members stated that the Fund's resources should be accessed by developing countries through national and regional entities, adding that direct access was a fundamental pillar of the Fund.

221. Several Board members called for a strategic approach to the Fund's accreditation process as an urgent solution to deal with the high number of entities seeking accreditation to the Fund and the resource constraints of the AP and the Secretariat. Several Board members suggested that the strategy focus on the inclusion and prioritization of different types of entities that are accredited. A few Board members requested that the strategy prioritize national and regional entities, including those from LDCs and SIDS. A Board member requested that the strategic plan on accreditation be ready by the first quarter of 2016. A Board member highlighted that, based on the size of entities, national entities would have significantly less access to the Fund's financial resources compared to international entities, and urged the Board to put in place policies that would avoid this trend. They further enquired about the efforts that were being made to address this issue, without necessarily capping international entities' access to the Fund.

222. A Board member requested a breakdown of national, regional and international entities including those accredited and those that were under consideration, and pointed out that this should be discussed in each Board session on accreditation. Additionally a few Board members

pointed out that eight out of the 13 entities were international entities and raised a concern that the Fund had limited resources relative to some of the entities. One Board member commented that balance was needed, not only in terms of the number of entities, but also in the amount of resources that entities could access. They indicated that direct access entities accredited to date and those being considered at this meeting, if accredited, would be accredited to access a smaller financial volume compared to international entities.

223. A Board member called for further discussion on the roles of financial intermediaries seeking accreditation to the Fund, and raised a concern regarding the accreditation of entities whose core business was financial intermediation. There was a need for more entities that were involved in implementing projects and fewer financial intermediaries. In addition, the Board member indicated that entities accredited by the Board should have the capacity to prioritize innovation or transformational change. Another Board member voiced their concern over the accreditation of financial intermediaries as this would result in less money reaching the intended beneficiaries.

224. A few Board members highlighted that the impact of the Fund might be through making long-term investments in institutional strengthening rather than solely through direct access to the Fund's resources.

225. A few Board members also outlined that many countries, particularly SIDS, might not have entities to put forward for accreditation and needed urgent support through regional or international entities. More immediately this would also give countries more options of partners to work with. International entities could also assist direct access entities to get accredited. A Board member also reiterated that the Board had sufficient control over AEs (accreditation to the Fund is for a period of five years), in addition to the proposal approval process which could be used to strive for a balance of access to the Fund's resources by type of entity.

226. A Board member suggested adding an annex to the document that lays out the conditions for accreditation for the entities that were under consideration, so that they could be easily referenced.

227. A number of Board members also requested regular monitoring and reporting on how entities, accredited with conditions, were meeting the conditions attached to their accreditation, including the readiness support provided to meet accreditation requirements. One Board member also requested that the AP clarify the difference between conditions and recommended actions; and the difference between substantially and partially meeting the standards in the AP's recommendations on the entities.

228. A Board member requested clarification on how AEs could widen the scope of their activities over time.

229. A few Board members also requested an additional category of project size between micro and small size in order to accommodate some entities from developing countries.

230. A Board member called for international entities that apply under the fast-track accreditation to provide information on their plans to support direct access entities.

231. A Board member highlighted the need to adhere to and apply the Fund's fiduciary standards and to investigate any gaps identified in the assessment of accreditation applications to safeguard the reputation of the Fund.

232. A Board member requested greater clarity on the use of readiness and preparatory support to assist entities in the accreditation process, indicating that some AEs had approached other institutions for readiness support. A few Board members proposed joint funding proposals from international entities and direct access entities as a way of supporting direct access entities. A few Board members indicated that capping of international entities was not necessary at this point.

233. A Board member called for increased transparency in the accreditation process, and called for the AP to engage with CSOs to improve the transparency of the process.
234. A few Board members requested further gender integration in the assessment of applications for accreditation.
235. A few Board members encouraged the use of third-party evidence through rating agencies and other diverse sources of evidence, and further encouraged the AP to share more information regarding its findings. Additionally a Board member enquired if there were any problems arising from confidentiality issues with the applicants under review. The Board member also registered their support for entities in the financial sector, adding that they were key players.
236. Several Board members supported the accreditation of the entities under consideration as a package, and pointed out that the group of entities was well balanced.
237. A few Board members called for the adoption of the Adaptation Fund policy on disclosure of names of applicants, adding that disclosure of the identity of applicants after being recommended by the AP would increase transparency. In order to increase transparency another Board member called for the publication of questions sent to applicants in the review of applications. This could help to inform other applicants of the process.
238. A Board member supported the AP's suggestion to increase its capacity in order to process applications for accreditation.
239. The Board member also urged the AP to tap into the roster of experts to the UNFCCC as a resource that could assist the AP in its work.
240. Several Board members supported the AP's suggestion to have site visits, with some suggesting the involvement of CSOs and NDAs in order to get more information about applicants.
241. The Secretariat indicated that outreach to direct access entities was done through NDAs and focal points, stating that before and after the ninth meeting of the Board they received letters encouraging them to nominate entities for accreditation to the Fund. The Secretariat explained that direct access entities had received in-kind readiness and preparatory support in order to expedite their applications for accreditation for consideration at the Board meeting. Some AEs were also assisting entities in the pipeline. Six prospective applicants had been identified to receive readiness support from a contracted service provider through institutional assessments and suggested action plans to meet the Fund's standards. The Secretariat was also planning a workshop on ESS for AEs in September 2015.
242. The Secretariat stated that nine of the 20 entities (those accredited and those under consideration) were direct access entities. They added that the balance would be difficult to maintain going forward and called for guidance from the Board on the matter. Regarding transparency, the Online Accreditation System gave all applicants a clear view of the current status of their applications. In addition, the checklists used in the assessment of applications had been published on the Fund's website. The Secretariat also noted the Fund had adopted the International Finance Corporation's environmental and social performance standards as its interim safeguards and these were being applied in the review of applications. They additionally noted that some NDAs and focal points were having difficulties in identifying entities to nominate for accreditation, and highlighted that the Secretariat was developing further guidance for NDAs and focal points to assist them in this regard.
243. The Chair of the AP thanked Board members for their comments and questions in the interventions they had made regarding the recommendations of the AP. He added that there was a need to have a strategy on accreditation, streamlining the process using the limited resources available and making better use of third-party information whilst maintaining the

confidentiality provisions of the identity of applicants. He urged improvement of the accreditation framework by having more granularity on project size categories, tracking conditions and recommendations and monitoring and evaluation within the accreditation cycle.

244. The Chair also pointed out that the AP checked the conformity of applicants' gender policy with the Fund's, including the capacity to implement the principles outlined in the Fund's gender policy and action plan. The AP also called for the Fund to provide guidance on the relationship between climate change and gender, including its importance, organize workshops with AEs and gender experts to share their experiences and lessons learned, and assist inexperienced entities with developing gender policies. The AP clarified that 'substantially meets the standards' was used where the AP made a recommendation for improvement of an entity's policies or procedures; 'partially meets the standards' was used when the AP provided a condition that would need to be met in order to meet the relevant standards.

245. A Board member thanked the Secretariat and the AP for their responses and urged the Board to accredit all the entities that were recommended by the AP. A number of Board members rejected the proposal and requested an executive session, and welcomed comments from CSO active observers and PSO active observers on the list of entities. A CSO active observer indicated that they would provide their feedback once the Board had made a decision on the entities that were under consideration. A PSO active observers registered their support for accrediting the entities as a group and reiterated the importance for a diverse group of entities, adding that the group included a global financial institution which could reach out to more markets than direct access entities.

246. The Board entered into an executive session to discuss the individual entities that were under consideration.

247. The Co-Chairs reopened the item in a plenary session and indicated that the AC together with the Secretariat had worked on the document in order to address the comments that were raised by Board members when the document was first discussed at the meeting. They invited the Chair of the AC to report back on the outcome of the executive session and present the revised draft decision and annexes.

248. The Chair of the AC indicated that the proposed draft decision and annexes had been revised, taking into account comments provided by the Board in the open session and the executive session. He explained that the outcome of the executive session was reflected in the draft decision, taking into account the wide range of issues raised, including not only the accreditation of the entities in question, but also accreditation work in general, the mandate of the AP, and the role of actors in relation to the Board, amongst other issues. He requested the Board to consider the revised draft decision.

249. The Co-Chairs requested the Board to consider the revised draft decision, Annexes VI, IX and new Annex XVII of the document that were circulated to the Board. There were no objections to the request.

250. Several Board members thanked the AC for their work in preparing a revised draft decision.

251. A few Board members requested the addition of language in the decision requesting the Secretariat to capture potential risks and their mitigation on the risk dashboard in order to protect the reputation of the Fund.

252. A Board member welcomed the addition in the revised draft decision of the Secretariat providing information on the fulfilment of conditions by accredited entities and the potential disclosure of names of applicant entities in the context of the upcoming discussions on the IIDP.

253. Some Board members expressed concern over the prioritization of direct access entities in order to achieve a balance of diversity as this would prevent international access entities

from getting accredited, adding that these would result in a cap for international access entities. They requested that the wording be changed, so that the Secretariat and AP ‘actively support’ rather than ‘prioritize’ national and regional entities seeking accreditation. Other Board members supported the prioritization of national and regional entities in order to maintain the balance of entities. A Board member called for the balance between direct access and international access entities to be based on access to the Fund’s resources.

254. A Board member requested the removal of extension of fast-track accreditation to additional entities. The Board member also requested the AP to include in the ‘limited distribution’ addendum additional information regarding the applicants that would assist the Board to make more informed decisions on the accreditation of entities.

255. Several Board members highlighted that the independence of the AP was important, adding that the proposal to have the AP’s recommendations reviewed by a subset of the Board before presentation to the full Board would add another layer between the Board and the AP, in addition to reducing the time that the full Board would have access to the same information. A Board member stated that there was a need to have controls without limiting the independence of the AP. If more information was required from the AP, then this should be requested and provided to the full Board. There was no need to have the AP revise its recommendations once these had been published and shared with the Board.

256. A few Board members also indicated that there was no need to expand the membership of the AC as it was working well. A few other Board members requested the expansion of the membership of the AC so that Board members that represented constituencies and not countries could be included in the AC. This was not intended to devolve decisions or undermine independence of AP.

257. Some Board members also requested further information regarding the objectives of the strategy on accreditation mentioned in the revised draft decision.

258. Some Board members requested the revision of the Fund’s IIDP to require the disclosure of names of entities under consideration.

259. A few Board members requested the removal of ‘shall’ in the revised draft decision as the word had legal implications.

260. Some Board members recommended that the AC revise the draft decision to have a decision on accreditation of the 13 entities under consideration, as there was consensus on their accreditation, and another decision on other issues related to the accreditation process, the roles of the AC and other issues that were raised in the discussion. A few Board members did not support the suggested proposal to split the decision, indicating that there was no consensus on the accreditation of the 13 entities under consideration.

261. The Co-Chairs tasked the AC, together with four nominated Board members, with the revision of the draft decision, taking into account the comments that had been provided by Board members on key issues.

262. The Co-Chairs reopened the item and indicated that the AC, four nominated Board members and the Secretariat had worked on the document in order to address the comments that were raised by Board members when the revised draft decision was discussed. The Co-Chairs requested the Board to consider the revised draft decision that was circulated to the Board. There were no objections to the request.

263. The Chair of the AC, at the invitation of the Co-Chairs, indicated that the revised draft decision incorporated the comments raised by Board members and provided clarification on the decision’s intent to ensure a balance of diversity of entities, and ensure that the Board had adequate information when taking decisions on accreditation. The revised draft decision included a suggestion to have the AC lead on preparing a strategy for accreditation. The revised

draft decision also proposed the expansion of the AC to six members (three from developing countries and three from developed countries). The Chair further explained that the roles of the AC and the AP were delineated, adding that this should be maintained. The AC had been mandated to provide guidance on the Fund's accreditation-related policies and procedures.

264. Several Board members thanked the AC for their work in preparing a revised draft decision.

265. A Board member registered his disassociation with the decision as it maintained the word 'shall', which had legal ramifications.

266. A Board member suggested that the disclosure of entities recommended for accreditation be made to the Board only. Another Board member indicated that the AP should be free to provide information in the public or limited distribution versions of its recommendations.

267. A few Board members requested clarification on whether the AP was at liberty to change its recommendations based on the questions received from Board members, and called for the independence of the AP to be respected. A Board member outlined that the AP could choose to change its recommendations if it so wished. They noted however that the Board may decide not to accept the AP's recommendations if issues raised by the Board were not adequately addressed.

268. A Board member registered their support on the issue of confidentiality, highlighting that this was in line with the Fund's current IIDP. Another Board member requested the revision of the IIDP in line with international best practice. A Board member requested clarification on the issue of confidentiality of entities under consideration by the Board.

269. A Board member expressed their appreciation to the AC for explaining its role in the accreditation process.

270. A few Board members proposed to change the section of the decision concerning the potential revision of the AP's recommendations, by highlighting that the AP would use its own discretion to do so.

271. Several Board members supported the adoption of the proposed draft decision with the suggested amendments.

272. The Board duly adopted the decision with the suggested amendments.

273. The Secretariat disclosed the names of the 13 entities that had been accredited by the Board (as contained in the relevant annexes to the decision).

274. Following a request from a CSO active observer, the Co-Chairs gave them the floor to give a statement on the entities which had been accredited.

275. The CSO active observer expressed very strong concerns about the decision that had been adopted by the Board on the accreditation of entities, and voiced deep and growing frustration about the direction being taken on AEs and the flawed nature of the current process. They called for the rules on the disclosure of names of entities to change, so they could express their opinions on the entities being considered prior to their approval, as was the case in the Adaptation Fund. They noted paragraph (k) of the decision as a step in the right direction, but coming too late. They indicated that the Board had allowed accreditation of entities over which they had clear concerns. In particular, they singled out Deutsche Bank due to its position as a prominent coal funder, criticism over its human rights record, and fines received due to compliance breaches. They noted that the World Bank now acted as both the Interim Trustee and an accredited entity, which constituted a potential conflict of interest. They also highlighted the lack of track record in terms of environmental and social policies of the Africa Finance Corporation. With regard to the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), they noted its poor

track record in terms of human rights and sustainability related to the projects it had financed. They reminded Board members of their fiduciary duties in protecting the interests of the Fund, and questioned whether the decision adopted did this. Additionally, the CSO active observers registered their concern over the accreditation of groups of entities, stated that international entities might get more access to the Fund's resources than direct access entities, and lamented the preponderance of financial institutions. Finally, they voiced the strong feeling that the values of the Fund were not being reflected in this decision, and wished it to be recorded that they had no part in the decision taken, and tried to warn the Board against taking it.

276. The Co-Chairs opened the floor to the Board to respond to comments made by the CSO active observer.

277. A Board member outlined that the Board had asked a lot of questions in the executive session and were determined to continue with this in the future. They pointed out that many institutions had sought accreditation to the Fund as a way of improving the sustainability of their operations. In addition, the Fund had an opportunity to drive this change in these entities. It was important to keep in mind that there were a number of controls that could be employed, namely the monitoring and accountability framework and three independent units. The Board also had the option of withdrawing the accreditation of entities or of not approving funding proposals submitted by these entities. They indicated that it was important to accredit different kinds of entities and make them better. Finally they welcomed continued engagement of civil society and acknowledged the need to find ways to improve this in the future.

278. A Board member proposed that the Co-Chairs issue a statement on behalf of the Board as a way of responding to the comments made by the CSO active observer.

279. The Co-Chairs registered their support for the proposal to issue a statement from Board members, and congratulated the Board on taking an importance decision to move the work of the Fund forward.

DECISION B.10/06

The Board, having considered document GCF/B.10/03 titled Consideration of Accreditation Proposals and after further exchange with the Accreditation Panel (AP):

- (a) *Takes note with appreciation of the in-depth assessment conducted by the AP contained within the relevant annexes for the following applicants:*
- (i) *Applicant 008 (APL008) is the Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF), as contained in Annex VIII;*
 - (ii) *Applicant 009 (APL009) is the Ministry of Natural Resources of Rwanda (MINIRENA), as contained in Annex IX;*
 - (iii) *Applicant 010 (APL010) is the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), as contained in Annex X;*
 - (iv) *Applicant 011 (APL011) is the Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF), as contained in Annex XI;*
 - (v) *Applicant 012 (APL012) is the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), as contained in Annex XII;*
 - (vi) *Applicant 013 (APL013) is the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC), as contained in Annex XIII;*
 - (vii) *Applicant 014 (APL014) is Deutsche Bank AktienGesellschaft (Deutsche Bank AG), as contained in Annex XIV;*

- (viii) *Applicant 015 (APL015) is the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), as contained in Annex XV;*
- (ix) *Applicant 016 (APL016) is the Conservation International Foundation (CI), as contained in Annex XVI;*
- (x) *Applicant 017 (APL017) is the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), as contained in Annex XVII;*
- (xi) *Applicant 018 (APL018) is the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), as contained in Annex XVIII;*
- (xii) *Applicant 019 (APL019) is the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as contained in Annex XIX; and*
- (xiii) *Applicant 020 (APL020) is the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA) (together as “World Bank”, as contained in Annex XX;*

- (b) *Also takes note that the Board exercised its discretion and best judgement in reliance on the information furnished by the AP;*
- (c) *Accredits APL008, APL009, APL010, APL011, APL012, APL013, APL014, APL015, APL016, APL017, APL018, APL019 and APL020 pursuant to paragraph 45 of the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund (the Fund), and subject to, and in accordance with, the assessment, including any conditions and recommendations, by the AP as contained in the relevant annexes for each of the applicant entities and reiterated in Annex XXII;*
- (d) *Decides that the Board shall continue to exercise its discretion and best judgement in future accreditation decisions;*
- (e) *Requests the Secretariat to track and report on the fulfilment of conditions of accreditation on a regular basis;*
- (f) *Takes note that, pursuant to decision B.08/03, paragraph (k), the Secretariat in consultation with the AP, is proposing that the eligibility to apply under the fast-track accreditation process be extended to those entities listed in Annex XXI;*
- (g) *Decides that those entities referred to in Annex XXI are also eligible to apply under the fast-track accreditation process for the Fund’s standards in accordance with decision B.08/03, paragraph (e), for Global Environment Facility agencies, decision B.08/03, paragraph (f), for entities accredited by the Adaptation Fund, and decision B.08/03, paragraph (g), for entities under the Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid of the European Commission;*
- (h) *Also decides that, recalling decision B.06/06 and pursuant to decision B.09/07, paragraph (g), the Secretariat will actively support applications for accreditation received from subnational, national and regional public and private sector entities in order to ensure a balance of diversity, including between entities under the direct access and international access modalities, in the list of entities being considered for accreditation by the Board;*
- (i) *Further decides that, recalling decision B.08/03, all international entities, as an important consideration of their accreditation application, shall indicate how they intend to strengthen capacities of, or otherwise support, potential subnational, national and regional entities to meet, at the earliest opportunity, the accreditation requirements of the Fund in order to enhance country ownership and that they report annually on these actions;*
- (j) *Reaffirms that information on how the entity will contribute to the mandate of the Fund and any information considered material, particularly information with potential*

- reputational risks to the Fund, shall be provided in the recommendation of the AP to the Board;*
- (k) *Requests the Secretariat, as part of the information disclosure policy to be considered by the Board at its eleventh meeting, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to develop a proposal to increase the transparency of the accreditation process, including the modalities for the disclosure of the names of applicant entities and/or those recommended by the AP to the Board for accreditation;*
- (l) *Decides that, recalling decision B.09/08, the accreditation master agreement, to be signed between the Fund and each accredited entity, shall define the relationship between the Fund and the entity, including the roles of each and how each will carry out its responsibilities, under those arrangements, with regard to the extent and scope of its accreditation;*
- (m) *Requests the Secretariat to address through the accreditation master agreement or other relevant documents, including the risk management framework, any conflict of interest, potential conflict of interest and reputational risks which may arise from the relationship between the Fund and its accredited entities reflecting generally accepted international standards;*
- (n) *Also requests the Secretariat to present relevant policies addressing fraud, corruption and other prohibited practices, and policies addressing anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism issues, taking into account relevant Board decisions and international best practices and standards for inclusion in the Fund's fiduciary principles and standards adopted in decision B.07/02, for consideration by the Board no later than its eleventh meeting;*
- (o) *Authorizes the Executive Director to recruit a fiduciary compliance specialist with anti-money laundering and countering financing of terrorism skills;*
- (p) *Decides that, in accordance with the disclosure policies of the Fund:*
- (i) *The Secretariat will submit a document on the consideration of accreditation proposals, including the AP's assessment and recommendations on accreditation and names of the entities, to the Board at least 21 days before the start of the Board meeting;*
- (ii) *Board members may provide questions about the entities being recommended for accreditation, in writing, to the Secretariat within one week of the AP's recommendations being circulated to the Board;*
- (iii) *The Secretariat shall compile questions provided by the Board, and circulate the compilation of questions, verbatim, to the AP and all Board members; and*
- (iv) *The AP shall respond to all questions and provide a compilation of those responses to the Board at the latest one week before the Board meeting. The AP will have sole authority to decide whether or not to make changes to its recommendation in response to feedback from the Board.*
- (q) *Also decides to revise the membership of the Accreditation Committee, as contained in Annex IV to decision B.07/02, to comprise:*
- (i) *Three Board members or alternate members from developing country Parties; and*
- (ii) *Three Board members or alternate members from developed country Parties; and*
- (r) *Requests the Accreditation Committee with the support of the Secretariat to work on a strategy on accreditation for consideration by the Board at its eleventh meeting. The report should examine issues including efficiency, fairness and transparency of the*

accreditation process, as well as the extent to which current and future accredited entities enable the Fund to fulfil its mandate.

Agenda item 13: Initial monitoring and accountability framework for accredited entities (progress report)

280. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda Item.
281. The Co-Chairs invited the Board to consider information document GCF/B.10/Inf.11, titled *Initial Monitoring and Accountability Framework for Accredited Entities*.
282. The Co-Chairs invited a representative of the Secretariat to introduce the item, after which they opened the floor for comments.
283. A number of Board members considered that this agenda item, which contained an information document, should also include a decision so as to give more high-level guidance to the Secretariat. In doing so, two Board members underlined the importance of ensuring that the accreditation term for entities be fixed at five years, with the Board deciding whether an entity would be re-accredited based on the assessment conducted by the Secretariat and AP.
284. Several Board members and a CSO active observer stated that the monitoring and accountability framework should become a full-fledged framework embracing a broader range of monitoring and evaluation beyond a compliance check (for example, a balance between performance and results, and a risk-based approach to monitoring), as well as involving wider stakeholder engagement including a public call for input.
285. A number of Board members and a PSO active observer emphasized that the monitoring and accountability framework should be simple and streamlined, not bureaucratic or cumbersome.
286. Three Board members and a PSO active observer pointed out that the framework should be consistent with the Fund's monitoring and evaluation policy and other operational elements (Independent Evaluation Unit, accreditation master agreement, etc.) in terms of lesson-learning. Furthermore, another member stated that the framework and its implementation should also be linked to the Fund's knowledge management.
287. Some Board members, along with the CSO and PSO active observers, asked that the Secretariat flesh out details of the framework in terms of its implementation and operation, and clarify the respective roles of the various actors (Secretariat, Accreditation Committee, Accreditation Panel and NDA or focal point) in operating it. Regarding the role of NDAs and focal points, one member provided input to the Secretariat directly via electronic means.
288. Following the requests from some Board members, the Co-Chairs requested a draft decision be prepared by the Secretariat, taking into account the views expressed by Board members. The item was adjourned.
289. The Co-Chairs reopened the item and the Secretariat presented the revised draft decision to the Board as requested.
290. Two Board members asked for the inclusion of gender policy as one of the main compliance check criteria, and for a clear reference to the inclusion of women in stakeholder engagement and local monitoring.
291. Two Board members objected to taking a decision on this information item. The Co-Chairs stated that the purpose of such a decision was to enable the Secretariat to develop a full-fledged framework by providing clear guidance. The Co-Chairs asked whether the principle of not changing an information item to a decision item also applied to agenda item 19 on country

ownership. One Board member stated that they perceived the Co-Chairs to be negotiating with the Board on these issues. The Co-Chairs responded that they were seeking clarification.

292. After the Co-Chairs noted that two Board members were not comfortable with the decision text, one Board member raised a point of order, highlighting that in a Board operating on the basis of consensus no attempt should be made by the Co-Chairs to count 'votes' for or against.

293. Given the lack of consensus on the current draft, the Co-chairs adjourned the discussion and moved to another agenda item, requesting the Secretariat to revise the text.

294. The Secretariat distributed an amended draft decision text to the Board incorporating their comments and amendments. The Board then adopted decision B.10/07.

DECISION B.10/07

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/Inf.11 titled Initial Monitoring and Accountability Framework for Accredited Entities (Progress Report):

- (a) Notes the need for ongoing monitoring of compliance with the Green Climate Fund's (the Fund) fiduciary standards, environmental and social safeguards, and gender policy;*
- (b) Decides that the accreditation of an entity to the Fund is valid for a fixed term of five years or less, depending on the terms of accreditation;*
- (c) Also decides that the Board will decide whether an entity is to be re-accredited, based on the assessment conducted by the Secretariat and the Accreditation Panel;*
- (d) Further decides that the initial monitoring and accountability framework will focus on compliance with the Fund's environmental and social safeguards, fiduciary standards, and gender policy, and will comprise at least four compliance checks of the accredited entities and activities financed by the Fund as follows:*
 - (i) Annual self-reporting to the Secretariat by the accredited entity and at any time when an important change in the capacity or any other material aspect of the accredited entity with regard to the Fund's fiduciary standards, environmental and social safeguards, and gender policy occurs;*
 - (ii) Ad hoc checks by the Secretariat at the level of the accredited entity and/or at the level of the project/programme, when any significant concern of potential non-compliance arises;*
 - (iii) Annual review on a given proportion by number of projects, of the Fund's portfolio of projects and programmes, where projects and programmes to be reviewed are selected inter alia with consideration of the risk category of the project/programme; and*
 - (iv) A light-touch review of the accredited entity halfway through its five-year accreditation period;*
- (e) Requests the Secretariat to further develop the initial monitoring and accountability framework for consideration by the Board at its eleventh meeting, in particular providing more detail on:*
 - (i) Corrective actions and remedies that can be implemented in cases of non-compliance;*
 - (ii) The implementation of the compliance checks listed in paragraph (d) above and any additional compliance checks that may be identified;*

- (iii) *An early warning system to support ad hoc checks and the annual review of a portion of the Fund's portfolio;*
 - (iv) *Local monitoring (including feedback from a range of stakeholders, including women);*
 - (v) *How to process the potential reaccreditation of accredited entities at the end of their five-year accreditation period;*
 - (vi) *How the initial monitoring and accountability framework will relate to and work with the Fund's accountability units;*
 - (vii) *Ensuring there are sufficient resources available to the Secretariat to implement the framework;*
 - (viii) *How the framework will use a risk-based approach, including by leveraging other monitoring processes, to use its resources efficiently;*
 - (ix) *Reporting on the findings of activities under the monitoring and accountability framework; and*
 - (x) *How the national designated authority or focal point can be included in the initial monitoring and accountability framework; and*
- (f) *Also requests the Secretariat, when further developing the initial monitoring and accountability framework, to do so in consultation with the Accreditation Committee and entities accredited by the Fund, and by engaging a wide group of stakeholders, including women through a call for public input.*

Agenda item 14: Report on the implementation of legal and formal arrangements with accredited entities

295. This agenda item was not considered by the Board.

Agenda item 15: Recommendations for further accrediting national, regional and private sector entities (progress report)

296. This agenda item was not considered by the Board.

Agenda item 16: Initial risk management framework: Methodology to determine and define the Green Climate Fund's risk appetite

297. The Co-Chairs introduced the agenda item, and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/07 titled *Initial Risk Management Framework: Methodology to Determine and Define the Fund's Risk Appetite*.

298. Representatives of the Secretariat introduced the item and explained the Fund's risk management framework and the approach to developing a risk appetite methodology.

299. The Chair of the RMC stated that the document had been reviewed by the RMC, and that the RMC recommended that the Board adopt the draft decision.

300. The RMC agreed that this document provided a comprehensive and detailed overview of the risk appetite methodology and framework, risk categories and subcategories, and risk

dashboard. However, in order to proceed with the remaining steps of determining the Fund's risk appetite, the RMC had some recommendations to be taken into account in the Board decision.

301. The RMC recommended that, when developing future elements of the risk management framework, Board members' sense of ownership of the Fund's risk appetite should be strengthened as risk preferences would vary significantly between Board members. The RMC noted the importance of achieving alignment in order to set a comprehensive Fund-wide risk appetite.

302. The Chair of the RMC explained that the risk dashboard tool allowed the Board to effectively monitor the Fund's overall risk profile. They recommended that additional detail be given on how the risk dashboard would guide the Fund's investment decisions, and how it could be used in practice. As part of an ongoing risk management process, it would be useful to further redefine the risk dashboard with guidance from the Board at this meeting or at a later stage. Furthermore, the RMC agreed that the 'pledge risk' was not to be classified as financial risk, but instead to be classified in the 'reputational risk' category.

303. Finally, given that determining the Fund's risk appetite was an ongoing process, the RMC considered that the Fund did not require a fully finalized risk appetite framework by the time projects and programmes were considered for approval by the Board at the eleventh Board meeting. However, it was important to adopt the fundamental elements of the framework, such as the risk appetite methodology and risk dashboard. These were key pillars of the overall risk management framework which, in accordance with decision B.07/05, were to be in place by the time the Board considered climate change projects and programmes at its eleventh meeting.

304. There was general support for the document and consensus among Board members that the methodology and risk dashboard could be a good basis for the Board in terms of evaluating and monitoring the Fund's overall risk. The Board made several suggestions to improve the document.

305. Under 'Development of scenarios' in Annex III to document GCF/B.10/07, a Board member suggested that the period of occurrence be reduced from 36 months to 24 months to capture risk over time. Several Board members, a PSO active observer and a CSO active observer raised the issue of risk associated with AEs within and beyond the accreditation master agreement with the Fund, and called for this type of third-party risk to also be captured and monitored.

306. In terms of country ownership, some Board members and a CSO active observer suggested that the joint IMF/World Bank Debt Sustainability Framework should be excluded and that the Fund should have its own standards where applicable.

307. A Board member requested that legal risk be streamlined due to its ambiguity in the subcategories, and suggested that pledge risk be classified as reputational risk and that liquidity risk be part of the market risk subcategory.

308. One Board member suggested that staffing risk be further addressed regarding the Fund's staffing model, i.e. the high number of consultants compared to permanent staff members.

309. There was a discussion on balance between adaptation and mitigation activities, with Board members calling for this to be addressed in the strategic risk subcategory as concentration risk.

310. Several Board members had differing views on shadow credit rating and whether the Fund should target a specific level of credit rating for its long-term sustainability, or take maximum risk to meet its mandate and avoid being limited to a certain level of risk.

311. A CSO active observer found the idea of using shadow credit ratings disconcerting. They noted further that the focus should be on outflows of the Fund rather than reflows to the Fund, but felt that the dashboard proposed seemed to be more concerned with the latter. They also highlighted that if the purpose of the Fund was to be grant-based, then the risk appetite should be higher.
312. A Board member requested that accountability risk be established to address the Fund's compliance and effectiveness with guidance from the COP.
313. To capture the guidance provided by the Board in an appropriate manner, a Board member suggested the RMC work with the Secretariat on a revised decision.
314. The Co-Chair requested that the RMC draft a revised decision on the basis of suggestions made by the Board.
315. The Co-Chair reopened the item and the Chair of the RMC presented the revised draft decision, which had been circulated with its annexes, to the Board and highlighted the changes.
316. The Board agreed in general terms with the revised draft decision as it reflected the guidance from the previous session.
317. However, further to the revision proposed by the RMC, a Board member requested the removal of pledge risk on the basis that pledge risk was unquantifiable and could not be monitored or managed.
318. A Board member suggested that compliance with international law be added to external compliance risk.
319. A Board member provided the following specific text for accountability: 'Failure of governance to enable and make timely decisions in corporate affairs or to respond to COP guidance.'
320. The Co-Chairs requested that the Secretariat finalize the decision reflecting the guidance from Board members and adopted the decision.

DECISION B.10/08

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/07 titled Initial Risk Management Framework: Methodology to Determine and Define the Fund's Risk Appetite:

- (a) Adopts the risk dashboard and the related categories and subcategories of risk proposed in Annex XXIII to this document;*
- (b) Also adopts the Fund's risk appetite methodology as contained in Annex XXIV to this document;*
- (c) Requests the Secretariat, in consultation with the Risk Management Committee, to prepare for the eleventh Board meeting, a detailed risk register, which shall further define the risk categories and subcategories, as outlined in Annex XXIII to this document;*
- (d) Also requests the Secretariat, in consultation with the Risk Management Committee, to develop and run scenarios, for the eleventh Board meeting, based on the adopted risk categories and subcategories, for consideration by the Board in the establishment of priorities, targets, tolerances and limits for the different risk categories and subcategories, as outlined in Annex XXIV to this document and to specify the risks to be addressed by the Fund and other actors such as accredited entities; and*
- (e) Further requests the Secretariat, in consultation with the Risk Management Committee, to undertake a review of the risk dashboard by the third Board meeting of 2016.*

Agenda item 17: Appointment of experts of the independent Technical Advisory Panel

321. The Co-Chairs opened the item. They informed members that no document had been circulated on this matter in advance of the tenth Board meeting as the IC had decided to continue its deliberations in Songdo on 5 July 2015 before the start of the Board meeting. Subsequently document GCF/B.10/15 titled *Appointment of Experts of the Independent Technical Advisory Panel* was circulated on 7 July 2015 as well as a limited-distribution addendum document.

322. The General Counsel explained that the addendum was of a 'limited-distribution' nature so names of candidates could not be revealed whilst the Board was in open plenary, whilst the other could be reviewed in that forum.

323. The Co-Chairs stated that they proposed to proceed in open plenary with a presentation followed by Board discussion. If Board members wished they could then move into an executive session.

324. Ms. Kate Hughes, on behalf of the Coordinator of the IC made opening remarks. She explained that the IC had overseen a rigorous recruitment process undertaken by the Secretariat, in which they had reached out to developing countries and encouraged female candidates to apply. From the 185 curricula vitae received, and given the Board decision to increase the independent TAP size from four to six members, they proposed six candidates for Board consideration. She stated that the IC achieved consensus on the following four candidates: a male candidate from Bangladesh, a female candidate from Germany, a female candidate from Colombia and a male candidate from Japan. They were unable to reach consensus on the remaining two, a male candidate from the United States of America and a male candidate from Nigeria.

325. Given the further burden on the Secretariat and time delay of a new recruitment process, they had agreed to present two options for the Board to consider. The first was to approve six candidates, and the second to approve four candidates as a first stage, to be increased to six through a subsequent decision.

326. They had also agreed on a review after one year to assess the TAP's effectiveness.

327. Several Board members expressed their initial support for the first option, noting the hard work and rigour that the process had entailed, and the complementary expertise and geographical balance that the African candidate and the forestry specialist would bring to the Panel.

328. One Board member questioned the range of profiles of the candidates, noting that five of them had MDB experience. Another stated that singling out MDB experience in a wide-ranging career as a reason to exclude a candidate would not be appropriate.

329. Several Board members asked about the source of divergence amongst IC members concerning the two candidates.

330. Another member stated that they did not see reflected in the proposed batch of candidates the kind of experience relevant to the Fund's strategic results areas. They proposed that the Secretariat should re-advertise for the two remaining TAP positions under review. Another member proposed that the Secretariat go back to the original list of 185 curricula vitae and put forward another two candidates within a month and a half.

331. Ms. Hughes responded that the IC felt there was a balance in the group of six candidates. Noting the difficulty in addressing some of the questions, she proposed moving to an executive session, which was supported by several Board members.

332. One Board member reiterated their question on divergence within the IC, and expressed a preference for approving only four Board members at this time.
333. Three Board members made further arguments in favour of approving the six proposed TAP members. They argued that not doing so would send a message of mistrust in the Secretariat's work, and not approving the African and forestry candidates would be harmful to the African constituency and AEs developing projects on forestry. They also underlined that the expertise of the candidates presented was broad and covered key issues, and that three members of the TAP had UNFCCC backgrounds. They also noted that the review process after 12 months would allow for correction of possible deficiencies in the TAP.
334. Further concerns were expressed by some Board members about the lack of consensus within the IC and the large proportion of candidates with MDB experience. It was felt by some members that those steeped in MDB culture would inevitably focus on mitigation projects at the expense of adaptation.
335. The Executive Director stated that it was essential for the TAP to have an African representative. She noted that there were many post-conflict and fragile states where special knowledge was needed. In the case of the African candidate under discussion, she stated that from her experience with the candidate, he would be very suitable.
336. A point of order was raised by a Board member who stated it was not the role of the Secretariat to inform the Board about one particular candidate.
337. Several Board members then asked to move into an executive session to resolve the points raised by members. This was confirmed by the Co-Chairs.
338. A CSO active observer noted that qualifications were the most important factor, and urged the Board to make the selection process more transparent. They suggested that, to have an efficient TAP, the number of members should be increased over time. They further suggested establishing a roster of experts to draw upon when needed, making use of the UNFCCC roster. They urged the Board to avoid an over-reliance on candidates with MDB experience.
339. The Board moved then into an executive session.
340. The Co-Chairs reopened the plenary and Ms. Hughes introduced a new decision text endorsing four candidates out of the original six. The Co-Chairs opened the floor to comments and suggestions from the Board.
341. One Board member expressed support for the new decision. Others argued that more detail was needed on how the two remaining positions would be filled, including a deadline before the twelfth Board meeting, and whether the pool of candidates would be drawn from the previous 185 applicants, the UNFCCC roster of experts or other experts.
342. One Board member objected that the new proposal did not capture their comments in the executive session to allow the TAP to draw in the rich expertise available from the UNFCCC roster of experts. The Co-Chairs noted that three of the candidates possessed UNFCCC experience, but the Board member responded that this fact was not sufficient to ensure adequate input from experts with UNFCCC experience. A second Board member asked the former to suggest specific changes to the decision text.
343. The Co-Chairs proposed that the two Board members discuss the issue further in order to propose a way forward.
344. The item was again presented for consideration by the Board, and a new draft decision text was circulated. Ms. Hughes introduced changes reflecting the comments from Board members.
345. Following further discussion, the decision was adopted.

DECISION B.10/09

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/15 titled *Appointment of Experts of the Independent Technical Advisory Panel*:

- (a) Endorses the nomination by the Investment Committee of the following experts of the independent Technical Advisory Panel for one term:
 - (i) Mr. Ahsan Uddin Ahmed (Male, Bangladesh);
 - (ii) Ms. Silvie Kreibiehl (Female, Germany);
 - (iii) Ms. Claudia Martinez (Female, Colombia); and
 - (iv) Mr. Jo Yamagata (Male, Japan);
- (b) Reaffirms that the work of the independent Technical Advisory Panel will be conducted as per the terms of reference approved in decision B.09/10, paragraph (a);
- (c) Also reaffirms that the Panel will comprise six members as per the terms of reference approved in decision B.09/10, paragraph (a), and that the remaining two Panel members will be selected before the twelfth meeting of the Board with due consideration to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) roster of experts and to the geographic and specialty coverage, as appropriate;
- (d) Decides that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Investment Committee, will conduct a review of the independent Technical Advisory Panel's effectiveness to be provided to the Board for consideration at its fourteenth meeting. This review will include an assessment of:
 - (i) Projected demands on the Panel and its associated capacity to assess funding proposals in terms of time commitment and range of technical expertise;
 - (ii) Any specific gaps in the Panel's technical expertise that should be filled through the appointment of additional Panel members (including from the UNFCCC roster of experts as appropriate) rather than ad hoc technical support; and
 - (iii) Costings for the recruitment and employment of such additional Panel members;
- (e) Moreover, based on the objectives and guiding principles, and paragraph 70 on expert and technical advice of the Governing Instrument, and on the Panel's terms of reference as approved in decision B.09/10, paragraph (a), agrees that:
 - (i) The Panel will, with the help of the Secretariat, draw on technical expertise, particularly including that from, but not limited to, the UNFCCC roster of experts and thematic bodies, as appropriate; and
 - (ii) The Secretariat should, in line with the Panel's terms of reference, establish a dedicated roster of experts for the Panel in major mitigation and adaptation areas over time, and to report on progress at the fourteenth meeting of the Board; and
- (f) Decides, noting decision 5/CP.19, to include in its annual report to the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC information on the development and implementation of mechanisms to draw on appropriate expert and technical advice, including from the relevant thematic bodies established under the Convention, as appropriate.

Agenda item 18: Progress report on the readiness and preparatory support programme

346. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/Inf.06 titled *Progress Report on the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme*.

347. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the item and presented the activities of the Secretariat with regards to readiness and preparatory support. They described in particular the status of the designation of NDAs and focal points and the committing of funds through standardized packages. They also went on to explain the development of an internal process to respond to countries' requests effectively, including an internal review and approval process for the readiness proposals. They also outlined the in-kind support provided to direct access entities for the accreditation process and the expected completion of institutional assessments for entities through a service provider to be competitively procured by the Secretariat. They explained that they expected needs and requests related to readiness activity area 4 (pipeline development support) to emerge, leading to the development of a guide note in preparation of such support.

348. Many Board members, including members representing LDCs, SIDS and African states, expressed appreciation for the report and the progress made by the Secretariat on the readiness and preparatory support programme since the last Board meeting. They emphasized the role of the programme in providing a level playing field, especially for the countries most vulnerable to climate change, which were also often the ones most in need of this kind of support. A few Board members noted that the Board had agreed to allocate more than half the programme to LDCs, SIDS and African states, and that the activities of the Secretariat were going in the right direction.

349. In particular, one member from a SIDS country gave the programme a vote of confidence, noting that some of the smallest SIDS were coming forward to avail themselves of the programme.

350. One member from an LDC and African state also commended the programme, but called for more outreach and deliberate efforts to reach out to LDCs, in particular in Africa, which had a wide range of countries in varying situations. The member stressed the urgent nature of this work.

351. Many of the Board members praised regional workshops as an effective tool for countries, requesting the Secretariat to continue efforts in providing tailored, needs-based workshops, as well as other tools such as webinars. Several Board members asked for more information on the lessons learned from this engagement, as well as first-hand feedback on the perception of the readiness programme and its ability to meet needs, to improve further in the future.

352. Several Board members appreciated the Secretariat's efforts in working with different delivery partners, and called for outreach to further involve bilateral agencies, local organizations, non-governmental and civil society organizations and the private sector on the ground. Another Board member asked whether partner agencies would also provide their own resources or solely draw on the Fund's resources.

353. Other Board members highlighted specific programmes and partners which could be leveraged by the Fund. For instance, one Board member specifically mentioned the Japan International Cooperation Agency as a potential source of support, while others suggested that the Fund could build on existing work by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) or the Climate Investment Funds (CIF).

354. One Board member raised a question on the Fund's efforts in supporting the national adaptation plan (NAP) process, proposing collaboration with other partners such as the GEF and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) for such support.

355. Other Board members called for increased delegation to implementing entities to deliver the programme, with monitoring and structure provided by the Secretariat. However, some Board members raised questions on how the programme could ensure compatibility and consistency throughout the implementation and monitoring of the programme, and called for increased reporting and standardization in this regard. One Board member suggested a coordination workshop with delivery partners to this end.

356. Some Board members asked for clarification on whether developing projects from the concept stage into full proposals constituted readiness support or another kind of support. Other Board members called for a clearer definition of the work under the readiness programme and the accreditation process.

357. Some Board members raised concerns related to language barriers, emphasizing the need to provide translation of information materials of the Fund for non-English speaking countries and encouraging the Fund to continue ensuring a wide range of languages spoken within its staff. This was also echoed by a CSO active observer.

358. The same CSO active observer further noted that the pace of programme delivery needed to be stepped up to respond to remaining requests. They also stressed that multi-stakeholder engagement within countries should be strengthened, inviting local CSOs and non-governmental organizations to national and regional workshops, and encouraged the use of peer-to-peer learning throughout all activity areas. They raised concerns over general lacunae in outreach and communication, and in evaluation tools and indicators on the impact of the programme, which were important to ensure accountability and transparency. They also raised concerns over the proportion of the budget being dedicated to consultant fees, and hoped that most of the funds would go to beneficiaries rather than consultants from the global North. Finally, they called for coordination to ensure coherence and avoid duplication with regards to the work of other official implementation partners as well as other organizations conducting their own readiness work.

359. A PSO active observer felt that a crucial element was missing: readiness and preparedness focused on the private sector. They called for PSAG recommendations to be taken into account in the design of future readiness activities and recommended that NDAs interested in increasing opportunities focus on three areas:

- (a) Readiness of the country's enabling environment to absorb capital;
- (b) Readiness in the pipeline of investable opportunities; and
- (c) Readiness of public and private capital with a suitable risk appetite willing to invest.

360. Responding to comments during the plenary the representative of the Secretariat explained that standardized packages aimed at ensuring the consistency of programmes while implementing through a diversity of delivery partners chosen by countries.

361. They also shared challenges, including:

- (a) The capacity of NDAs and focal points; the capacity of NDAs varied, therefore countries moved at a different pace in the development of readiness proposals;
- (b) Language barriers: some countries faced difficulties in fully understanding the work of the Fund. For instance, all Board decisions were only available in English. The Secretariat was in the process of procuring translation services.
- (c) Monitoring: the Secretariat had focused on setting up a system aligned with Board decisions and guidelines for faster implementation of the programme. Helping delivery

partners on implementation was critical not only in achieving expected outputs and deliverables, but also in terms of impact in countries.

- (d) Human resources: currently the readiness programme was being managed by less than five full-time staff while demands from countries were significant.

362. The Executive Director added that the readiness programme was the first programme under implementation phase and similar to enhanced direct access, which encouraged access to resources through national entities, with NDAs or focal points empowered to choose delivery partners for readiness activities. She also pointed out that various steps had already been taken, including due diligence on the fiduciary capacity of delivery partners, which took time, and that the programme was just starting to deliver results. As such, she suggested that it might be not good practice to change the modalities of implementation at the present time.

363. A representative of the Secretariat confirmed that there was a need for further outreach to countries with lower capacity. Regarding the question from the Board on coordination with different delivery partners, they mentioned that the coordination mechanism, a group of readiness delivery partners, could help address such issues. They also added that the programme was trying to ensure the participation of the private sector and civil society through stakeholder engagement, a key element of activity areas 1 and 2 of the programme. They took note of all the comments and input from the Board.

364. The Co-Chairs echoed that lessons learned and qualitative feedback on the programme needed to be included in the next report and took note of document GCF/B.10/Inf.06 titled *Progress Report on the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme*.

Agenda item 19: Country ownership

365. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item, and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/Inf.07 titled *Country Ownership*.

366. A representative of the Secretariat summarized the role of NDAs and focal points in the Fund's activities, including accreditation, project and programme development and the approval process. They noted that the Secretariat was about to start implementation of readiness support for nine countries, to strengthen NDAs and focal points and for strategic framework development. They also highlighted the high demand from NDAs and focal points for information on the Fund's activities and that the current capacity of the Secretariat remained a challenge in managing relationships with all NDAs and focal points.

367. Several Board members confirmed the importance of country ownership, and the need to empower countries, NDAs and focal points to drive the process.

368. Some Board members asked for a more detailed breakdown on NDAs by type of ministry and activity, with one member highlighting the need to place an emphasis on institutions addressing sustainable development. The Secretariat explained that around two thirds of NDAs were environment ministries, with the other third, a mix of other departments, in particular finance and foreign affairs.

369. One Board member raised an issue regarding the availability of information on the website of the Fund, and suggested uploading more documentation for the readiness programme provided to NDAs. The Secretariat noted that NDA information would be available, but that the IT and communications teams were working on a comprehensive user-friendly website, including a tool for the submission of readiness, accreditation and project funding requests, but that this was a time-consuming process.

370. One Board member set out a request for translation expenses to be calculated separately from the readiness programme, as a distinct budget line, noting the importance of translating documents into languages understandable for all countries, in particular LDCs.

371. A Board member set out a specific request for a template for country programmes to be elaborated, with a section to list projects and activities submitted for funding within country programmes.

372. A CSO active observer noted the Fund's commitment to country ownership as reflected in its Governing Instrument as well as in recent Board decisions and affirmed the purpose of this paper on the role of NDAs or focal points and multi-stakeholder engagement. However, they also lamented the lack of discussion of the latter topic within the paper, and urged multi-stakeholder engagement and country coordination to be made obligatory, not just best-practice options, given their crucial importance to country ownership. They further encouraged these stakeholders to be involved at every stage, including marginalized population groups, women, indigenous peoples and affected communities, in line with paragraphs 57 and 71 of the Governing Instrument.

373. One Board member made specific requests to the Secretariat regarding communications:

- (a) To formally announce any visit to a country through a letter to the NDA or focal point to coordinate said visit with them;
- (b) To inform NDAs and focal points of any expressions of interest, concept notes and proposals submitted by third-party entities to the Fund; and
- (c) To share lessons learned from the project approval process and specific estimates on the time frame of the approval cycle with NDAs, implementing entities and the Board.

374. Other Board members supported these requests, noting that said measures would strengthen the role of NDAs, an objective which many Board members called for.

375. Some Board members called for NDAs and focal points to be given a more active role at the heart of the process, including involvement in pipeline development, the selection of partners, and financing models. One Board member expressed the view that for the Fund to be transformational, it would need NDAs and focal points to play a greater role and drive that change, ensuring real country ownership and a country-driven approach. The need to distinguish between their role and the role of the Secretariat was also highlighted by several Board members.

376. Several Board members set out specific requests for a clearer set of guidelines on the role of NDAs and focal points. Other Board members felt that past decisions and the Governing Instrument (in particular its paragraph 46) already provided parameters on the role of NDAs and focal points. While acknowledged by some Board members, others felt that these did not go far enough, and reiterated their call for further guidelines to strengthen the role of NDAs and focal points and the linkages between their duties, the readiness programme and the day-to-day operations of the Fund within countries.

377. One Board member called for a decision to be taken under this agenda item, and read out specific language for such a text. Other Board members called for revision of this proposed language to take into account the current discussions, and to this end a small group was formed to present a draft decision at a later time.

378. After presenting an initial proposal, the small group was provided with more input by the Board, reconvened and finally came back to the Board with a newly-revised draft decision taking into account the input provided by Board members and requesting the Secretariat to propose guidelines and a recompilation of best practices for consideration by the Board at its eleventh meeting.

379. Though some Board members questioned the need for additional documentation to be drafted, and in particular expressed reservations about increasing the workload of the Secretariat for the eleventh Board meeting, consensus was reached on agreeing to these requests for the twelfth Board meeting.

380. The decision was adopted.

DECISION B.10/10

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/Inf.07 titled Country Ownership, reaffirming that the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) will pursue a country driven approach:

- (a) Takes note of the document;*
- (b) Recognizes the importance of enhancing country ownership, country drivenness and the role that national designated authorities (NDAs)/focal points(FPs) can play in this regard;*
- (c) Affirms that all efforts should be undertaken to:*
 - (i) Strengthen the key role of NDAs/FPs in the formulation of country programme/project pipelines, the consideration of implementation partners, and financial planning, and enhance capacity, including through the programme on readiness and preparatory support;*
 - (ii) Also strengthen the role of NDAs/FPs in monitoring and providing feedback regarding the impact of Fund operations within countries in terms of the degree to which the Fund's initiatives add value to national development priorities, building institutional capacity, and promoting a paradigm shift towards low carbon and climate resilient development; and*
 - (iii) Promote a central and leading role of NDAs/FPs in the coordination of the Fund's engagements within countries while highlighting the importance of the differentiation of roles between the Secretariat, accredited entities and NDAs/FPs in relation to country programming;*
- (d) Requests the Secretariat to prepare a proposal of guidelines and drawing upon learning experiences and best practices across NDAs/FPs in order to address the aspects outlined in paragraph (c) above for consideration by the Board at its twelfth meeting;*
- (e) Recognizes that NDAs/FPs should facilitate country coordination and engagement with representatives of relevant stakeholders such as the private sector, academia and civil society organizations and women's organizations, taking into account the best practice options adopted by the Board in decision B.08/10 and supported as needed by the Secretariat; and*
- (f) Reaffirms, in accordance with decision B.08/11, the readiness and preparatory support programme as a mechanism to enhance country ownership.*

Agenda item 20: Further development of the initial proposal approval process

381. The Co-Chairs opened the item.

382. A representative of the Secretariat presented information document GCF/B.10/Inf.08 titled *Further Development of the Initial Proposal Approval Process*, describing the implementation status of elements set out in decision B.07/03, and the action plan for items requiring further discussion.

383. The Co-Chairs welcomed the overview and opened the floor for questions and comments.
384. Several Board members praised the succinctness and comprehensiveness of the document, noting that the process allowed the Fund to begin making funding decisions. A number of questions and requests were raised by various Board members.
385. One Board member stressed the need for simplified processes for small-scale activities, noting that it was fundamental to ensure the fair consideration of proposals from countries with more limited capacities. The same Board member emphasized that the Fund could not wait much longer for the item, and requested that the Secretariat draft a document on options for simplified processes for small-scale activities, such as simplified templates. Other Board members echoed this point, and underlined the need to develop this process.
386. Several other Board members requested clarification on the process selection methodologies, and on the items to be submitted to the Board as part of the funding proposal information package, including the application of the disclosure policy. These questions were clarified by the Secretariat in their responses, which referred the Board to decision B.09/05 and the upcoming information disclosure policy.
387. In terms of proposal development funds, one Board member argued that readiness funding was geared exclusively towards pipeline development, and that a dedicated process was necessary to develop concept notes into full funding proposals. The same Board member also advocated a role for the Board in the endorsement of concept notes linked to the provision of project preparation grants.
388. With regard to cancellation and termination, one Board member asked whether a clause in the AMA would provide for the cancellation and termination conditions of projects included in the project/programme confirmation document. Another point was raised on the possibility of addressing the redress mechanism as part of the proposal approval process.
389. One Board member voiced a concern that the process may compromise country ownership when proposals were developed by international entities, understanding that the country provides only consent.
390. A CSO active observer asked for clear information on the generation of funding proposals in order to avoid situations where funds cannot be accessed by certain countries due to a lack of information. The observer also called for transparency in order to prevent cases of inadequate consultation and allow stakeholder due diligence. Finally, they asked for clarification in terms of the involvement of the NDA or focal point at the concept note stage.
391. Representatives of the Secretariat clarified the aforementioned points. The Co-Chairs suggested taking note of the specific request on simplified processes for micro and small proposals, and coming back to it as part of the discussion on the eleventh Board meeting agenda, given that the agenda was already full.
392. Further discussion ensued on the issue of proposal development funds, particularly as to whether the readiness programme could be properly applied at a late stage in project/programme preparation, and whether readiness resources would be sufficient to cover such preparation needs. Two Board members enquired as to whether the Board would endorse concept notes as a step towards approving project preparation grants.
393. Representatives of the Secretariat recalled that to streamline the process, the concept note step was made voluntary in a previous Board decision, and that the readiness process was adequate to provide for proposal preparation. This was later echoed by other Board members, who maintained that concept notes should be an informal voluntary process and that preparation funding was already available through other bilateral and multilateral agencies in

the ecosystem, providing the Fund with a pipeline of strong projects and programmes ready for approval over the coming twelve months.

394. After this discussion, one Board member was unsure that the essential requirements for a fair process were in place, and pointed out that the proposal approval process should not be discussed while there was pressure to approve projects by the eleventh Board meeting. The Board member suggested decoupling the processes by approving the first set of projects in a non-precedent-setting manner, based on either guidance by the Board, or a business plan for the Fund; this would make space for discussions on the contentious items.

395. Several Board members argued that all prerequisites for project approval had already been completed, reiterated their trust in the Secretariat to conduct the process, and pointed to the opportunity to finalize items such as the TAP and assessment scaling in this Board meeting. They also noted that it would be possible to modify the proposal approval process at a later stage based on the experience of using the process, and proposed to close the item.

396. The Co-Chairs took note of this idea and thanked the Board for the guidance and useful suggestions. They proposed to close the item and discuss relevant points raised as part of agenda item 26, 'Strategic plan for the Fund', and take note of the guidance with a view to addressing these points in the relevant context.

397. The Board took note of document GCF/B.10/Inf.08 and the item was closed.

Agenda item 21: Recommendations from the Private Sector Advisory Group to the Board of the Green Climate Fund

398. The Co-Chairs opened the item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/16 titled *Recommendations from the Private Sector Advisory Group to the Board of the Green Climate Fund*.

399. One of the Co-Chairs of the Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG), Mr. Stefan Schwager, provided an overview of the recommendations of the PSAG relating to document GCF/B.09/11/Rev.01 titled *Private Sector Facility: Potential Approaches to Mobilizing Funding at Scale*, stating that the Fund should take a dual approach: accepting funding proposals from AEs; and issuing requests for proposals (RFPs). These approaches should be used for both mitigation and adaptation. He highlighted that RFPs should promote innovation, crowding in, transparency, and competitiveness. He also highlighted that RFPs should be limited in time; specific amounts; and aligned with the policies of the Fund.

400. The other Co-Chair of the PSAG, Mr. Zaheer Fakir, provided an overview of the PSAG recommendations relating to document GCF/B.09/12 titled *Private Sector Facility: Working with Local Private Entities, including Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises*. He stated that there needed to be an initial learning phase, followed by a scaling up phase. He asked that the Board take a decision based on the PSAG recommendations rather than just 'take note'.

401. Many Board members supported the use of RFPs and agreed that a decision should be taken accordingly.

402. Some Board members recognized that an RFP process can be intensive and resource-consuming. As such, it was suggested that the Secretariat consider using consultants or external firms to issue the RFPs and manage the process.

403. One Board member stated that:

- (a) The RFPs should be issued in 2016; and
- (b) AEs should be consulted during the design phase of the RFP.

404. Another Board member supported a specific allocation for the private sector.
405. One Board member thought the amounts proposed by the PSAG were high, whilst another thought they were low.
406. One Board member stressed there was a need to provide financial services and technical assistance for micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) as limited capacity was a major challenge.
407. Another Board member agreed that a learning phase was needed with respect to MSMEs.
408. Two Board members stated that the programme should encourage access to financing for women.
409. Board members stressed that the use of flexible RFPs should be envisaged. Another Board member stated that RFPs could promote access to long-term climate finance for MSMEs.
410. A Board member stated it was important to convey the message to the public that the Fund had a strong PSF that was engaging with a number of different private sector actors.
411. Some Board members stated that the Fund should consider making the accreditation process more efficient at a later stage.
412. Two Board members favoured an RFP approach that focused on agriculture, given that few private adaptation projects were currently being submitted to the Fund.
413. Two Board members stated that the MSME programme should focus on scalability, and that sometimes 'plain vanilla' financing is needed as opposed to innovative financing.
414. A CSO active observer stated that they were not opposed to the RFP approach, but suggested that the RFPs should be country-driven and developed in consultation with local stakeholders. They expressed concern that the current approach was biased towards energy projects. They had questions relating to how this process related to the allocation framework:
- (a) Whether the proposals would go through the same approval process as other funding proposals; and
 - (b) When stakeholder consultation would take place.
415. A PSO active observer endorsed the need for a Board decision, and emphasized that a co-benefit of the RFP approach was that it increased the awareness of the Fund among private sector actors. They stressed that the private sector was embedded in the 'DNA' of the Fund, and that these approaches would garner support from a wide range of private sector actors. They highlighted that it was key to finding aggregation solutions for MSMEs.
416. A representative of the Secretariat stated that the Executive Director had not been formally consulted about the PSAG recommendations and that there was not strong ownership by the Secretariat. They explained that their understanding was that the PSAG mandate was to provide recommendations on two documents previously submitted to the Board, and that Board members would provide guidance at this meeting so that the Secretariat could come back with draft RFPs. They highlighted a broader governance issue: some PSAG members might be conflicted as they had no fiduciary duty to the Fund; no contract with the Fund; and had not signed a statement to avoid conflict of interest. Concern was expressed that the Board was taking a decision based on a PSAG recommendation after having rejected two similar proposals by the Secretariat to issue an RFP.
417. A Co-Chair of the PSAG emphasized that the PSAG members were qualified people with Board approval, even though the members had not signed anything.

418. Some Board members agreed that the PSAG was an important asset of the Fund and that their structure could be considered in the following year.

419. One Board member stated that the Secretariat should be involved in the drafting of a decision regarding the PSAG recommendations, and that a decision should not be taken if the Secretariat was not comfortable with it. Another Board member thought that the PSAG should develop the decision and that the Secretariat should provide advice on the decision. One Board member expressed doubt that a decision was needed.

420. One Board member requested that a note be placed in the report of the tenth Board meeting reflecting their request that Board members refrain from judging each other's interventions, and that they maintain a level of communication that is non-judgemental, is not sarcastic and remains neutral in terms of opinions expressed by other Board members.

421. The Co-Chairs noted convergence towards a new draft decision and the need for improvement on procedural matters. They tasked the PSAG, with support from the Secretariat, to consider the comments made during the discussion and to report back to the Board with a draft decision text.

422. The Co-Chairs of the Board duly presented the decision. A Co-Chair of the PSAG highlighted that RFPs were a complementary tool to the existing process for receiving submissions.

423. There was general agreement with the proposal, but some remaining concerns relating to the time frame and the appropriate amount that should be allocated to each programme. Some Board members agreed that the time frame should cover the initial resource mobilization period.

424. One Board member asked what the financial implications were for setting aside the amounts for these programmes. The Secretariat explained that the amounts of the RFP programmes would be considered as soft 'set-asides' in that they were initial intentions.

425. One Board member emphasized that there was not a single reference to country ownership nor stakeholder engagement in the decision and therefore could not support the proposed decision. They stated that NDAs and focal points should launch this and not just provide no objection.

426. The Co-Chairs asked two Board members with diverging views on this matter to consult and revise the draft decision to bring back to the Board, and adjourned the item.

427. The Co-Chairs reopened the item, and a revised draft decision was presented to the Board which met with consensus. The decision was duly adopted.

DECISION B.10/11

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/16 titled Recommendations from the Private Sector Advisory Group to the Board of the Green Climate Fund (the Fund):

- (a) Decides, taking note of the recommendations contained in document GCF/B.10/16, to establish a pilot programme to support micro-, small-, and medium- sized enterprises (MSMEs) and a pilot programme to mobilize resources at scale in order to address adaptation and mitigation;*
- (b) Also decides to allocate over the course of the initial resource mobilization period, in several tranches:*
 - (i) Up to US\$ 200 million for the MSME pilot programme; and*
 - (ii) Up to US\$ 500 million for the mobilizing resources pilot programme.*

- (c) *Further decides that the Board may review the aforementioned amounts when it deems appropriate;*
- (d) *Requests the Secretariat, in the implementation of decision B.09/09, paragraph (h), taking note of the Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG) recommendations as contained in document GCF/B.10/16, to present for the Board's consideration by no later than the twelfth meeting of the Board the terms of reference for a request for proposal (RFP) for entities to manage the MSME pilot programmes, and the terms of reference for an RFP for entities to mobilize resources at scale, with an aim of launching both RFPs in 2016;*
- (e) *Decides that both pilot programmes will be consistent with the objectives and policies of the Fund, including country ownership through the participation of national designated authorities (NDAs)/focal points (FPs), stakeholders and accredited observers, inter alia NDAs/FPs providing non-objection for selected proposals;*
- (f) *Notes that the use of RFPs is complementary to, and not a substitute for, proposals submitted to the Fund by accredited entities and NDAs/FPs;*
- (g) *Also notes the PSAG recommendation that external support may prove useful and the Secretariat will explore the need to retain external support in order to operationalize the pilot programmes;*
- (h) *Requests the Accreditation Committee and the PSAG to present further recommendations on possible measures to support the accreditation of entities with solid track records in supporting MSMEs and in mobilizing resources at scale for the Board's consideration by no later than its twelfth meeting; and*
- (i) *Decides to review the implementation and scale of the initial phase of the MSME pilot programme and the mobilization pilot programme two years from the date on which the RFPs are made.*

Agenda item 22: Template for the bilateral agreement on privileges and immunities

428. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/12 titled *Template for the Bilateral Agreement on Privileges and Immunities*. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the document.

429. The representative of the Secretariat made some general remarks on this agenda item, which was also presented at the ninth Board meeting, noting that the document was a new template incorporating Board members' concerns to ensure the effective operation of the Fund. They explained that whereas the template proposed at the ninth meeting was based on the *Agreement between the Republic of Korea and the Green Climate Fund concerning the Headquarters of the Green Climate Fund*, this new template was based on the *Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations*, as this was widely accepted in terms of privileges and immunities and had been ratified by most of the country Parties to the UNFCCC.

430. Board members recognized the importance of having bilateral agreements on privileges and immunities as well as making progress on this matter. However, a further streamlined version was requested by many Board members in order to create flexibility to accommodate country-specific issues. The representative of the Secretariat clarified that this template was not 'cast in stone' but rather a starting point for negotiations, and emphasized that the constitutional and other legal constraints of countries would be taken into careful consideration.

431. Some Board members were concerned about a potential linkage between signing this bilateral agreement and eligibility to receive financing from the Fund. During the Secretariat's

presentation it was explained that there was and would be no direct linkage, and this was reiterated in the responses to questions by the representative of the Secretariat. A Board member requested that the decision align with COP decisions, in particular decision 7/CP.20.

432. One Board member proposed alternative wording for reference provisions which had been agreed upon with several other Board members. The Co-Chairs requested the Secretariat to work with the Board member concerned to find agreed language and to return later with a new agreed wording. The agenda item was adjourned.

433. The Co-Chairs reopened the agenda item and requested the representative of the Secretariat to present the changes made. The representative of the Secretariat stated that some changes to the wording of the proposed Board decision had been agreed as reflected in the draft document which had been distributed to the Board members and that only minor changes to the alternative provisions had been made which had been proposed by the aforementioned Board member.

434. With regard to this new draft decision text, one Board member commented that paragraph (b) of the proposed Board decision was perhaps redundant in the decision text as it was merely an elaboration of the scope and coverage of privileges and immunities covered in the relevant annex and should be removed for that reason. The representative of the Secretariat stated that this paragraph was very important as the proposed reference provisions only concerned certain core privileges and immunities proposed for incorporation into individual agreements or arrangements with country Parties to the UNFCCC. Certain matters had not been addressed at all by the proposed reference provisions. Hence, it was important to give the Secretariat flexibility to develop additional arrangements to elaborate on privileges and immunities and make necessary adjustments in agreements or arrangements negotiated with country Parties to the UNFCCC.

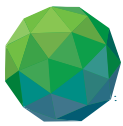
435. Two Board members asked whether advisers should also be protected under paragraph (d) of the draft decision. The representative of the Secretariat replied that advisers were not decision-makers and as a result the Secretariat could not implement measures such as insurance, indemnification, or other liability protection for them.

436. The decision was duly adopted.

DECISION B.10/12

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/12 titled Template for Bilateral Agreement on Privileges and Immunities:

- (a) Authorizes the Executive Director to negotiate and sign, or otherwise develop, taking account of the draft provisions set out in Annex XXV hereto and the domestic legal and policy frameworks of countries, agreements or other appropriate arrangements with countries on the privileges and immunities of the Green Climate Fund (the Fund);*
- (b) Also authorizes the Executive Director to develop additional arrangements to elaborate on the privileges and immunities negotiated or otherwise developed by the Fund and country Parties to address privileges, immunities or exemptions for:*
 - (i) Conferences or other international meetings of the Fund;*
 - (ii) Country or regional offices of the Fund, or any permanent presence in a country;*
 - (iii) Resolution of disputes regarding the application of privileges and immunities of the Fund; and*
 - (iv) Any other privileges, immunities, or exemptions that the country and the Fund may agree as necessary to protect the Fund and persons associated with the Fund;*



- (c) *Requests the Secretariat to report at each meeting of the Board as part of the Secretariat's activities on any agreements or other appropriate arrangements which have been concluded or implemented;*
- (d) *Also requests the Secretariat to implement measures such as insurance, indemnification, or other liability protection to assure that Secretariat staff, Board members and alternates are protected, as appropriate, including while on mission; and*
- (e) *Further requests the Secretariat to incorporate in the report to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change a section on the status of the Fund's existing privileges and immunities with regard to its operational activities, starting at its twenty-first session and thereafter biennially, consistent with decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 22.*

Agenda item 23: Decision-making procedures for the Board in the absence of consensus

437. This agenda item was not considered by the Board.

Agenda item 24: Policy on ethics and conflicts of interest

438. The Co-Chairs opened the item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/13/Rev.01 titled *Policies on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest*.

439. On behalf of the Chairman of the EAC, a member of the Board and Committee introduced the document, along with the General Counsel. They noted that the document included a policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for external members of the Fund's panels and groups, and a policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for the Executive Director of the Fund's Secretariat.

440. Members of the EAC elaborated on the hard work that went into the policies and assured the Board that it represented the views of all the members of the EAC. They also expressed their appreciation to the Secretariat and members of the Board and also complimented the work done.

441. The Co-Chairs took two rounds of questions and comments from the members of the Board, to which the General Counsel then responded.

442. One Board member asked whether a protection of privacy policy was in place in terms of the information about individuals involved being protected. The General Counsel responded that there were some provisions on this in the IIDP, but acknowledged that this could be more robust, and that the issue would be taken up at the eleventh Board meeting.

443. The same Board member queried why there was no indication of a timeline for the Executive Director to seek redress from the Board. The General Counsel replied that no strict timeline had been established as it was generally understood that in those kinds of circumstances all parties involved would have an interest in working swiftly.

444. The same Board member also asked for clarification on the policy on external members and the handling of complaints, in particular the respective roles of the Executive Director and IIU. The General Counsel responded that the Executive Director would take the final decision in consultation with the EAC, based on the recommendation of the IIU, and that this was set out in paragraph 4 of Appendix II to Annex II of document GCF/B.10/13/Rev.01.

445. Finally, this Board member requested further clarification on the nature of the two advisers to the Executive Director, and whether they would be financed through the Board regardless of their position as internal or external. The General Counsel replied that there was

no specific provision on the reimbursement of expenses of the two advisers to the Executive Director, and therefore one could refer to the reimbursement of expenses in the staff HR manual. On the nature of the advisers, he noted that the role was adaptable to needs.

446. Another Board member asked for clarification as to what position, in comparable entities, the position of the Executive Director could be compared to. The General Counsel replied that the comparative function of the Executive Director was a hybrid one reflecting the policies for a president in a multilateral development bank or fund, policies for Board members and some elements of the staff code of conduct.

447. The same Board member asked whether protection was in place for the Executive Director in instances when they might be placed under undue influence from a government, for example because a particular project was not approved or because they had refused something sought by a country. The Board member noted that, as the high-profile head of the largest climate fund on Earth, the Executive Director might be targeted, and pointed to provisions in place in other funds. The General Counsel replied that security measures were already in place in this regard, and that there would be further scope for discussion of this topic under agenda item 22, 'Template for the bilateral agreement on privileges and immunities'.

448. Another Board member raised a concern regarding the procedure for investigating a potential breach by the Executive Director, and the separation of powers in such an investigation, in particular with regards to the role of Board members and the EAC in investigating and taking decisions on the matter. On this point, the General Counsel noted that under current policy, if a Board member was involved in an investigation they should recuse themselves from being involved in taking a decision on the matter.

449. One Board member expressed a concern that one-and-a-half years seemed a bit too long for not being able to reapply for a job at the Fund after leaving a position at the Fund, and suggested reducing this time frame to one year. The General Counsel replied that one-and-a-half years might seem a long period of time after leaving the Fund, but that this was based on the precedents of peer organizations.

450. A CSO active observer raised three points. First, they asked for clarification on the rationale and duration of the provision on publications and public speaking in paragraph 29 (c) of Annex II. They then asked for the removal of paragraph 32 of the same Annex, which permitted external members to accept unsolicited gifts on behalf of the Fund. Finally they called for the inclusion of a provision which required the public disclosure of interests of covered individuals, and referenced the best practice adopted under the Montreal Protocol.

451. In response to these points, the General Counsel replied that the Fund was not in favour of gifts, but that there were circumstances in which one had to accept them, such as gift exchange ceremonies. If that was the case, the external member had to handle the gift in accordance with the Fund's gift policy. With regard to the question on paragraph 29 (c), he noted that there was no time limit. He noted further that the external members were chosen by the Board for their expertise as required on panels or in working groups, but should not represent themselves as representing the Fund in public, nor in potential memoirs.

452. One Board member asked whether the provision in the policy for the Executive Director on treating their colleagues and staff with courtesy and respect could be transferred or be applicable to the members of the Board also. They stated that since they asked for high standards from the Executive Director, the Board as managers of the Executive Director should be subject to the same standards. Two other Board members supported this statement. The General Counsel noted that this was covered under the policy of ethics for the Board, in particular in the definition of prohibited practices, including harassment.

453. The General Counsel stated that several of the issues would be addressed in the discussion on privileges and immunities, and as for the security measures, he preferred not to discuss them in this meeting.

454. The Co-Chairs asked the Board to take the decision as presented. Seeing no objection, the Co-Chairs adopted the decision.

DECISION B.10/13

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/13/Rev.01 titled Policies on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest:

- (a) *Adopts the Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for External Members of Green Climate Fund Panels and Groups as set out in Annex XXVI to this document (the Policy);*
- (b) *Decides that, solely in respect of the role of the Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) under the Policy, the Ethics and Audit Committee will fulfil such role on a temporary basis until the IIU shall have become operational;*
- (c) *Adopts the Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund Secretariat as set out in Annex XXVII to this document (the Executive Director Policy);*
- (d) *Decides to authorize the Ethics and Audit Committee to carry out the responsibilities assigned to it in the Executive Director Policy; and*
- (e) *Requests the Ethics and Audit Committee, with the support of the Secretariat, to continue its work on recommended policies on ethics and conflicts of interest for the other Board appointed officials and active observers.*

Agenda item 25: Methodology for decisions taken in between meetings

455. This agenda item was not considered by the Board.

Agenda item 26: Strategic plan for the Fund

456. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item.

457. The Co-Chairs noted the rich discussion on the need for a strategic plan for the Fund under previous agenda items during the meeting, but commented that due to time constraints it would not be possible to discuss the item further.

458. The Co-Chairs proposed a decision mandating the Secretariat to prepare a progress report for the eleventh Board meeting reflecting the input received at the tenth meeting of the Board, and inviting Board members to submit further submissions or input to the Secretariat to inform their work before the end of July 2015.

459. The proposal was welcomed by Board members, and the decision was adopted.

DECISION B.10/14

The Board, having considered agenda item 26 'Strategic plan for the Fund' of document GCF/B.10/01/Rev.01 titled Agenda:

Invites members of the Board to send inputs to the Secretariat by 31 July 2015, in order for the Secretariat to produce a progress report on the strategic plan for consideration by the Board at its eleventh meeting.

Agenda item 27: Items for consideration at the eleventh meeting of the Board

460. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item.
461. The Co-Chairs asked the members of the Board for guidance on streamlining the agenda for the eleventh meeting of the Board.
462. The Executive Director presented the items for consideration by category (procedural including standing items, outstanding items from previous meetings, outstanding items from the current meeting and items that were requested in the current meeting), and called for the guidance of the Board to streamline the list of items during the meeting, or at the latest by the end of July. At the latest count the agenda contained 43 items, which would place a heavy burden on the Secretariat in terms of preparing papers.
463. Some members stated that this matter should be considered inter-sessionally. The Executive Director noted that intersessional decision-making would take a minimum of three weeks, causing further delays.
464. One member proposed that the developed country and developing country constituencies each indicate their utmost priorities as well as the overarching priority of the eleventh meeting itself between meetings, for the Co-Chairs to then develop an agenda before the end of July. The Executive Director noted that after every meeting the Co-Chairs had to work with constituencies and the delays which arose from this process meant that the Secretariat had to produce all the papers, just in case they were needed.
465. One member suggested that the Secretariat and Co-Chairs consider the use of addenda to provide reports on some items which would then not be subject to in-depth discussions during meetings, thus prioritizing the items for decision.
466. One member reminded the Board of the need for a rolling strategic plan to guide the work of the Board by enabling all members to be aware of the priorities and shape the agenda.
467. Another member agreed to the suggestion of using addenda and mentioned that members should come to a meeting having read all information documents to prevent time being spent in going through the documents during the meeting. They also suggested moving replenishment items and participations of observers to next year.
468. The Co-Chairs proposed a decision outlining that they would provide a revised provisional agenda in consultation with their respective constituencies by 31 July 2015.
469. Seeing no objection, the Co-Chairs adopted decision B.10/15.

DECISION B.10/15

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/18/Drf.02 titled Items for consideration at the eleventh meeting of the Board:

Requests the Co-Chairs to propose a provisional agenda for the eleventh meeting of the Board in consultation with their respective constituencies before 31 July 2015.

Agenda item 28: Further consideration of the initial term of Board membership

470. The Board opened the agenda item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/14 titled *Further Consideration of the Initial Term of Board Membership*. The General Counsel introduced the document, noting that this draft decision was merely a technical implementation of the principles already adopted by the Board at the previous meeting.

471. Several members of the Board stated that they were in favour and were ready to support the proposed decision.

472. One Board member asked why the EAC had not been included in the decision. The General Counsel replied that none of the terms of the members of the EAC were expiring in 2015.

473. Another Board member asked for clarification on sub-paragraph (a) (i) of the decision and whether the expiry of the terms of Board membership and alternate Board membership also meant the automatic expiry of the terms of membership of committees. The General Counsel noted this sub-paragraph aimed to state that any term of office of members and alternate members of the Board, CSO and PSO active observers on the Board or in committees expiring in 2015 would be extended to the earlier date of either an election of a replacement or until 31 December 2015.

474. Several members of the Board emphasized the importance of aligning the membership of Board members with the calendar year, while others stated a preference for maintaining the current status.

475. One member requested that the Board support the draft decision and then consider changing to terms following the calendar year in an appropriate manner and at an appropriate time without burdening this decision. One Board member expressed the view that the Board should keep the current members' representation until the end of the year.

476. Other Board members said they would need time to consult with their own legal counsel as they believed there could be legal implications to such a change, potentially requiring permission from the COP or changes to the Fund's Governing Instrument.

477. One Board member replied that in their opinion there was no need to change the Governing Instrument, but that the Fund would just need to present a letter of intent and reasons to the COP. Another Board member stated that the Board had the right to amend its own decision. They noted further that in their opinion the matter was simple, as the Governing Instrument did not set out a start date for the three-year terms of Board members, and therefore this could be moved from August to 1 January.

478. The General Counsel replied that he would be happy to provide draft language for this, but expressed his belief that such a change could be subject to legal concerns which would need to be considered and addressed. He repeated that this decision was only a technical acceptance of the decision in principle made at the last meeting, and that it was pragmatic and temporary to ensure that there would be a Board on 24 August 2015 and thereafter.

479. One Board member asked for further clarification on the current starting dates of terms of office for Board members, and whether these began from 24 August 2015 or from the date of nomination if that occurred later.

480. Two members of the Board asked for clarification on whether the current Board would stay in operation until 31 December 2015 without taking this decision, based only on the decision adopted at the last meeting of the Board. One Board member believed that the decision as presented at this Board meeting might lead to confusion within their constituency, as they had understood that, as it stood, the Board would still be operational until 31 December 2015.

481. The item was adjourned to give the General Counsel time to consult with members of the Board in a small group and return with a revised draft decision.

482. The Co-Chairs reopened the item. The General Counsel informed the Board that one change had been made to the draft decision, with paragraph (b) now reading: '*Requests the Secretariat to further consider the possibility of aligning the term of Board membership to the calendar year and to report back to the Board at its twelfth session*'.

483. One Board member repeated that it should be made clear that those Board members whose term ended on 23 August 2015 without a nomination submitted would see their stay in office extended until their successor was appointed, or ultimately to 31 December 2015. However, they noted that when the nomination letter arrived, the terms of membership of the successors would still start as of 24 August 2015. The General Counsel confirmed that a change would be made to sub-paragraph (a) (iv) to reflect this and with the discussion duly reflected in the report of the meeting there should be no misunderstanding about the meaning.

484. The decision was adopted as revised.

DECISION B.10/16

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/14 titled Further Consideration of the Initial Term of Board Membership:

(a) *Decides that:*

- (i) *Members and alternate members of the Board whose terms expire on 23 August 2015 shall continue in their functions until their successors have been selected;*
- (ii) *Members and alternate members of the Board serving in the capacity of members of the Accreditation Committee, the Risk Management Committee, the Investment Committee and the Private Sector Advisory Group, whose terms expire in 2015 shall continue in their functions until their successors have been selected;*
- (iii) *Representatives of the active observers from accredited civil society organizations and private sector organizations whose terms expire in 2015 shall continue in their functions until their successors have been selected; and*
- (iv) *All of the above are subject to no person continuing in his/her function as part of the initial term after 31 December 2015 or changing the cycle of the terms; and*

(b) *Requests the Secretariat to further consider the possibility of aligning the term of Board membership to the calendar year and to report back to the Board at its twelfth session.*

Agenda item 29: Applying scale in the assessment of funding proposals

485. The Co-Chairs opened the item.

486. A representative of the IC introduced the item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/04 titled *Applying Scale in the Assessment of Funding Proposals*, and recalled decision B.09/05 to apply, on a pilot basis, a scaling of low/medium/high in the assessment of funding proposals performance against investment criteria.

487. The representative presented the main principles that the IC had agreed upon when designing this assessment scaling pilot, and introduced a first item for discussion, regarding whether the size category should apply to total project size (using the definition in the accreditation framework), or only the Fund's funding amount.

488. The approach of using total project size received support from all Board members who intervened, noting consistency with the accreditation framework, better reflection of the project's complexity, cost and impact, and possible issues with the Fund's funding amount varying pre- and post-assessment by the Secretariat.

489. A simultaneous discussion took place on the specific options regarding the subset of proposals that would be subject to scaling. Most Board members who intervened expressed support for one of two options in document GCF/B.10/04: option 4a (involving a stratified random sample of proposals that includes 50 per cent of each type of projects) and option 1 (applying scaling to all medium and large proposals only, which was also the default option).

490. Option 4a received support from some Board members, who commended its potential to maximize learning capacity, the possibility to learn from the whole landscape of the Fund's projects, and its fairness to all project types. Another Board member suggested a possible downside of this option if some categories ended up with very small numbers of projects, which may complicate comparisons, and pointed to option 3b, which would cover the totality of medium and large proposals.

491. Option 1 received support from some Board members. Among its advantages, Board members cited a lighter burden on small countries, LDCs and SIDS, where micro and small projects may be abundant. They also noted possible unfair comparisons within a category depending on whether the project had and had not been subject to scaling. This option also received support from a CSO active observer, who noted that under it, medium and large proposals would appropriately be subject to more rigorous scrutiny. A consensus was subsequently built around this option.

492. Several other general issues were discussed with regards to the scaling mechanism. One Board member asked for clarification on the context for the scaling pilot; in particular whether it would be related to allocation of funds and whether it served a purpose for AEs or countries. A representative of the Secretariat clarified that this discussion only referred to determining the subset of proposals involved in the pilot, and that it would not have any effect in terms of allocation.

493. One Board member expressed their concern that the scaling process may overly focus on cost-effectiveness and disregard the different needs and circumstances of the countries. Representatives of the Secretariat responded that there were six criteria in the Investment Framework, including needs of the recipient, and that scaling would be applied for all of them. The Board member reiterated the importance of this point and proposed to include language that made reference to country needs and circumstances. The Co-Chairs proposed to include it in the final decision text.

494. One Board member pointed out that, for monitoring the effectiveness of the scaling pilot, mitigation and adaptation proposals should only be compared to other mitigation or adaptation proposals, respectively, a point that was echoed by another Board member. The Co-Chairs proposed including this point in the final decision text.

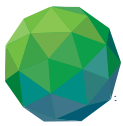
495. A decision was subsequently adopted, based on total size categories and the scaling pilot applying only to all medium and large proposals, including reference to country needs and circumstances, and considering mitigation and adaptation proposals separately.

DECISION B.10/17

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/04 titled Applying Scale in the Assessment of Funding Proposals, and recalling decision B.09/05:

(a) Decides that in applying the scaling pilot, the proposal size is defined as:

(i) *Micro proposals: up to and including US\$ 10 million in total project size;*



- (ii) *Small proposals: above US\$ 10 million and up to and including US\$ 50 million in total project size;*
- (iii) *Medium proposals: above US\$ 50 million and up to and including US\$ 250 million in total project size; and*
- (iv) *Large proposals: above US\$ 250 million in total project size;*
- (b) *Also decides that the scaling pilot will apply to all medium and large proposals;*
- (c) *Further decides that in monitoring the effectiveness of the scaling pilot, mitigation proposals will only be compared with mitigation proposals and adaptation proposals will only be compared with adaptation proposals;*
- (d) *Decides to recognize country needs and circumstances while applying the scaling pilot, in line with decision B.09/05, paragraph (g); and*
- (e) *Requests the Secretariat to review the scaling pilot on an annual basis and to communicate its findings to the Investment Committee and to the Board.*

Agenda item 30: Fourth report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

496. The Co-Chairs opened the item and asked Board members to consider document GCF/B.10/08 titled *Fourth Report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*.

497. A Board member requested clarification on the procedure for this item. The Co-Chairs confirmed that the proposal was that the draft report be provisionally adopted pending feedback, which members would provide following the meeting.

498. A Board member asked why the reporting cycle was being changed. The Secretary to the Board informed members that this was needed for several reasons, including:

- (a) To ensure the submission of the report to the UNFCCC twelve weeks in advance as requested by the COP;
- (b) To allow for the timely consideration of the report by the Standing Committee on Finance, which was tasked with providing draft guidance for the consideration of the COP, and
- (c) To bring it into line with the practice of other similar bodies reporting to the COP.

499. A member underlined the need to submit the report on time for the consideration of the report by the Standing Committee on Finance.

500. The Board discussed a timeline for the provision of comments from the Board. The Co-Chairs stated that they would confirm a deadline after consulting with the Secretariat and would inform members accordingly. The Co-Chairs also noted that an update of the report would be made to reflect the decisions taken at the tenth meeting, and that an addendum would be submitted to the COP to inform on the outcomes of the eleventh meeting.

501. The Board took note of document GCF/B.10/08 and adopted decision B.10/18.

DECISION B.10/18

The Board, having considered document GCF/B.10/08 titled Fourth Report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change:

- (a) Requests the current Co-Chairs, assisted by the Secretariat, to finalize the Fourth Report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (hereinafter referred to as Fourth Report), presented in the Annex XXVIII to this document, taking into consideration the comments made and decisions taken at the tenth meeting, and submit the revised report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat as soon as possible, but no later than 12 weeks prior to the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21), in accordance with decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 23;*
- (b) Also requests the current Co-Chairs, assisted by the Secretariat, to issue and submit to the UNFCCC secretariat an addendum to the Fourth Report after the eleventh meeting of the Board and before COP 21; and*
- (c) Decides to adopt an annual reporting period running from 1 August up to and including 31 July of the following calendar year for the report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties, starting with the next annual report to the Conference of the Parties.*

Agenda item 31: Date and venue of the following meeting of the Board

502. The Co-Chairs opened the agenda item and drew the attention of the Board to document GCF/B.10/02 titled *Date and Venue of the Eleventh Meeting of the Board*, which included a draft decision on this matter.

503. The Co-Chairs explained that offers to host had been made by the governments of Zambia and Ecuador. They invited the Secretariat to offer any additional information at their disposal.

504. A representative of the Secretariat informed that, in order to meet the objective of having funding proposals ready for consideration of the Board at its eleventh meeting, including all legal, financial and technical requirements, it was proposed to move the meeting to 16–18 November or 18–20 November 2015.

505. With reference to Zambia, the representative stated that the government had already offered to host the High-level Pledging Conference in November 2014, and had also reiterated its offer to host the Board meeting in writing. With regard to Ecuador, they informed members that the government had verbally expressed an interest in early June and that a formal letter was received before the tenth meeting of the Board. The Co-Chairs invited the Board members from Zambia and Ecuador to inform members of their proposals.

506. Following presentations by Board members from both countries, the Co-Chairs opened the floor to members.

507. One Board member thanked the governments of Zambia and Ecuador for their very generous offers. They stated that Zambia had been the first to make an offer and that this could be a criterion for the Board's decision. They noted that, with respect to Ecuador, hopefully the Board could accept this invitation for a future meeting, perhaps in 2016. These proposals were backed by another Board member.

508. In terms of dates, the week commencing on 16 November 2015 posed a problem for some members, while others stated their preferences with respect to the two alternative dates

proposed during that week. The Co-Chairs enquired as to whether 4–6 November 2015 was also an option. Some members noted that these dates might clash with pre-COP meetings.

509. The Co-Chairs proposed an email exchange among members to finalize the dates.

510. One member asked if a fourth Board meeting was planned for 2015. The Co-Chairs responded that they were not aware of any such proposal.

511. Another member stated that, with the long list of possible items for the next meeting, there was not enough time for project approvals. Other members validated the need to devise the agenda accordingly to fit into three working days. One member expressed reservations at having just three days for the next meeting and requested these reservations to be recorded.

512. The Board agreed to hold the eleventh meeting in Zambia from 4 to 6 November 2015, with dates to be confirmed. The decision B.10/19 was adopted.

DECISION B.10/19

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.10/02 titled Date and Venue of the Eleventh Meeting of the Board:

(a) *Decides that its third meeting in 2015 will take place in Zambia from 4 to 6 November 2015, with dates to be further confirmed; and*

(b) *Requests the Secretariat to pursue its consultations with Zambia with a view to concluding the required agreement and to making the necessary arrangements.*

Agenda item 32: Other matters

513. This agenda item was not considered by the Board.

Agenda item 33: Report of the meeting

514. A compilation of the decisions as adopted during the tenth meeting of the Board in their unedited state was made available at the end of the meeting, with a note indicating that the edited and formatted version of the decisions would be circulated to the Board and posted on the Fund's website as document *Decisions of the Board – Tenth Meeting of the Board, 6-9 July 2015*.³

Agenda item 34: Closure of the meeting

515. The Co-Chairs brought the tenth meeting of the Board to a close on 10 July 2015 at 2:39 am.

³ Document GCF/B.10/17 Decisions of the Board – Tenth Meeting of the Board, 6 – 9 July 2015 was circulated to the Board and posted on the Fund's website on 21 July 2015.

Annex I: Terms of reference for a pilot phase enhancing direct access to the Green Climate Fund

I. Objective of the pilot phase

1. The objective of the pilot phase for enhancing direct access is to allow for an effective operationalization of modalities with the potential to enhance access by sub-national, national and regional, public and private entities to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund). This will include devolved decision-making to such entities, once accredited, and stronger local multi-stakeholder engagement. The pilot phase will offer the Fund an opportunity to gain experience and additional insights through such an approach.
2. In addition, the pilot phase can also be used to draw lessons learned with regard to:
 - (a) Promoting the paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways;
 - (b) Country coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement, replication and sustainability;
 - (c) Governance standards; and
 - (d) Targeted readiness support.
3. Learning processes will be supported by a specific monitoring and evaluation plan for each pilot at the country level, where key performance indicators will be specifically designed for this purpose. A final evaluation at the country level and over all pilots will consolidate the lessons learned, allowing scalability and mainstreaming.
4. The pilot phase will be evaluated and lessons learned will lead to potential scaling up. The evaluation timing will be set for assessing mid-term outcomes (two to three years) and longer term impacts and lessons to be learned (five years or more).

II. Steps of the pilot phase

5. Enhancing direct access is necessary mainly because decision-making on the specific projects and programmes to be funded will be made at the national or subnational level,¹ and such direct access is a means by which to increase the level of country ownership² over those projects and programmes. This implies that the screening, assessment and selection of specific pilot activities would be made at the regional, national or subnational level. At the same time, mechanisms will be set up to increase national oversight and multi-stakeholder engagement at the country level.
6. The following steps will be conducted in the pilot phase:
 - (a) A call for pilot proposals by the Secretariat;
 - (b) The selection and nomination of a prospective accredited entity (e.g. subnational, national or regional entity) through a consultative process by the national designated authority (NDA) or focal point under the direct access modality;
 - (c) If not already accredited, application by the prospective entity for accreditation. Access to Fund resources will be through accredited entities. As such, nominated entities must be accredited by the Fund prior to the submission of their pilot proposals to the Board;

¹ United Nations Development Programme/Overseas Development Institute. 2011. *Direct Access to Climate Finance: Experiences and Lessons Learned*.

² Müller B, 2014. *Enhancing Direct Access and Country Ownership*.

- (d) The process will follow the accreditation framework, including decisions related to fit-for-purpose and fast-tracking;
- (e) Submission of a proposal developed by the accredited entity (or by the prospective accredited entity), in consultation with the NDA or focal point, to the Fund for approval. Unlike the traditional direct access modality, there will be no submission of individual projects or programmes to the Fund because decision-making for the funding of specific pilot activities will be devolved to the country level;
- (f) The assessment of each individual pilot proposal received will follow the Fund's initial approval process;
- (g) Legal arrangements between the Fund and the accredited entity for the Fund-approved pilot; and
- (h) Decision-making by the entity on the specific pilot activities under the Fund-approved pilot, in consultation with the NDA or focal point, the institution fulfilling the oversight function, and various stakeholders in the multi-stakeholder engagement process.

III. Role of National Designated Authorities and focal points

7. The National Designated Authorities (NDAs) or focal point will have a strong role in the pilot, in consultation with relevant national stakeholders, by:
- (a) Communicating the country's strategic frameworks within which prospective entities will develop pilot proposals;
 - (b) Inviting and selecting subnational, national and regional entities, from the public and private sectors, to propose pilot proposals for consideration by the Fund;
 - (c) Nominating the selected entities for accreditation by the Fund; and
 - (d) Participating in the appraisal of the pilot proposals and subsequently in the monitoring and evaluation of the country pilot in accordance with the Fund's relevant guidelines.

IV. National oversight and steering function and multi-stakeholder engagement

8. Countries participating in the enhancing direct access pilot phase are required to exercise oversight on the activities to ensure transparency. For this purpose, it is recommended that countries identify an existing institution that will fulfil this role.
9. Oversight and steering activities may include:
- (a) A provision of regular strategic guidance regarding the country pilot(s) to the accredited entities;
 - (b) Review of reporting by the accredited entity;
 - (c) Periodic field visits; and
 - (d) Regular communication with relevant stakeholders and the Fund.
10. The oversight function should include the NDA or focal point and representatives of relevant stakeholders, such as government, the private sector, academia or civil society organizations, and women's organizations.
11. In the elaboration and implementation of the country pilot, countries are expected to consider the criteria included in the Fund's initial best-practice options for country coordination

and multi-stakeholder engagement, as set out in Annex XIV to decision B.08/10 and the priorities identified in the countries' climate strategies and action plans.

12. Readiness funding could be provided to support the strengthening or establishment of such processes.
13. Prior to their implementation, details of individual projects or programmes will be made accessible to the public via the websites of the NDA or focal point, and the accredited entity.
14. The Secretariat will provide guidance on the set up and operations of these processes.

V. Type of entities to be involved in implementation

15. NDAs or focal points can nominate an entity for the implementation of the country pilot, such as a public sector institution (development bank, national fund, etc.) or private sector entity (commercial bank, investment fund, etc.) and non-governmental organizations operating at the regional, national or subnational levels.

16. In order to ensure the inclusion of a wide range of stakeholders, the selected entity will work with various types of local actors, especially those addressing the needs of vulnerable communities and gender aspects, which may include public institutions, local bodies, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, actors from the informal sector, and private enterprises, particularly small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

17. Interested countries can include a request for readiness support in their pilot proposals, particularly to provide support in multi-stakeholder engagement and the strengthening of oversight mechanisms to enhance accountability and transparency.

VI. Accreditation and the Fund's standards

18. Entities will have to be accredited before being able to fund activities with the Fund's resources. They will have to demonstrate compliance with the Fund's standards in the accreditation process, which includes the assessment of entities' capabilities, competencies and track records in having and undertaking financial, environmental and social risk mitigation measures. These include the basic fiduciary standards and relevant specialized fiduciary standards for project management, grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity, and/or guarantees)³ through the Fund's accreditation process, and the Fund's environmental and social safeguards⁴ and Gender Policy.⁵ Accredited entities will be accountable for the financial management of activities under the pilot in accordance with the Fund's policies. Compliance with the Fund's standards and safeguards will be assessed in accordance with the Fund's monitoring and accountability framework and its processes and procedures.

19. Compliance with the Fund's specialized fiduciary standards on grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, and on-lending and/or blending⁶ may be required depending on the nature of the activities to be undertaken.

20. Readiness support can be provided to assist entities through the accreditation process.

³ Annex II to decision B.07/02.

⁴ Annex III to decision B.07/02.

⁵ Annex XIII to decision B.09/11.

⁶ Annex III to decision B.07/02.

VII. Type of activities to be considered

21. The country pilots can include both adaptation and mitigation activities that will contribute to one or more of the Fund's result areas. A gender-sensitive approach in developing the activities of the pilots is recommended in accordance to the Fund's Gender Action Plan. A significant share of small-scale activities should directly support communities or SMEs through, for example, small-scale grants or extended lines of credit.

22. The entities nominated by the NDA or focal point for accreditation will work through various types of local actors in the development of potential projects and programmes, particularly local intermediaries and those addressing the needs of vulnerable communities, which may include public institutions, non-governmental organizations and private enterprises, especially SMEs.

23. Depending on the type of accreditation of the selected entity and its capacity, Fund resources may be deployed in the form of the following financial instruments in the pilot: grants, loans, equity and guarantees.⁷

VIII. Indicative content of proposals

24. The proposals should contain the following contents at a minimum:

- (a) Background and contact information (including the name of institution or organization proposing the activities, contact information of key person(s), etc.);
- (b) A description of the consultation and selection process facilitated by the NDA or focal point of the nominated direct access accredited entity;
- (c) A description of the proposed scope of activities, including objectives, type, sectors, size and geographic locations. The pilot's specific objectives and goals should be aligned with the Fund's results management framework;⁸
- (d) A description of the approval process and selection criteria for the activities, which should be consistent with the Fund's initial investment framework and proposal approval process;⁹
- (e) A composition of the decision-making body that will be housed and managed by the entity. The decision-making body should include civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, and should be sensitive to gender considerations;
- (f) A composition of the oversight function, which may include representatives from organizations such as those indicated in Chapter IV of these terms of reference(TOR);
- (g) A composition of those with involvement in the multi-stakeholder engagement process. Guidance provided in Chapter IV of this TOR may be referenced;
- (h) A time frame of implementation, including start date and duration;
- (i) The funding amount to be requested, including the financial instrument (e.g. grant, loan, equity, guarantee);
- (j) Risk assessment and management, including assumptions, factors, ratings, and mitigation measures; and

⁷ The Board, by decision B.08/12, decided that the Fund will work through accredited entities, who may deploy the resources in approved projects and programmes, by using financial instruments, focusing on grants, concessional loans, equity and guarantees.

⁸ Document GCF/B.07/04.

⁹ Document GCF/B.07/06.

- (k) Monitoring and evaluation, including logical frameworks, methods, criteria, information to be reported, frequency, responsibilities, means of verification and evaluation plans.
25. Accredited entities are encouraged in the development of their pilot proposals to adopt gender-sensitive and participatory approaches in planning, and monitoring and evaluation so as to assure that the needs of communities are appropriately addressed.

IX. Monitoring, evaluation and timeline of the pilot phase

26. Each of the pilots will report to the Secretariat on the progress of the implementation on an annual basis and when specifically requested.
27. The Secretariat will report to the Board on an annual basis, detailing the progress of the pilot phase based on the reports provided by the accredited entity and NDA or focal point.¹⁰ This will follow the guidance on monitoring, reporting and evaluation initially described in Section 6.2 of the Fund's results management framework.¹¹ The monitoring will also follow the initial monitoring and accountability framework for accredited entities of the Fund.¹²
28. Each country pilot will be reviewed by the Fund two years after its approval, and will be evaluated after five years to assess its impact, effectiveness and lessons learned on potential scalability.
29. The overall pilot phase will be evaluated after five years.
30. The monitoring, reporting and evaluation system for the overall pilot phase will be aligned with the standards of the Fund's results management framework and will be regularly reviewed for improvement once lessons from implementation are made available. This is aligned with the decisions of the fifth meeting of the Board¹³ that recognize that the Fund is a continuously learning institution and will maintain the flexibility to refine its results management framework and indicators.
31. Target groups of projects or programmes and other relevant stakeholders, such as government, the private sector, academia or civil society, will actively participate in monitoring the pilots.

X. Financial volume of the pilot phase

32. The pilot phase will initially aim to provide up to US\$ 200 million for at least 10 pilots, including at least 4 pilots to be implemented in small island developing States, the least developed countries and African States. The proposals will be selected on the basis of the Fund's initial proposal approval process, investment framework and results management framework and will be approved by the Board.

¹⁰ As indicated in decision B.08/10, Annex XIII, Chapter II.

¹¹ Document GCF/B.07/04.

¹² Progress report provided in document GCF/B.10/Inf.10.

¹³ Decision B.05/03, paragraph (h).

Annex II: Selection process for the Head of the Independent Evaluation Unit, the Head of the Independent Integrity Unit and the Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism

1. The following steps are proposed for the selection of the heads of the three accountability units, based on the steps followed to hire the Executive Director:¹
 - (a) Procurement of a recruitment firm to assist the Committee in its work – expected time needed: 45 working days from publication of the request for proposal;
 - (b) The Appointment Committee will submit a recommendation to the Co-Chairs for an in-between meetings decision by the Board on the selection of the recruitment firm;
 - (c) Issuance of an advertisement for the three positions as soon as possible after the tenth meeting of the Board, which will be circulated as widely as possible, including through a notification to all governments (through national designated authorities/focal points and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change national focal points) and in leading international journals, with an application deadline of four weeks from the date of issuance of the advertisement;
 - (d) Review of the applications by the recruitment firm, including: creation of a longlist of 20-25 candidates for each position, followed by more detailed information gathering on the candidates; development of a shortlist of approximately 6-10 candidates for each position; conduct of first interviews with a final interview list of approximately five candidates;
 - (e) The Committee will make a recommendation of two final candidates for each position for consideration by the Board no later than its twelfth meeting, including a ranking by preference;
 - (f) The Board, through the Co-Chairs, will make an offer to the selected candidates;
 - (g) The Co-Chairs will engage with the selected candidates regarding agreement on a performance-based contract; and
 - (h) Contracts to be signed by the Co-Chairs on behalf of the Green Climate Fund.

¹ Document GCF/B.02-12/08.

Annex III: Indicative timeline of the entire process on the appointment of the heads of the accountability units

Date/Deadline	Content	Action
B.10 (6-9 July 2015)	Document GCF/B.10/09 considered and approved by the Board	Board decision
By 17 July 2015	Request for proposal for the recruitment firm to be published online	
By 17 August 2015	Receive bids from the recruitment firm	
End of August 2015	Secretariat presents to the Committee a comparison of salary levels for comparable positions at other specialized global funds	
End of September 2015	Board approves the appointment of the recruitment firm based on the recommendation of the Appointment Committee, through an in-between meetings Board decision	In-between meetings Board decision
Early October 2015	Contract with recruitment firm to be signed	
B.11 (November 2015)	Board approves the salary of the three heads of the accountability units, based on the recommendation of the Appointment Committee	Board decision
November 2015 – January 2016	Follow the “selection process” on shortlisting: Review of the applications by the recruitment firm, including: creation of a long-list of 20-25 candidates for each position, followed by more detailed information gathering; development of a short-list of approximately 6-10 candidates for each position; recruitment firm to conduct first interviews with the short-list of candidates (approximately 6-10), creation of a final interview list of five candidates for second-round interviews with the Committee	Appointment Committee oversees the process and will be actively involved when interviewing the final five interview candidates prior to the recommendation to the Board
January – February 2016	Secretariat to support the Committee in developing the performance criteria and measurement procedure for the heads of units; Board approves the performance criteria and measurement procedure for the heads of units, based on the recommendation of the Appointment Committee, through an in-between meetings Board decision	In-between meetings Board decision
January – February 2016	The Appointment Committee recommends to the Board the final list of two candidates for each position, by ranking of preference to the Board	
B.12 (March 2016)	The Board appoints the three heads of the accountability units	Board decision

Annex IV: Terms of reference of the recruitment firm

Terms of reference

A. Introduction

1. The Appointment Committee established by the Board will oversee the recruitment process for the heads of three accountability units:
 - (a) The Independent Evaluation Unit;
 - (b) The Independent Integrity Unit; and
 - (c) The Independent Redress Mechanism.
2. It will engage a recruitment firm to provide advisory and administrative support. It is expected that the recruitment process will be completed no later than the twelfth meeting of the Board.
3. The Secretariat will provide the Committee with logistical and administrative support.
4. These terms of reference (TOR) seek to identify a recruitment firm that will assist the recruitment process by undertaking the tasks described in this TOR. The authority to decide on the selection of a recruitment firm rests with the Board.

B. Objective of the assignment

5. The objective of the assignment is to ensure an open, transparent and non-biased recruitment process of the heads of the accountability units, by providing longlists, shortlists and final interview lists of qualified applicants to the Appointment Committee.

C. Scope and focus of the assignment

6. The successful recruitment firm will be responsible for the screening process (longlisting and shortlisting), and for supporting the Appointment Committee in final listing. The Secretariat will maintain oversight over the outsourced recruitment services in order to ensure compliance with the Green Climate Fund's (the Fund's) recruitment policies and procedures.
 - (a) **Job categories to be covered: Head of the following accountability units:**
 - (i) The Independent Evaluation Unit;
 - (ii) The Independent Integrity Unit; and
 - (iii) The Independent Redress Mechanism.
 - (b) **Activities to be undertaken by the firm under the direction of the Appointment Committee:**
7. Phase I - Attracting and communicating with candidates
 - (i) Review the job description of the position and ensure that the selection criteria are properly formulated;
 - (ii) Assist in developing and advertising the vacancy notice for the position in appropriate media;
 - (iii) Receive and keep record of all applications;
 - (iv) Act as the contact point for those seeking information and/or proposing candidates;

- (v) Communicate, where appropriate, with the applicants; and
 - (vi) Proactively approach/contact professionals that could be a good fit in order to seek their interest in applying for the positions or refer the recruitment firm to other potential candidates.
8. Phase II - Supporting the work of the Appointment Committee
- (a) Establishment of the longlist of candidates (20-25) for each position
 - (i) Develop a role specification for each position based on the terms of reference of the Heads of the Independent Evaluation Unit, the Independent Integrity Unit and the Independent Redress Mechanism of the Fund with guidance from the Appointment Committee;
 - (ii) Review all applications received; and
 - (iii) Present to the Appointment Committee for its approval a longlist of 20-25 candidates for each position as well as appropriate background information (that can be gathered without contacting the potential candidates).
 - (b) Establishment of the shortlist of candidates (approximately 6-10) for each position
 - (i) Interview all individuals on the shortlist of 6-10 candidates for each position, supplemented by information gathering via telephone, videoconference or in person (where appropriate) and by other means;
 - (ii) Conduct appropriate reference checks and further screening of all shortlist candidates, and present the Appointment Committee with verbal and written comments; and
 - (iii) Assist the Appointment Committee in establishing a final interview list of approximately five candidates that will be evaluated further.
 - (c) Establishment of the final interview list of candidates (approximately 5) for each position
 - (i) Facilitate the interviews of the five final interviewees, including drafting probing interview questions and scoring templates for the Appointment Committee; and
 - (ii) Prepare a report on the minutes of the interviews conducted for consideration by the Appointment Committee in its deliberations.
 - (d) Establishment of the final list of candidates (two only) for each position
 - (i) Assist the Appointment Committee in establishing the final list of two candidates in order of preference for each position; and
 - (ii) Assist the Appointment Committee in preparing a detailed final report to be presented to the Board for decision.

D. Outputs

9. To provide, as a result of the above:
- (a) A longlist of 20-25 candidates for each position;
 - (b) A shortlist of candidates for each position;
 - (c) A final interview list of candidates for each position;
 - (d) Support to the Committee to produce a final list of two candidates for each position;
 - (e) Complete data and brief comments on the longlist of 20-25 candidates for each position;

- (f) A report on the minutes of the interviews conducted by the recruitment firm for establishing the final interview list of candidates for each position;
- (g) Drafting of probing interview questions and scoring templates for the Appointment Committee and preparing a short report on the interviews of the final list of candidates; and
- (h) Preparing a detailed final report, in collaboration with the Appointment Committee, on the final list of candidates and the recruitment process.

E. Monitoring and progress controls, including reporting requirements

- 10. The recruitment firm shall work closely with the Fund's Human Resources (HR) team. The Appointment Committee, through HR, will provide overall supervision for the assignment.

F. Duration of the consultancy

- 11. This consultancy is expected to take up to a maximum of six months starting from the date of signature of the contract by both parties, subject to adjustments as required.
- 12. Negotiation is up to signature of the contract by selected candidates. There will be a performance payment linked to successful appointments by the Board. If a candidate resigns or is let go within one year of taking up his or her role, the recruitment firm will have to find a replacement without charge.

Annex V: Terms of reference of the Head of the Independent Evaluation Unit¹

Head of the Independent Evaluation Unit

Republic of Korea

Role

The Head of the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) will work, pursuant to paragraph 60 of the Governing Instrument, as an operationally independent unit, in accordance with the approved terms of reference of the unit as contained in Annex III to decision B.06/09. The Head will be selected by, and will report to, the Board. He/she will conduct periodic independent evaluations of the Green Climate Fund's (the Fund's) performance in order to provide an objective assessment of the Fund's results and to capture lessons learned, including its funded activities and its effectiveness and efficiency.

The tenure of the Head of the IEU will be for three years, renewable once. The incumbent can be removed only by decision of the Board.² The Board may decide to terminate the contract based on the evaluation of the performance of the Head of the IEU in relation to an agreed performance-based contract. His/her conditions of appointment will be decided by the Board upon recommendation by the Appointment Committee. To preserve operational independence, upon termination of service as the Head of the IEU, he/she shall not be eligible for any type of employment by the Fund within one year of the end of his/her appointment. The Head of the IEU will be subject to the Staff Code of Conduct and any applicable policy on ethics and conflicts of interest with the Board or its designee as an oversight body. He or she will be based at the Fund's headquarters in Songdo, Republic of Korea, and the position will be a full-time one.

Duties and responsibilities

The Head of the IEU will report to the Board and, for administrative purposes only, to the Executive Director³ and be responsible for:

- (a) Leadership and management of the unit, including the authority to make appointments and manage staff of the unit;
- (b) Conducting or managing, by contracting consultants, evaluations using as much as possible internally generated data streams and analytical outputs, and applying evaluation standards and practice in accordance with best international practice and standards. The use of technical expert panels or similar mechanisms may be appropriate, as recommended in the case of the Global Environment Facility by the peer review of its evaluation function. The Head of the IEU will ensure that evaluation team members do not have conflicts of interest with respect to the activities in whose evaluation they will be involved;

¹ The Head of the IEU will carry out the functions and responsibilities described in the terms of reference for her/his unit as outlined in Annex III to decision B.06/09, which include, but are not limited to, the functions described in this Annex.

² Decision B.06/09, Annex III, paragraph 3.

³ In respect of certain overhead functions such as information technology, legal, human resources, etc. (excluding performance review).

- (c) Making recommendations to improve the Fund's performance, in the light of the unit's evaluations, including in particular to the Fund's performance indicators and its results management framework;
- (d) Attesting to the quality of the Fund's self-evaluations conducted by the Secretariat;
- (e) Synthesizing and sharing the findings and lessons learned from the unit's evaluations with key internal and external audiences in order to inform decision-making by the Board and the Executive Director, as well as among accredited entities;
- (f) Proposing a budget for meeting the annual expenses of the unit, to ensure its financial independence, which will be considered and approved by the Board;
- (g) Proposing detailed guidelines and procedures governing the work of the IEU to be approved by the Board. The procedures will be updated as necessary and approved by the Board so as to always ensure that the procedures allow for the work of the IEU to be carried out efficiently and in a cost-effective manner while meeting best international standards;
- (h) Participating actively in relevant evaluation networks in order to ensure that the IEU is at the frontier of results, evaluation and learning practice and that it benefits from relevant initiatives undertaken by other evaluation units;
- (i) Establishing close relationships with the independent evaluation units of the accredited entities of the Fund, and seeking to involve them in their activities and to share learning wherever feasible and appropriate;
- (j) Providing recommendations to accredited entities on how to design projects/programmes and monitoring of those activities so as to improve the ability of the IEU to provide quality evaluation of the Fund's activities;
- (k) Defining the independent evaluation policy contributing to the Fund's knowledge management process;⁴
- (l) Developing and updating the independent evaluation policy of the Fund, as reiterated in Annex IX to decision B.08/07;
- (m) The independent evaluation work is separate from the day-to-day monitoring and evaluation (M&E) work of the Secretariat as per paragraph 23 (j) of the Governing Instrument;
- (n) In addition to synthesizing the findings and/or lessons learned, disseminating/communicating results with relevant audiences;
- (o) Developing plans to ensure that evidence informs learning across the Fund;
- (p) Establishing close relationships with the equivalent units of the accredited entities in order to avoid duplication of their respective activities, and sharing lessons learned to ensure continuous learning;
- (q) Providing evaluation reports to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change for the purposes of periodic review of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention; and
- (r) Preparing and submitting periodic progress reports to the Board, as and when required, and an annual report that will also be disseminated to the public.

⁴Annex IX to decision B.08/07.

Required experience and qualifications

- (a) An advanced university degree in law, economics, development studies, climate change or a related field (Masters or higher);
- (b) Relevant professional experience, including at least seven years at senior management level;
- (c) Demonstrated expertise in project and programme evaluation;
- (d) Good organizational skills;
- (e) Expert experience in drafting detailed guidelines and procedures;
- (f) Experience in setting up and executing a budget;
- (g) Proven analytical skills with creative solutions to challenges;
- (h) Demonstrated experience in prioritizing multiple assignments, meeting tight deadlines, and a willingness to be flexible with minimal staff in a fast-paced environment;
- (i) Exceptional relationship and communication management skills;
- (j) Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability and personality to work collaboratively, accept responsibility and motivate colleagues;
- (k) A demonstrated strong track record in leading the recruitment and development of a team;
- (l) Sensitivity to political, and respect for cultural, factors;
- (m) Fluency in English is essential; knowledge of another United Nations language is an advantage;
- (n) Experience in, or working with, developing countries;
- (o) Good knowledge/experience of relevant independent evaluation networks and the broader M&E landscape;
- (p) Experience in leading and managing a diverse team with a broad range of technical skills;
- (q) Experience in drafting and delivering evidence plans that are aligned with and support organizational learning;
- (r) Strong project management skills;
- (s) Strong gender skills and experience in order to embed gender within all evaluations of the Fund; and
- (t) Enjoy an impeccable reputation of honesty and integrity and be widely respected and regarded for his/her competence and expertise.

Applications from women and nationals of developing countries are strongly encouraged.

Annex VI: Terms of reference of the Head of the Independent Integrity Unit¹

Head of the Independent Integrity Unit

Republic of Korea

Role

The Head of the Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) will work, pursuant to paragraph 68 of the Governing Instrument, in accordance with the approved terms of reference of the unit as contained in Annex IV to decision B.06/09. The Head will be selected by, and will report to, the Board or its designee. The Head will work with the Secretariat at its headquarters in Songdo, Republic of Korea, to investigate allegations of fraud and corruption and other prohibited practices (coercive and collusive practices, abuse, conflict of interest and retaliation against whistle-blowers) in line with best international practices and in close coordination or cooperation with relevant counterpart authorities. The IIU will enjoy independence in the exercise of its responsibilities; and in order to conduct an investigation, it will have full access to all relevant Green Climate Fund (Fund) documents and data, including electronic data. During the course of its work, the IIU will need to work closely with the Secretariat. The IIU will actively participate in relevant networks of integrity department/units to ensure that it is at the frontier of relevant practice and that it benefits from initiatives undertaken by the integrity units of other international organizations. The IIU will establish close relationships with the integrity units of the accredited entities, endeavour to work with them and rely on them as much as possible. However, it will not be precluded from conducting its own investigations.

The tenure of the Head of the IIU will be for three years; renewable once. In order to ensure the independence of the office, the incumbent may not be removed from office during his/her term, except for malfeasance or mental incapacitation.² The Board may decide to terminate the contract based on the evaluation of the performance of the Head in relation to an agreed performance-based contract. The Head of the IIU shall not be eligible for any type of employment by the Fund within one year of the end of his/her appointment. The Head of the IIU will be subject to the Staff Code of Conduct and any applicable policy on ethics and conflict of interest with accountability to the Board

Duties and responsibilities

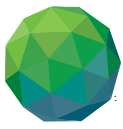
The Head of the IIU will report to the Board and, for administrative purposes only, to the Executive Director³ and be responsible for:

- (a) Leadership and management of the unit, including the authority to make appointments and manage staff of the unit;
- (b) Serving as the point of contact for all alleged and suspected incidents of integrity violation, as defined in these terms of reference, including fraud and corruption, involving any Fund activity, including actions by its staff members, corporate

¹ The Head of the IIU will carry out the functions and responsibilities described in the terms of reference for his/her unit as outlined in Annex IV to decision B.06/09, which include, but are not limited to, the functions described in this Annex.

² Decision B.06/09, Annex IV, paragraph 21.

³ In respect of certain overhead functions such as information technology, legal, human resources, etc. (excluding performance review).



- procurement by the Fund, and activities (including projects and programmes) using Fund resources directly or indirectly;
- (c) Proposing a policy for cross-debarment with peer organizations to mutually enforce each other's debarment actions, with respect to the four harmonized sanctionable practices, i.e. corruption, fraud, coercion and collusion;
 - (d) Registering all complaints and reviewing them to determine whether they fall under the authority of the IIU;
 - (e) Proposing a budget for meeting the annual expenses of the unit to ensure its financial independence;
 - (f) Proposing detailed guidelines and procedures governing the work of the IIU to be approved by the Board. The procedures to be followed will be in a cost-effective manner while meeting best international standards;
 - (g) Adopting appropriate procedures to determine whether an integrity violation has occurred;
 - (h) Examining and determining the veracity of alleged or suspected integrity violations against accredited entities, project executing entities, contractors, consultants, service providers or other external stakeholders, or against the Fund's staff members; reporting the unit's investigative findings to the Secretariat and/or the Ethics and Audit Committee (EAC), and making recommendations, as appropriate, that are derived from the unit's findings;
 - (i) With reference to complaints regarding any activities using Fund resources directly or indirectly or in connection with corporate procurement, providing the Secretariat with advice on remedial actions;
 - (j) With reference to the staff of the Fund, investigating allegations of staff misconduct, involving violations of the Staff Code of Conduct; cooperating and coordinating with the Executive Director in the conduct of investigations; and reporting the unit's findings to the Executive Director for decision on disciplinary actions;
 - (k) With reference to the Executive Director, bringing to the attention of the Co-Chairs and the Ethics and Audit Committee the findings on any investigation involving misconduct or integrity violations;
 - (l) In consultation with the Executive Director and other designated officials of the Fund, developing policies, procedures and controls in order to mitigate the opportunities for integrity violations in the Fund's activities, including activities implemented through accredited entities, to ensure that all staff, external stakeholders and accredited entities adhere to the highest integrity standards; and documenting all investigative findings and conclusions;
 - (m) Developing policies for Board approval so as to address anti-corruption and counter the financing of terrorism;
 - (n) Providing the Ethics and Audit Committee with the information that the Committee may reasonably request for it to fulfil its role pursuant to its terms of reference, in particular concerning the issues of Board conflicts of interest, confidentiality and ethics;
 - (o) Reporting to the Board on the unit's activities, including summary investigative findings and any remedial action decided upon by the EAC in the case of external stakeholders, or by an accredited entity;
 - (p) Establishing close relationships with the equivalent unit of the accredited entities in order to avoid duplication of their respective activities, and sharing lessons learned to ensure continuous learning;

- (q) In collaboration with the Secretariat and the Executive Director, promoting awareness of the Fund's integrity standards, including to all accredited entities and executing entities;
- (r) Consulting and collaborating with multilateral funds, international finance institutions and other relevant parties so as to share experience and insight on how best to address integrity violations;
- (s) Coordinating with relevant national and international counterpart authorities during the investigation of alleged or suspected integrity violations, when considered appropriate and authorized by the Secretariat;
- (t) Considering and recommending for Board approval, the participation in arrangements between multilateral funds and international financial institutions on integrity matters; and
- (u) Preparing and submitting an annual report to the Board, summarizing the unit's activities.

Required experience and qualifications

- (a) An advanced university degree in law or a related field (Masters or higher);
- (b) Relevant professional experience, including at least seven years at senior management level;
- (c) Good organizational skills;
- (d) Expert experience in drafting detailed guidelines and procedures;
- (e) Experience in setting up and executing a budget;
- (f) Proven analytical skills with creative solutions to challenges;
- (g) Demonstrated experience in prioritizing multiple assignments, meeting tight deadlines, and a willingness to be flexible with minimal staff in a fast-paced environment;
- (h) Exceptional relationship and communication management skills as well as strong skills in handling communication;
- (i) Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability and personality to work collaboratively, accept responsibility and motivate colleagues;
- (j) A demonstrated strong track record in leading the recruitment and development of a team;
- (k) Strong gender skills, sensitivity to political, and respect for cultural, factors;
- (l) Fluency in English is essential; knowledge of another United Nations language is an advantage;
- (m) Experience and a proven track record in conducting integrity investigations and leading an integrity unit; and
- (n) Enjoy an impeccable reputation of honesty and integrity and be widely respected and regarded for his/her competence and expertise.

Applications from women and nationals of developing countries are strongly encouraged.

Annex VII: Terms of reference of the Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism¹

Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism

Republic of Korea

Role

The Head of the Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) will work pursuant to paragraph 69 of the Governing Instrument, in accordance with the approved terms of reference of the unit as contained in Annex V to decision B.06/09. The Head of IRM will receive complaints related to the operation of the Fund and will evaluate and make recommendations on the complaints received. The IRM is not intended to be a court of appeal or a legal/adjudicating mechanism. It is a mechanism within the Fund that will address the reconsideration of funding decisions in accordance with decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraphs 6–10. The IRM will be open, transparent and easily accessible. It will also address any grievances and complaints submitted by communities and people who have been directly affected by adverse impacts through the failure of a project or programme funded by the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) in order to implement the Fund's operational policies and procedures, including its environmental and social safeguards.

The tenure of the Head of the IRM will be for three years; renewable once. He/she will be based at the Fund's headquarters in Songdo, Republic of Korea. The position will be a full-time one. His/her conditions of appointment will be decided by the Board upon recommendation by the Appointment Committee.

In order to ensure the independence of the office, the incumbent may not be removed from office during his/her term, except for malfeasance or mental incapacitation.² The Board may decide to terminate the contract based on the evaluation of the performance of the Head in relation to an agreed performance-based contract. His/her conditions of appointment will be decided by the Board upon recommendation by the Appointment Committee. The Head of the IRM shall not be eligible for any type of employment by the Fund within one year of the end of his/her appointment. He or she will be subject to the Staff Code of Conduct and any applicable policy on ethics and conflicts of interest with the Board or its designee as an oversight body.

Duties and responsibilities

The Head of the IRM will be responsible to the Board for all substantive work. However, for administrative purposes only, he/she will report to the Executive Director,³⁴ and be responsible for:

- (a) Leadership and management of the unit, including the authority to make appointments and manage staff of the unit;
- (b) Addressing the reconsideration of funding decisions in accordance with decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraphs 6-10;

¹ The Head of the IRM will carry out the functions and responsibilities described in the terms of reference for his/her unit as outlined in Annex V to decision B.06/09, which include, but are not limited to, the functions described in this Annex.

² Decision B.06/09, Annex V, paragraph 11.

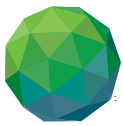
³ Decision B.06/09, paragraph 16.

⁴ In respect of certain overhead functions such as information technology, legal, human resources, etc. (excluding performance review).

- (c) Proposing a budget for meeting the annual expenses of the unit, to ensure its financial independence;
- (d) Proposing detailed guidelines and procedures governing the work of the IRM to be approved by the Board. The procedures to be followed will be iterative, whereby expeditious and cost-effective redress of grievances and resolution of complaints can be facilitated;
- (e) Treating all stakeholders in a fair and equitable manner. While ensuring transparency and fairness, the IRM will be cost-effective, efficient and complementary to other supervision, audit, quality control, monitoring and evaluation, and independent evaluation systems of the Fund as well as those of accredited entities;
- (f) Following international best practices;
- (g) Dealing with grievances or complaints filed by communities and people who have been directly affected by adverse impacts through the failure of the project or programme funded by the Fund in order to implement the Fund's operational policies and procedures, including its environmental and social safeguards, or the failure of the Fund or its accredited entities to follow such policies;
- (h) Establishing close relationships with the equivalent unit of the accredited entities in order to avoid duplication of their respective activities, and sharing lessons learned to ensure continuous learning;
- (i) Making recommendations to the Board after allowing the necessary time for Management to provide response to inputs to make changes to operational policies and procedures. Both IRM findings and Management's response will be concomitantly submitted to the Board;
- (j) Monitoring whether the decisions taken by the Board following IRM recommendations have been implemented; and
- (k) Preparing and submitting periodic progress reports to the Board, as and when required, and an annual report that will also be disseminated to the public.

Required experience and qualifications

- (a) An advanced university degree in law, environment, social development, development studies, economics or a related field (Masters or higher);
- (b) Relevant professional experience, including at least seven years at senior management level;
- (c) Good organizational skills;
- (d) Experience working in human rights;
- (e) Experience working with social and environmental safeguards and standards used by international organizations which can be applied in a variety of settings;
- (f) Experience working with vulnerable and indigenous communities and evidence of strong gender skills;
- (g) Expert experience in drafting detailed guidelines and procedures associated with the adverse impacts arising from the implementation of projects;
- (h) Experience in setting up similar accountability units, including hiring staff and formulating a budget;



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- (i) Demonstrated experience in prioritizing multiple assignments, meeting tight deadlines, and a willingness to be flexible with minimal staff in a fast-paced environment;
 - (j) Exceptional relationship and communication management skills;
 - (k) Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability and personality to work collaboratively, accept responsibility and motivate colleagues;
 - (l) A demonstrated strong track record in leading the recruitment and development of a team;
 - (m) Strong gender skills, sensitivity to political, and respect for cultural, factors;
 - (n) Fluency in English is essential; knowledge of another United Nations language is an advantage;
 - (o) Experience and a proven track record in dealing with grievances or complaints made by affected communities in relation to investments made by international organizations;
 - (p) Enjoy an impeccable reputation of honesty and integrity and be widely respected and regarded for his/her competence and expertise; and
 - (q) Proven analytical skills with creative solutions to challenges.

Applications from women and nationals of developing countries are strongly encouraged.

Annex VIII: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 008 (APL008)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 008 (APL008) is a national entity and an environmental fund located in a developing country in Africa. It was established with a mandate of being a sustainable source of funding for the development and implementation of environmentally sustainable development projects and programmes in partnership with both public and private sector organizations. The applicant was officially established in 2001, and began operations in 2011. The results of its activities overlap with the results areas of the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) in the areas of natural resource management, green technology and low carbon development, nature-based tourism, and capacity-building. Building on its experience, the applicant seeks accreditation to the Fund in order to maximize the impact of the climate change and mitigation projects and programmes it implements whilst promoting social and economic benefits.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 16 January 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** Direct access, national. The applicant received a national designated authority or focal point nomination for its accreditation application;
- (b) **Track:** Normal track;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Micro;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms;
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** Medium risk (Category B/Intermediation 2 (I-2)).³

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP).

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "micro" is defined as "maximum total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of up to and including US\$ 10 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as "Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures" and Intermediation 2 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website and third-party websites to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 **Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities**

5. The applicant has, in its formative years, worked towards establishing a governance and oversight structure to a standard that would facilitate the scaling up of its activities. While developing this structure, the applicant has taken on board lessons learned and continues to work on gaps that have been identified as a result of its operations. In this respect, it has recognized the necessity for an internal audit function and recently procured the services of an internationally recognized auditing firm to provide this function on an outsourced basis. The applicant is also implementing a new information technology system in order to address gaps in its control framework, and confirmation of its successful implementation should be reported to the Fund once its functionality is fully operational.

6. The financial statements of the applicant are audited annually and prepared in accordance with accepted international financial reporting standards.

7. The entity has a procurement policy in the form of procedural guidelines, which it is in the process of redrafting for alignment across its operations. Moreover, this document intends to achieve alignment with national laws.

8. Furthermore, it is noted that that the entity's sustainability is limited by the extent of its initial capitalization and the extent to which progress is made on accessing sources of revenue to sustain its operations. This has been recognized by the applicant and steps to address this have been included as part of its five-year strategic plan.

9. APL008 partially meets the Fund's basic fiduciary standards related to key administrative and financial capacities, and where gaps exist the process to close them is at an advanced stage of completion.

2.1.2 **Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability**

10. The applicant fully meets the basic fiduciary standards with respect to transparency and accountability. It has both a code of ethics and disclosure of interest policy and these have been communicated to its staff. APL008 also has a complaints mechanism transparently visible on its website and, based on feedback from the applicant, no complaints have been received via this portal. The complaints portal would benefit from terms of reference and clarity on how the complaint would be escalated within the organization.

11. It has provided information on three instances of potentially fraudulent acts and corrective actions have been implemented in these cases. The establishment of the internal audit function should be leveraged so as to identify gaps and recommend the preventative measures to employ so as to avoid their potential future occurrence.

2.1.3 **Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management**

12. APL008 substantially meets the Fund's requirement for the specialized fiduciary standard on project management. It has detailed policies, procedures and processes to provide for a direct project management role, which involves the management of a project from inception to completion. However, implementation of a project management function across a large portfolio of relatively small grants is impaired due to a lack of human resources, and measures to address the gap are being tested.

2.1.4 **Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms**

13. The applicant has a transparent procedure for awarding grants and has provided some information on its website in this regard. Internally, it has developed a template for screening proposals, which are processed by management and referred to a panel of technical experts for review and recommendation to the Board. APL008, however, does not have a stand-alone grant policy and procedure, but the relevant information is contained in its operations manual and other documents. The applicant would benefit from the development of a single document to clearly delineate this part of its operations.

14. It should be noted that the applicant additionally has developed a fiduciary standard for its grantees.

15. APL008 is assessed in respect of its procedures to directly manage grants, and is found to substantially meet the standard.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

16. The applicant did not apply for assessment against this standard at this time. However, it has commenced on a process of on-lending with a local bank and is piloting this approach. The scope of the lessons learned should ideally encompass this programme for potential future accreditation against this standard.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 **Section 6.1: Policy**

17. APL008 is a young institution with its environmental and social safeguards (ESS) experience just developing. Many of its policies have been recently put in place, and capacity to implement them will be evident in the coming years. The applicant is introducing new models for financing environmental conservation and enterprises, but most projects funded/financed by the applicant have no or minimal environmental risks.

18. The applicant only partially meets the requirement on E&S policy in relation to medium E&S risk Category B/I-2. It has a new E&S policy that was approved in late 2014, but this is still being implemented within the institution and operationalized in projects conducted with its partner organizations. The policy shows consistency with the Fund's ESS, and provides a comprehensive approach to E&S risks and impacts. Prior to having an E&S policy, APL008 followed the national laws and regulations on environmental management within the country that it operates; this policy mainly addresses environmental assessments and an official environmental clearance certificate for certain types of projects. The applicant has no track record of implementing projects with medium risk characteristics.

19. Commensurate with the fit-for-purpose accreditation approach and the nature of Category C/I-3 as being of minimal to no environmental and social risk, an E&S policy within an institutional environmental and social management system is not required for the Category C/I-3 level of risk. The applicant, however, does have an E&S policy that includes overall E&S policy principles, four safeguards, a project screening tool, and provisions on monitoring and reporting. The applicant meets this requirement in relation to minimal to no E&S risk Category C/I-3.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

20. The applicant partially meets the Fund's ESS with respect to this requirement in relation to medium E&S risk Category B/I-2, but fully meets the requirement with respect to minimal to no E&S risk Category C/I-3. The new E&S policy provides guidelines for screening and categorization of projects. The guidelines have been tested internally, but since APL008 has not yet funded a medium E&S risk level project, it has no experience with E&S impact assessments or in developing mitigation measures for medium level projects. The project documentation it provided indicates that projects are small in size and fall under minimal to no E&S risk Category C/I-3 in accordance with the Fund's ESS. It is recommended that the applicant institutionalizes the screening guidelines and builds experience in screening and categorizing the projects that it considers for funding. The applicant should seek assistance from experts or external parties in order to develop capacity to ensure that the projects they fund have minimal or no E&S risks.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

21. The applicant partially meets the Fund's ESS with respect to this requirement for a management programme in the context of medium E&S risk Category B/I-2, however, it fully meets the requirement with respect to minimal to no E&S risk Category C/I-3. In the last two years, APL008 has developed new manuals and frameworks to address E&S issues. However, as the applicant only has experience in funding or implementing projects with minimal or no E&S risk thus far, it is unable to offer evidence of a functioning programme for managing higher E&S risk projects throughout the project cycle.

2.2.4 Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency

22. The applicant does not meet this requirement in relation to medium E&S risk Category B/I-2, but does meet it for minimal to no E&S risk Category C/I-3. It is a young and relatively small organization, with limited staff. Although it has assigned responsibility for environmental and social safeguards, it has not filled all positions that are required in order to ensure that the required environmental and social policy is implemented. APL008 is recommended to fill the positions related to E&S with competent staff, and to pursue its plans to develop the organization's E&S capacity to implement the new E&S policy.

2.2.5 Section 6.5: Monitoring and review

23. The applicant partially meets this requirement in relation to medium E&S risk Category B/I-2. Monitoring and review of projects is guided by APL008's operational manual and a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework as well as the new E&S policy. Project M&E reports that have been assessed indicate a need for consistency in the reporting format, and lack of experience with medium E&S risk level projects is again noted. However, it is noted that the applicant has recruited an M&E officer, whose remit includes monitoring and review of E&S performance. This is deemed sufficient for projects with minimal to no E&S risks and impacts, and APL008 is found to meet this requirement in the context of this category. It is recommended that the applicant consistently implements the monitoring and review procedures set out in its policies and procedures.

2.2.6 Section 6.6: External communications

24. The applicant meets the requirement for external communications in relation to medium E&S risk Category B/I-2. It has established a communications policy, a complaints and feedback procedure, as well as a disclosure policy. The applicant has submitted a log of queries and complaints received to date, which indicates that the mechanism is operational.

2.3 Gender

25. The applicant has experience with gender considerations in climate change projects, although its policy/charter has only been recently formalized. For a young institution, its gender programme is still being developed, but progress in this area is recognized. APL008 has provided evidence of project experience where women are key beneficiaries or engaged in projects in a meaningful manner. Given the recent adoption of the charter, the applicant still needs to include the principles of the charter in its procedures.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

26. Following its assessment, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant partially meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards and substantially meets the requirements for the specialized fiduciary standard for project management and the specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms. In order to fully meet the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, the applicant is required to:
 - (i) Undertake an initial internal audit of its operations. The items to be addressed in the internal audit should include:
 - 1. A sample review of three grant awards, including contractual arrangements for risk, assessed against its procedures;
 - 2. Confirmation that its procurement practice complies with national law; and
 - 3. A review of the new information technology control framework;
 - (ii) Submit the internal audit plan for the next financial year, 2016;
 - (iii) Submit internal audit reports annually for three consecutive financial years starting with the financial year 2016;
 - (iv) Submit the revised procurement policy and procedures.

In order to fully meet the requirements of the Fund's specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, the applicant is required to:

- (v) Publish information on its grant award mechanism and process on its website;
- (b) It is recommended that the applicant continues to develop its grant mechanism, including the compilation of a process and procedure manual that incorporates all the mechanism's elements.
- (c) The applicant does not fully meet the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the medium E&S risk Category B/I-2 against which the applicant is seeking accreditation. However, it does fully meet the requirements for minimal to no E&S risk Category C/I-3. It is recommended that the applicant seeks to deepen its knowledge of the Fund's interim ESS while further developing its E&S management system in order to support a potential future upgrade of its accreditation for medium E&S risk level Category B/I-2; and
- (d) APL008 meets the gender requirements, with both a new gender policy and experience in taking into account gender considerations in climate change projects. It is

recommended that the applicant includes the principles of its new gender charter in its internal procedures manuals.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

27. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL008) for accreditation as follows:

(a) **Accreditation type:**

(i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Micro;

(ii) **Fiduciary functions:**

1. Basic fiduciary standards;
2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms;

(iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** Minimal to no risk (Category C/I-3);⁴

(b) **Conditions:** The applicant will be required to submit to the AP, through the Secretariat, information on how it has complied with the conditions listed below. The AP will thereafter assess whether the conditions have been met to the satisfaction of the Fund. This assessment will be communicated by the Secretariat, on behalf of the AP, to the Board for information purposes.

(i) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 26 (a) (i), (ii), (iv) and (v) above prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant; and

(ii) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 26 (a) (iii) on an annual basis for the three consecutive years, starting with the financial year 2016. This condition is not required to be met prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant.

28. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 27 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

3.3 Additional remarks

29. The applicant is encouraged to seek readiness and preparatory support to assist it with:

(a) Meeting the conditions identified in paragraph 27 (b) above; and

(b) Undertaking the recommendations in paragraph 26 (b)–(d) above.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as “Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts” and Intermediation 3 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts”.

Annex IX: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 009 (APL009)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 009 (APL009) is a national entity, specifically a public sector ministry, located in a least developed country in Africa which is responsible for environment, climate change and natural resources management at the local and national levels. The applicant, in partnership with national stakeholders, has a strategy in place to support national development goals, particularly in green growth, climate resilience, and the sustainable management and consumption of natural resources. The applicant's goal is to provide solutions to the environmental and resource challenges faced, including the imbalance between population and natural resources that has serious impacts on sectors such as agriculture, energy, infrastructure, land, water resources and forestry, in achieving national long-term sustainable development. Currently, the applicant has a climate change project portfolio of approximately US\$ 120 million, which includes activities such as reducing vulnerability to extreme climate and weather events through the implementation of relevant priority adaptation measures. Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) will be an opportunity for the applicant to continue to drive sustainable development and green growth as envisaged in its national strategies and to scale up its climate change projects and programmes, but will also be a platform for it to support other developing countries in developing and implementing their national climate change strategies.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 18 January 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in May 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** Direct access, national. The applicant received a national designated authority or focal point nomination for its accreditation application;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Adaptation Fund;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Small;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards; and
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** Medium risk (Category B/Intermediation 2 (I-2)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "small" is defined as "maximum total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 10 million and up to and including US\$ 50 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as "Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures" and Intermediation 2 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for, and applied under, the fast-track accreditation process as an accredited entity of the Adaptation Fund. Its application has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website and third-party websites to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities are considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability, with the exception of item 4.2.4, investigation function, have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

7. Regarding item 4.2.4, the applicant provided information regarding the national public sector legal framework that regulates its internal audit function, the investigation of financial mismanagement, the public procurement processes and the sanction mechanisms to be imposed in cases of financial mismanagement. Additionally, it provided information regarding the results of internal audits and procurement reviews so as to demonstrate the application of the framework. The applicant provided information that confirms the presence of a framework for the review and assurance of proper financial management at the national level, as well as its application at the applicant's level. However, this does not demonstrate that the Fund's fiduciary standard concerning transparency and accountability has been fully met by the applicant.

8. The applicant's investigation function is mainly performed by its internal audit department and only partially complies with the Fund's standard in the following aspects:

- (a) The public availability of the terms of reference of its audit functions;
- (b) The presence of an independent internal audit function;
- (c) The presence of an audit committee at the applicant level, mandated by its national law;
- (d) The availability of a legal framework with a clear procedure for managing incidents once detected by the internal audit function; and
- (e) A clear procedure for applying sanctions when wrongdoing is demonstrated;

9. However, the audit function does not provide a clear procedure for receiving and managing complaints and there is no procedure in place for periodically reporting investigation case trends (i.e. distinct from periodic audit reports).

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

10. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard for project management is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.4 **Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms**

11. The applicant did not apply for assessment against this standard at this time.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

12. The applicant did not apply for assessment against this standard at this time.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 **Section 6.1: Policy**

13. The applicant is guided by the country's overarching E&S laws in which it is located; these are further supplemented by legislation covering specific sectors and guidelines for environmental assessments. The guidelines, having been institutionalized for almost a decade, have facilitated the establishment of the current environmental and social management system (ESMS). The ESMS encompasses:

- (a) Project impact assessments;
- (b) Public consultation; and
- (c) Monitoring and evaluation of a project over its life cycle.

14. Moreover, as evidence of implementing these laws and guidelines, the applicant provided information on its work with a number of international financing institutions on projects that covered aspects contained in the subsequent Sections 2.2.2 to 2.2.6 below.

15. These laws are found to be partially aligned with the Fund's environmental and social safeguards (ESS). However, in order to determine the gaps at the project level (performance standards 2-8), if any, an equivalence assessment of the country's legal framework would have to be undertaken. It is recommended that the applicant consider undertaking such an assessment with respect to projects and programmes funded by the Fund in order to further the development and application of ESS within the country.

2.2.2 **Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts**

16. The applicant, as required by law, undertakes an environmental impact assessment (EIA) process for all projects regardless of the risk category, before authorization for its implementation is obtained. The EIA process assesses environmental and socioeconomic risks and impacts. The applicant demonstrated experience in assessing a range of risk categories.

2.2.3 **Section 6.3: Management programme**

17. APL009 has an agency within its organization that was established by law to oversee the implementation of policy. It oversees the EIA process which includes, where relevant, mitigation plans supplemented by an environmental management plan.

2.2.4 **Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency**

18. The applicant, given the cross-cutting nature of its projects, has an agency within its organization to coordinate the capacity and competency for implementation. For large and complex projects, a unit that is resourced with skills and competencies drawn from other public sector entities and departments is formed to manage the project. This process has been successfully applied in projects, but resource constraints are recognized as a risk, given the

mobility of suitably qualified staff. This qualification, however, does not detract from the applicant meeting the Fund's ESS for this item.

2.2.5 **Section 6.5: Monitoring and review**

19. It has various cross-cutting review structures spanning public sector entities and departments and is also mandated to report on such reviews by law. Monitoring and review forms an integral part of the applicant's EIA process and covers the project life cycle, including the operational and decommissioning phases where applicable. Moreover, the process anticipates a dual project monitoring role by the developer of the project and the affiliated agency or decentralized authority.

2.2.6 **Section 6.6: External communications**

20. The applicant holds public hearings in the EIA process and also has a comprehensive website that facilitates the communication of its activities. The website has a mechanism through which the public can make contact and a central secretariat to assign actionable items to the responsible person.

2.3 Gender

21. APL009 has a national constitution that states its commitment to ensuring equal rights. Moreover, a gender monitoring office ensures that fundamental principles are adhered to by way of its monitoring and supervision role. The principles of gender equality have also been codified in laws relating to land tenure amongst others. Gender considerations form part of the key development indicators of departments and ministries.

22. The applicant provided information on gender-related competencies, and examples of projects and research where it jointly worked with other entities, including civil society, in furthering gender parity. Furthermore, gender-based priorities are evidenced and resourced where the promotion of gender and family matters are entrenched at the ministerial level.

III. **Conclusions and recommendation**

3.1 Conclusions

23. Following its assessment and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant substantially meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards and specialized fiduciary standard for project management. In order to fully meet the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, improvements relating to the investigation function for the purpose of transparency and accountability (item 4.2.4 of the application for accreditation) are required as described below:
 - (i) Publishing on its website, the instructions and appropriate forms through which to log a complaint;
 - (ii) Preparing quarterly reports on case trends and maintaining a formal record of all complaints received; and
 - (iii) Submitting a report of the incidents recorded to its Office of the Ombudsman for investigation on a monthly basis;

- (b) The applicant partially meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the medium E&S risk Category B/I-2. In its assessment, the AP judges that whereas the entity has a wide-ranging ESMS (performance standard 1), it has limited experience in applying the full scope of project-specific performance standards 2 to 8. The applicant is recommended to consider undertaking an equivalence assessment of the country's legal framework with respect to the Fund's project-specific performance standards 2 to 8, which would apply to projects and programmes funded by the Fund. The applicant is required to:
- (i) Use external support, including from co-financiers, acceptable to the Fund, to help to prepare projects or programmes that invoke any of performance standards 2 to 8; and
- (c) The applicant has demonstrated that it has policies, procedures and competencies, which are found to be consistent with the Fund's gender policy, and has also demonstrated that it has experience with gender consideration in the context of climate change activities.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

24. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL009) for accreditation as follows:

- (a) **Accreditation type:**
- (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Small (including micro);
- (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
1. Basic fiduciary standards; and
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
- (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** Medium risk (Category B/I-2) (including lower risk (Category C/I-3)⁴); and
- (b) **Conditions:** The applicant will be required to submit to the AP, through the Secretariat, information on how it has complied with the conditions. The AP will thereafter assess whether the conditions have been met. This assessment will be communicated by the Secretariat, on behalf of the AP, to the Board for information purposes.
- (i) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 23(a) (i-iii) above prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant; and
- (ii) The applicant shall meet the requirement in paragraph 23(b) (i) above in respect of any project/programme funded by the Fund that invokes any of performance standards 2-8 until a mid-term review during the five-year accreditation period is undertaken for the purposes of determining the applicant's competency in meeting the Fund's ESS at the project level.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as "Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts" and Intermediation 3 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts".

25. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 24 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

3.3 Additional remarks

26. The applicant may wish to seek readiness and preparatory support to assist it with:
- (a) Meeting the conditions identified in paragraph 24 (b) above; and
 - (b) Undertaking the recommendation made in paragraph 23 (b) above. The outcome of this assessment could rule out the necessity for the condition contained in paragraph 24 (b) (ii).

Annex X: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 010 (APL010)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 010 (APL010) is a national financial institution with a total balance sheet of over US\$ 40 billion located in a developing country in the Asia–Pacific region. It has the mandate of promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development through innovative, sustainable and equitable agriculture and rural prosperity by providing financial and technical support. It has built partnerships with other national entities, financial institutions and non-governmental organizations in order to implement innovative ideas through loans, guarantees, blended finance and other structures in the areas of agriculture, natural resources management, fisheries, rural livelihood improvement, renewable energy and micro finance among others. Almost one-third of its cumulative disbursements are related to climate change adaptation and mitigation activities. The applicant seeks accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) in order to continue implementing its climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and programmes, which are well aligned with the Fund’s results areas, particularly food and water security, forestry and landscape management, enhancing livelihoods and ecosystem services. Leveraging its long-standing partnerships and experience, APL010 intends to undertake low-emissions and climate-resilient sustainable development that reduces the impacts of climate change.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 11 February 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. It has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund’s fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** Direct access, national. The applicant received a national designated authority or focal point nomination for its accreditation application;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Adaptation Fund;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Large;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation; and
 - (iv) Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** Medium risk (Category B/Intermediation 2 (I-2)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, “large” is defined as “total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme”.

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as “Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures” and Intermediation 2 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented”.

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for and applied under, the fast-track accreditation process as an accredited entity of the Adaptation Fund. Its application has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website, third-party websites and an international organization that the applicant has collaborated with over many years to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities are considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability, with the exception of item 4.2.4, investigation function, have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

7. Regarding item 4.2.4, the applicant provided evidence in support of its investigation function, for which there are three channels of reporting. In the first instance, it has accepted the national legal framework for reporting and managing the process associated with investigations. This is a well-structured and resourced mechanism, the information on which is fully detailed on its website and fully meets the Fund's standards. Secondly, there is an internal channel which is contained in the staff rules and provides for an internal disciplinary process. Finally, the website also provides for receiving and tracking complaints.

8. The applicant has provided information in respect of cases reported and actions taken.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

9. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard for project management is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.4 Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanism

10. The applicant, an Apex institution,⁴ has significant grant operations across a diverse set of sectors and demonstrates knowledge and innovation in this area of its operations. Its grant schemes are transparently published on its website. Moreover, its product offering spans a variety of instruments with a wide reach.

11. In addition to the diversity mentioned above, APL010 has a well-established track record for grant awards under dedicated programmes that have been designed in conjunction with international development financing institutions (DFIs). This programmatic approach has

⁴ According to the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor, an Apex institution is defined as "a second tier or wholesale organization that channels funding (grants, loans, guarantees) to multiple microfinance institutions (MFIs) in a single country or region. Funding may be provided with or without supporting technical services". Available at <<https://www.cgap.org/sites/default/files/CGAP-Donor-Brief-Apex-Institutions-in-Microfinance-Jul-2002.pdf>>.

produced meaningful results and the capacity thus developed can be leveraged for its effectiveness and broad impact.

12. These programmes and associated procedures have been structured with sustainability in mind. Significant engagement and involvement of communities is maintained during the implementation of the projects supported under these programmes. Systems and processes for awarding grants are defined per programme and include, amongst others, results frameworks, procurement procedures, reporting and monitoring and responsibilities. Moreover, the applicant has a technical assistance capacity that further supplements its activities.

13. Information in respect of the programme and the role of the applicant is publically displayed at the project site and project progress is reported within communities via local structures.

14. For components of the programme that have a large concentration of projects, dedicated implementing units are established in order to supplement the monitoring and implementation. Evaluations, including ex-post evaluations are undertaken so as to ensure that projects are sustainably maintained. In order to ensure good governance, external audits on the use of funds form a key component of fiduciary oversight.

15. Grants for programmes are not managed in isolation, but as part of a blended portfolio of loans and grants. The grants provided under these programmes are leveraged for their effectiveness in support of structuring projects where funds are most needed. Eligibility criteria include an assessment of affordability as a means of reducing risk within a well-defined programme.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

16. The applicant has a substantial balance sheet, which, in addition to its proven track record in managing its resources, provides support for its lending programme that includes commercial paper and bond issuance. APL010's audited financial statements are published annually and its financial metrics have provided for an 'AAA' national rating by an internationally recognized rating agency.

17. The applicant has a significant track record in respect of on-lending and blending of a size that it is seeking accreditation for. The approach for its operations with DFIs has been an integrated one where a sustainable financial model is derived by integrating sources and financing types, and the sharing of risk. Here the emphasis is also on a programmatic approach. Sound financial principles, including credit quality, a balanced portfolio approach and good governance characterize the operations of these programmes. Evidence regarding the applicant's good standing with DFIs has been provided and verified by the AP.

18. In operationalizing the programmes, the applicant's processes include the selection of project executing agencies which are chosen for their ability to implement projects and a sound financial track record evidenced by audit reports.

19. The applicant has a number of board and management committees with well-defined roles and responsibilities and includes an investment committee, a risk management committee, an audit committee, and an asset and liability committee. These committees meet frequently and are guided by the policies and procedures documented for their purpose. Ongoing activities in respect of programmes are published on a quarterly basis on the applicant's website and are reported in its annual financial statements.

20. APL010 has, at a macro level, a significant number of policies and procedures that govern its operations. Its loan policy is significantly detailed and provides for credit risk assessments of its counterparts and covers all products in its portfolio.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 Section 6.1: Policy

21. The applicant is in the process of preparing an environmental and social safeguards (ESS) policy which provides for an environmental and social management system (ESMS) that includes processes for:

- (a) The identification of impacts and risks of projects;
- (b) Monitoring and reporting; and
- (c) Community engagement and participation.

22. APL010 intends to submit its newly drafted policy to its board for consideration and approval at its next meeting. The policy will apply to projects and programmes where resources from DFIs and other multilateral sources such as the Fund are applied. The applicant has recently acquired some experience in applying E&S principles to programmes implemented with DFIs. These programmes are ring-fenced with specific E&S and fiduciary guidelines. The draft policy, when approved by the applicant's board, will fully meet the Fund's ESS. In addition to addressing the Fund's ESS, the policy also addresses issues related to gender equity and access, as well as equity and the protection of human rights. In preparing its policy and reflecting on its future implementation, the applicant has recognized the capacity constraints it may encounter and to this end, the policy provides for resources to support its implementation on a cost-recovery basis.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

23. The policy provides for an assessment of E&S risks and impacts of the applicant's operations. It also provides for a categorization of projects and programmes based on the scale, nature and severity of E&S risks and impacts that may arise from its operations.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

24. The policy provides for a management programme that will ensure that environmental management plans are prepared and employed in managing mitigation measures and actions stemming from the E&S risk and impact identification process, and unanticipated impacts.

2.2.4 Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency

25. The applicant has competency within its structures to undertake the tasks associated with an ESMS, though given the extent of its operations this is limited. Having recognized this gap, APL010 is, in collaboration with a DFI, in the process of developing a detailed capacity-building programme which includes the development of ESS procedures. Moreover, in addition to its existing ESS competencies, it has drafted a job description for an environmental officer who will oversee, at a strategic level, the applicant's ESS responsibilities as envisaged by the draft policy.

2.2.5 Section 6.5: Monitoring and review

26. The policy will require that executing agencies establish monitoring procedures to review progress and compliance with the E&S obligations of the applicant's operations, in addition to outlining the role of the applicant in supervising the executing entities. Monitoring and evaluation of mitigation measures and actions is addressed in the policy.

2.2.6 Section 6.6: External communications

27. The policy proposes a disclosure and consultative process as anticipated in the standard and in this regard it has a significant track record in disseminating information both on its website and at the sites of the executing entities in which it has funded projects. Additionally, project results are substantially detailed in its annual results reports and it produces information booklets and brochures for distribution to the general public. The applicant's website contains a significant amount of information in respect of its operations and also provides for external communications both for general contact and for grievances.

2.3 Gender

28. The applicant is preparing a gender policy in addition to including gender equity as a standard in its ESMS. This innovative approach codifies a gender approach in the environmental and social impact assessment for medium E&S risk projects. The standard encompasses that women and men are treated equitably, receive comparable benefits and do not suffer disproportionately from operations that the applicant implements. The applicant has demonstrated a track record of supervising gender specific projects and has the in-house competencies.

29. APL010 has demonstrated a track record of gender specific programmes that have been targeted to remove gender barriers and for purposes of climate change adaptation. The applicant provided evidence of facilitating the social and financial empowerment of women in the projects that it has implemented.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

30. Following its assessment, and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, specialized fiduciary standard for project management, specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, and specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending for loans and guarantees;
- (b) Having drafted an E&S policy, which is pending approval by its board, and having worked towards codifying procedures under its programmes with DFIs, the applicant substantially meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the medium E&S risk Category B/I-2. It is required that the applicant's board:
 - (i) Approve the environmental and social safeguards policy, and communicate the policy and procedures within the organization as well as to its executing entities;
- (c) The applicant has demonstrated that it has competencies in the implementation of a gender policy in addition to demonstrating the ability to apply gender-sensitive approaches to climate change adaptation projects and programmes. It is required that the applicant:
 - (i) Develop a gender policy in line with the Fund's gender policy to be applied in projects and programmes funded by the Fund.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

31. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL010) for accreditation as follows:

(a) **Accreditation type:**

- (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Large (including micro, small and medium);
- (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
 - 1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 - 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - 4. Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
- (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** Medium risk (Category B/I-2) (including lower risk (Category C/I-3)⁵); and

(b) **Conditions:** The applicant will be required to submit to the AP, through the Secretariat, information on how it has complied with the condition. The AP will thereafter assess whether the condition has been met. This assessment will be communicated by the Secretariat, on behalf of the AP, to the Board for information purposes. The condition is:

- (i) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 30 (b) (i) and (c) (i) above prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant.

32. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 31 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

3.3 Additional remarks

33. The applicant is encouraged to seek readiness and preparatory support to assist it with:

- (a) Meeting the conditions identified in paragraph 31 (b) above.

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as “Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts” and Intermediation 3 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts”.

Annex XI: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 011 (APL011)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 011 (APL011) is a regional financial institution established in the late 1960s, located in the Latin American and Caribbean regions and focuses on the promotion of sustainable development and green economies in over 15 countries in the region through supporting the technical and financial structuring of projects. It offers a wide variety of financial products and services, including loans, equity and guarantees. The applicant's partnerships with public and private sector organizations have allowed it to play an active role in the promotion of projects and programmes that generate environmental benefits and to address climate change impacts. Over US\$ 800 million has been invested in green energy and greenhouse gas emissions mitigation projects. Such projects have focused on energy efficiency, renewable energy solutions, sustainable transport and climate change adaptation through disaster risk reduction and ecosystem services. APL011 seeks accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) in order to continue developing climate change projects and programmes together with its partners that will reduce the impacts of climate change in its region.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 17 March 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded at the end of May 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** Direct access, regional. The applicant received three national designated authorities or focal points nominations for its accreditation application;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Adaptation Fund;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Large;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - (iv) Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** High risk (Category A/Intermediation 1 (I-1)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "large" is defined as "total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category A is defined as "Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented" and Intermediation 1 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for, and applied under, the fast-track accreditation process as an accredited entity of the Adaptation Fund. Its application has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website and Standards & Poor's credit rating of the applicant as additional sources of information to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability, with the exception of item 4.2.4, investigation function, has been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

7. Regarding item 4.2.4, the applicant is assessed to meet the Fund's basic fiduciary standards in this respect. APL011 provided a set of guidelines for ethical behaviour, and procedures to handle complaints/inquiries regarding possible ethics cases. It also provided evidence of cases that have been processed and closed in the past three years. The guidelines and contact mechanism are available to all employees through the entity's intranet, and contact information for filing complaints with its ethics committee of management is available on the entity's website. In cases where the complaints are related to projects that the applicant participates in or that are related to financial mismanagement, the ethics committee will refer the case to another committee formed by four high ranking officers who will analyse the case and recommend a course of action to the entity's Executive President.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

8. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard for project management is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.4 Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms

9. The applicant has emphasized that it is seeking accreditation for grant awards and/or funding allocation mechanisms to further enhance its capacity to provide technical assistance on climate change matters in its region of operation. APL011 states that it is limited in its ability to maintain a physical presence in every country of the region; therefore, it considers technical assistance funding as a viable mechanism by which to enhance the scope and impact of its climate change efforts. The strategy proposed is to provide support for the enhancement of climate change expertise at the local level through national capacity-building.

10. Within the context of the applicant's strategy, grants are defined as a funding allocation mechanism that will provide resources in order to fund technical assistance initiatives. The applicant has well-established and transparent processes for evaluating, selecting and awarding

technical assistance funding based on the capacity-building needs of the particular countries within its region.

11. In order to ensure efficient management of the technical assistance funds, the applicant has established a dedicated unit to manage all technical assistance fund awards. The process to assess, select, award and monitor technical assistance funding is defined in the applicant's manual for managing special funds and in its guidelines for preparing and undertaking technical cooperation operations. The policies in place clearly define activities eligible for technical assistance, clear selection processes and criteria, levels of authorization required for disbursement and eligible expenses (items subject to funding).

12. Taking into consideration the applicant's emphasis on funding allocation mechanisms for technical assistance, it complies with the Fund's specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

13. The applicant has over 25 years of experience of working with international sources of funds for on-lending and blending.

14. It has investment grade credit ratings from the three major global rating agencies, which highlight the applicant's sound financial position.

15. The applicant has contributed over US\$ 800 million to green energy and the mitigation of greenhouse gas emission projects, and financing for other green projects. These projects were funded mainly through loans, however technical assistance funding, concessional loans and equity instruments were also utilized as funding mechanisms.

16. APL011's credit manual provides guidance on effective credit management policies. It includes guidance on credit origination (including due-diligence assessment), monitoring and evaluation, and problem loan management. The quality of the applicant's loan portfolio management guidelines is evidenced by an external credit rating report, which highlights the quality of its loan portfolio.

17. Considering its controls, management practices and experience with on-lending and blending operations, the applicant meets the Fund's specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending related to loans, equity and guarantees.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 **Section 6.1: Policy**

18. The applicant has considerable experience with environmental and social safeguards (ESS) implementation across a wide spectrum of projects and E&S risk categories. Its overarching environmental policy is well established, while technical guidelines continue to be strengthened and updated. It established an environmental strategy in 2007, which describes the guiding axis, principles, methodologies and objectives of the applicant's environmental activities. The strategy describes 14 ESS, which are in line with the Fund's ESS, except for some aspects of performance standard 2 on labour and working conditions. The applicant provided substantial documentation demonstrating its experience in various aspects of project-specific performance standards 2 to 8 in the projects which it finances.

2.2.2 **Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts**

19. APL011's operations are guided by an environmental and social management system (ESMS) that is supported by an E&S risk matrix and a geographical information system utilized

from the very early stages of project origination. The E&S matrix accommodates the characteristics of the proposed project as well as the sensitivity of the environment (physical and social) in which it is located. Whereas the geographical information system is a tool that assists in the identification of sensitive or vulnerable geographic areas. The applicant's E&S risk categorization system is comparable to that used by Fund. APL011 presented a brief paper comparing its risk categorization system with that used by the Fund. The applicant has also presented documentation related to its projects showing different risk categories (from low to high), evidencing its significant experience in managing projects with different E&S risk characteristics.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

20. The applicant's E&S strategy document has been elaborated in a set of guidelines and manuals that ensure sound practices from project origination to ex-post evaluation. The guidelines also ensure that executing entities provide the necessary human resource and budget allocations to implement E&S mitigation plans. The guidelines also call for the incorporation of contractual conditions in loan agreements. Project documentation demonstrates the application of the system, including project E&S reports and environmental audit reports.

21. However, there is a new draft guideline (consolidated blueprint on E&S) that has not been finalized nor approved. This is expected to take place by October 2015. The applicant needs to ensure the finalization of the guideline, approval of the consolidated blueprint and its institutionalization in the organization and its executing entities.

2.2.4 Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency

22. The applicant's E&S management system is handled by its environment and climate change division, the director of which reports to senior management (Executive President). The division is divided into three units, with one unit (with seven officers) being responsible for ensuring that environmental and social safeguards are adhered to. While the other units are in charge of green business programmes (forestry and biodiversity) and climate change programmes (adaptation and mitigation). A manual that describes the operational modality of the division was provided. The curricula vitae provided for technical staff indicate sound competency in this field.

23. APL011 has commenced a capacity-building programme for its staff, located in various offices, with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which covers ESS as well as gender mainstreaming. The schedule for the training courses was provided, showing that courses are planned for 2015, 2016 and 2017, to cover all of the GEF's Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards topics.

2.2.5 Section 6.5: Monitoring and review

24. The applicant's guidelines and manuals establish a continuum of actions for the monitoring and review of E&S risk and impact management. At the formalization stage, the applicant ensures that loan agreements clearly state the executing entity's obligations for E&S mitigation and monitoring. One obligation is for the executing entity to engage external experts/auditors in order to verify compliance with requirements established in the project's E&S studies or documents, licences and loan agreements. At the project implementation phase (administration and disbursement phase), verification of E&S compliance is conducted through field visits, which result in a technical criteria document that highlights findings to be followed up by the executing entity. Samples of reports were provided as evidence that the monitoring and review system is functioning.

25. For the GEF projects, the applicant has indicated that it will apply a GEF project management manual, which describes a results-based management approach and a performance measurement framework to be applied to projects prior to completion. The framework is intended to improve decision-making, transparency and accountability. For each project, performance indicators are developed to measure the achievement of outputs, outcomes and targets. Quarterly or biannual reports, as well as mid-term and final evaluation reports are to be publicized on the applicant's website. Additionally, the applicant has stated that its GEF portfolio will undergo an external audit in order to determine the applicant's compliance to GEF ESS requirements as well as its own. As no GEF projects have been implemented, there were no audit reports submitted for this assessment.

26. The project documentation indicates some inconsistency, however, in the practice of monitoring and follow-up of actual environmental impacts and risks. It is expected that the new consolidated blueprint will play an important role in strengthening the applicant's ESMS and performance.

2.2.6 Section 6.6: External communications

27. The applicant has set up a grievance and complaint response mechanism for GEF projects, and an ethics committee to receive complaints and reports on possible fraud activities or acts of corruption related to projects from other sources (non-GEF). The method for contacting the applicant regarding any such complaints or grievances is provided on the applicant's website.

2.3 Gender

28. The applicant has recently published guidelines on gender equity that follow up on a gender agenda from 2013. APL011 has established a gender affairs committee comprising senior officers, and has assigned an executive to be responsible for implementing and mainstreaming the strategy, and monitoring and reporting on gender outcomes. It also has a gender action plan that provides a preliminary framework for mainstreaming gender into its operations. The applicant does, however, lack a track-record on gender and climate change, and is encouraged to build up its project and programme experience in line with its guidelines and action plan.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

29. Following its assessment and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, specialized fiduciary standard for project management, specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, and specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending for loans, equity and guarantees. The applicant's current investigations structure could be enhanced by the implementation of a formal independent investigations function that integrates the investigative functions currently undertaken by the ethics committee and the special committee that investigates cases of financial mismanagement;
- (b) APL011 substantially meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to high E&S risk Category A/I-1. The applicant is required to:

- (i) Ensure that the project-specific performance standard 2 is fully aligned with the Fund's ESS when it is applied in projects, and to strengthen its monitoring and review of E&S risks and impacts, as part of its ESMS; and
 - (ii) Approve by senior management the consolidated blueprint for E&S management and to communicate the blueprint within the organization and to its executing entities; and
- (c) The applicant has demonstrated that it has policies, procedures and competencies which are found to be consistent with the Fund's gender policy.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

30. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL011) for accreditation as follows:

- (a) **Accreditation type:**
- (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Large (including micro, small and medium);
 - (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
 1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 4. Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
 - (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** High risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2⁴ and Category C/I-3⁵)); and
- (b) **Conditions:** The applicant will be required to submit to the AP, through the Secretariat, information on how it has complied with the condition. The AP will thereafter assess whether the condition has been met. This assessment will be communicated by the Secretariat, on behalf of the AP, to the Board for information purposes. The conditions are:
- (i) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 29 (b) (i-ii) above prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as "Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures" and Intermediation 2 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as "Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts" and Intermediation 3 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts".

31. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 30 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

3.3 Additional remarks

32. The applicant is encouraged to seek readiness and preparatory support to assist it with:
- (a) Meeting the conditions identified in paragraph 30 (b) (i) above.

Annex XII: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 012 (APL012)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 012 (APL012) is a regional entity whose work is focused on small island developing States in the Caribbean and on improving the region's framework for and activities that address climate change. Key activities that the applicant engages in with its member states include raising awareness on climate change, building capacity to analyse climate change impacts across various sectors, and identifying adaptation and mitigation opportunities; developing and implementing mitigation and adaptation projects in the region; and providing policy advice and support during events such as the international climate change negotiations. The applicant has built strong relationships with institutions across the region and internationally in order to deliver effective solutions and projects. Over the next five years, it will manage climate change projects and programmes in the region of almost US\$ 50 million, including in areas that they already have experience in: early warning systems, water and energy security, agriculture and food security, resilient health-care facilities, climate-resilient buildings, and ecosystem-based adaptation. APL012 seeks accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) to undertake and scale up both mitigation and adaptation projects across the region in order to drive a paradigm shift in the region's development patterns.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 26 January 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** Direct access, regional. The applicant received a national designated authority or focal point nomination for its accreditation application;
- (b) **Track:** Normal track;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Small;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** Minimal to no risk (Category C/Intermediation 3 (I-3)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "small" is defined as "maximum total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 10 million and up to and including US\$ 50 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as "Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts" and Intermediation 3 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP).
4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website and third-party websites to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 **Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities**

5. The applicant is a small organization with approximately 45 employees. It has an established financial management system commensurate with the scale of its historical activities and modalities of engagement with partners. In anticipation of accreditation to the Fund and recognizing that certain gaps exist in its internal control framework, it has already embarked on a process to fill these gaps.
6. The organization is funded by some of its member states, as well as by international (multilateral and bilateral) organizations and is supervised by a board of governors. It further sustains its operations with fee income realized from its project management role. In addition, its board recently established operational committees.
7. The applicant provided its business plan for 2013-2018, and its financial manual to demonstrate that it has a consistent and formal process by which to set financial objectives and to ensure that the chosen objectives support and align with the mission of the organization.
8. APL012's financial statements have been prepared and audited in accordance with internationally accepted accounting practices. The management letters and reports prepared by the external auditor recommended that the applicant strengthen its internal control framework.
9. In accordance with an external audit recommendation, an audit committee of the applicant's board has been established and includes three independent members in its composition. The audit committee has stated that it would provide a report on its work by the organization's next board meeting.
10. The applicant does not have an internal audit function with a track record of being implemented, however, an internal audit charter and terms of reference for the internal audit committee have recently been approved by its board. Moreover, a contractual agreement with an internationally recognized entity for providing internal audit services has been established.

2.1.2 **Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability**

11. The ethics provisions of the applicant's organization are regulated by the staff code of conduct that has been communicated throughout the organization, and which clearly defines the conduct expected of the organization and its employees. This code of conduct is supported by the declaration of the conflict of interest. The only currently functioning committee of the board is the finance committee, however, this will be addressed at the applicant's next board meeting, at which it is intended to establish an ethics committee.
12. The applicant maintains a complaints portal on its website and provides for complaints of a general nature as well as for project-related complaints. It has a well-structured complaints procedure with terms of reference and provides for the registering of a complaint.

13. APL012 is in the process of establishing a “know-your-customer” mechanism to trace electronic transfers as part of the applicant’s anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing procedure.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

14. In addition to the gaps mentioned in paragraph 5 above, the applicant has undertaken an extensive exercise to codify its practices in respect of existing project management practices undertaken. Moreover, these practices have been aligned and cross-referenced to other project-related procedures and manuals. Although these codified procedures are recent, the experience and historical practices over the last decade substantially mirror what is contained in these documents.

15. The applicant has a strong track record as further evidenced by a sample of project appraisals undertaken in the past three years, including activities that promote climate change adaptation and mitigation objectives developed in cooperation with a wide range of multilateral and bilateral funding institutions.

16. Financial resources for projects with partners have been ring-fenced and accounted for separately in accordance with international standards.

17. Based on the information provided, it is assessed that the current documented practice of project preparation, appraisal, monitoring and quality review is appropriate for the small-scale project size that the applicant is applying for, and has been documented noting the applicant’s aspirations for growth.

2.1.4 Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms

18. The applicant allocates its resources based on a transparent system where proposals are received and assessed on an ongoing basis. This process is regulated by project-specific management procedures, including grants provided for technical assistance at the project preparation stage in conjunction with the project development process.

19. The decisions on grant allocation are taken by authorized parties in the organization and grant disbursement is regulated by the organization’s project due diligence procedures. The payments are undertaken in accordance with the grant contract agreements and are closely monitored by the project management function and donor organizations.

20. The applicant has developed a stand-alone grant framework together with a partner organization that meets the Fund’s standard where specific calls for proposals are anticipated for specific climate-related activities. The grant allocation procedure contains provisions for calls for proposals, criteria for exclusion, eligibility, selection and awards, as well as procurement procedures. This reflects the applicant’s emerging role as an implementing entity applying its own standards to all of its projects and programmes rather than applying those of different donors on a project-by-project basis.

2.1.5 Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending

21. The applicant did not apply for assessment against this standard at this time.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 Section 6.1: Policy

22. The applicant indicated in its application that it is applying for assessment against the minimal to low E&S risk (Category C/I-3), which by definition, contains minimal to no environmental and/or social risks or impacts. The environmental and social management system (ESMS) required for Category C/I-3 is relatively simple, and will not need to include all of the ESMS elements required for higher risk categories. While the applicant applied for Category C/I-3, its ESMS and E&S policy are commensurate with the medium E&S risk Category B/I-2, as further detailed in the sections below. Moreover, the applicant has provided information on its track record with regard to the number of successfully developed and implemented projects categorized as having a medium E&S risk level.

23. APL012 developed and codified a comprehensive ESMS, which is fully aligned with the requirements of the Fund's environmental and social safeguards (ESS) for Category B/I-2. The new E&S standards and policy within the applicant's ESMS have recently been approved. This policy is an update of the existing policies and practices that the applicant has already applied in projects and programmes. Given its regional status the applicant recognizes that there may be differences in the country level requirements and the Fund's standards, but it would apply the latter to projects and programmes funded by the Fund and this has been reflected in its E&S policy.

24. The E&S policy contains the provisions for E&S risk categorization that is consistent with the Fund's interim ESS, as well as provisions for the management programme, organizational competence, monitoring and review, stakeholder engagement, grievance mechanism and gender equality.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

25. The applicant's ESMS includes an assessment process that is commensurate with the E&S risk and the scale of the project it would be financing. It provides for a process of categorization, stakeholder consultation and management of the projects throughout its life cycle. The applicant's processes for identifying E&S risks and impacts are fully aligned with the requirements of the Fund's ESS with respect to medium E&S risk Category B/I-2.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

26. The recently approved E&S policy contains provisions for mitigation and performance improvement measures, and actions that address the identified E&S risks and impacts of the project. While the E&S policy codifies existing practices, projects have not yet been started or implemented using the new policy since its approval. The applicant has presented a strong track record on undertaking E&S assessments with respect to the medium E&S risk projects that it already undertakes prior to the approval of its E&S policy.

2.2.4 Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency

27. The applicant has demonstrated a strong organizational capacity and competency with regard to E&S aspects. It provided information on the qualifications of the staff members who will facilitate the implementation of the ESMS. The records provide evidence that the designated E&S specialists have significant experience, skills and knowledge in developing and assessing the projects of a medium E&S risk category. These resources will further supplement the well-documented standards and policy of the applicant. This fully meets the requirements of the Fund's ESS with respect to medium E&S risk Category B/I-2.

2.2.5 Section 6.5: Monitoring and review

28. APL012 works with national authorities to monitor project impacts and projects are subject to the monitoring and review process outlined in the E&S policy. The specific scope and schedule of monitoring and inspections would be prepared for the specific project in accordance with the E&S policy. This fully meets the requirements of the Fund's ESS with respect to medium E&S risk Category B/I-2.

2.2.6 Section 6.6: External communications

29. The applicant has a well-developed website that contains a significant amount of information on the projects it developed, as well as on the environmental and social risk assessment tools it has applied. In addition, the site provides contact information for the general public. Moreover, provision is made for complaints from the public regarding projects and other matters. This fully meets the requirements of the Fund's ESS with respect to medium E&S risk (Category B/I-2).

2.3 Gender

30. APL012 is in the process of developing its gender policy and has provided its outline of the same. Some competence in gender-related aspects has been gained through conducting projects and programmes that target women among other beneficiaries. However, capacity-building assistance following the approval of the gender policy is recommended. The applicant appears to intend to incorporate gender and climate change issues in its project assessment processes.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

31. Following its assessment, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant partially meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards and fully meets the requirements for the specialized fiduciary standard for project management and specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms. In order to fully meet the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, the applicant is required to:
 - (i) Adopt, through its audit committee, the audit charter as its frame of reference;
 - (ii) Submit its internal audit plan for the next financial year, 2016;
 - (iii) Submit internal audit reports annually for three consecutive financial years, starting with the financial year 2016; and
 - (iv) Establish a "know-your-customer" procedure as part of its anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing procedure;
- (b) APL012 may wish to institutionalize the grant award procedure developed with one of its partner institutions;
- (c) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to minimal to no E&S risk Category C/I-3, which it applied for, as well as the medium E&S risk Category B/I-2; and

- (d) APL012 has demonstrated experience in climate change projects that take gender aspects into account, however, it should further work on developing its gender policy and strengthening its competencies in gender-related issues. The applicant is required to:
- (i) Adopt a gender policy consistent with the Fund's gender policy to be applied in projects and programmes funded by the Fund.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

32. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL012) for accreditation as follows:

- (a) **Accreditation type:**
- (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Small (including micro);
- (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
- (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** Medium risk (Category B/I-2)⁴ (including lower risk Category C/I-3); and
- (b) **Conditions:** The applicant will be required to submit to the AP, through the Secretariat, information on how it has complied with the conditions. The AP will thereafter assess whether the conditions have been met. This assessment will be communicated by the Secretariat, on behalf of the AP, to the Board for information purposes. The conditions are:
- (i) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 31(a) (i),(ii) and (iv) and 31 (d) (i) above prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant; and
- (ii) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 31(a) (iii) on an annual basis for three consecutive years, starting with the financial year 2016. This condition is not required to be met prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant.
33. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 32 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as "Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures" and Intermediation 2 is defined as " When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

3.3 Additional remarks

34. The applicant is encouraged to seek readiness and preparatory support to assist it with:
- (a) Meeting the conditions identified in paragraph 32 (b) above; and
 - (b) Undertaking the recommendations in paragraph 31 (b) above.

Annex XIII: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 013 (APL013)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 013 (APL013) is a regional entity established through a public–private partnership to serve Africa, particularly providing financing solutions to address infrastructural needs in the region. With the view of achieving its mandate, the applicant has established strategic partnerships with other regional financial institutions that also prioritize development and the financial impact of their investments. The applicant has an investment portfolio worth about US\$ 2 billion, and a track record of making climate change adaptation and mitigation investments that enhance livelihoods through renewable energy generation (e.g. hydropower and wind), sustainable transport and low-emissions projects, by employing equity and loans. Leveraging its well-established partnerships and successful track record in the African region, the applicant seeks accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) in order to continue, through instruments such as loans, equity and guarantees, to implement projects that address the region’s infrastructural gaps whilst promoting low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 2 February 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund’s fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** International access;
- (b) **Track:** Normal track;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Large;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** High risk Category A/Intermediation 1 (I-1).³

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant has been assessed against the Fund’s standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP).

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, “large” is defined as “total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme”.

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category A is defined as “Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented” and Intermediation 1 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented”.

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP consulted the applicant's website and a variety of reliable, robust third-party websites as part of the assessment process.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 **Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities**

5. The applicant's executive management committee is responsible for assessing its financial performance and financial risk. This oversight is operationalized through subcommittees of management, such as the asset and liability committee, the risk committee, the valuation committee and the investment committee.

6. The audit and compliance committee of APL013's board oversees the internal audit function, thus ensuring independence and effective execution of the internal audit responsibilities, which are operationalized in documented audit plans.

7. The applicant demonstrated that it has a reliable financial reporting function, which is supported by the required technological platform. It prepares yearly financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards. In addition to the appropriate preparation of required financial statements, the applicant has a system of management reports that ensure the availability of information for effective decision-making.

8. It demonstrated that it has a mature internal control system. Furthermore, it has implemented board-sanctioned policies and operating procedures to ensure that operations are carried out efficiently, and that inherent risks are mitigated effectively. The applicant's internal control framework relies on clearly established responsibilities assigned to divisional and departmental managers, and on the oversight responsibilities of the risk management department and the internal audit department.

9. The applicant has a procurement manual, which governs its internal procurement practices and procurement in respect of projects where it is agreed that the applicant's procurement processes will be used. Controls are in place to provide assurance that the procurement function has appropriate oversight.

10. APL013 has a well-defined payment and disbursement system to ensure that appropriate controls are in place. These controls are based on a suitable segregation of functions and are supported by the required technology.

11. The applicant's code of ethics establishes the professional conduct expected of all staff members, including the disclosure of conflicts of interest.

2.1.2 **Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability**

12. Regarding the applicant's investigation function, its chief internal auditor reports periodically to the audit and compliance committee and to the chief executive officer on key control issues, including fraud risks. The investigation function is adequate for receiving and processing internal complaints, however no mechanisms are in place to receive third-party complaints.

13. Furthermore, there is an ethics phone line, which is independently operated by a large international audit firm, to enable the applicant's staff to report any form of misconduct, which is subsequently investigated by executive management.

14. The applicant has an approved anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism policy (AML/CFT policy). This policy mandates that "know-your-customer" (KYC) due diligence be undertaken for all the applicant's executing entities. The KYC questionnaire is

standardized and included in the AML/CFT policy. The applicant does not execute electronic payments on behalf of third parties, nor does it accept deposits from the public, and this significantly reduces potential AML/CFT risks.

2.1.3 **Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management**

15. APL013 applies a structured and effective project management process for all the projects in which it invests. Its project approval process includes an initial eligibility assessment, a preliminary investment proposal and a final investment proposal. The final investment proposal is reviewed and approved by the risk committee.

16. The applicant's investment committee monitors and evaluates project performance periodically, based on standardized reports that include assessments of the projects' key performance indicators, compliance with financing agreement covenants, risk factors, mitigation actions and key follow-up items.

17. The applicant engages independent external technical advisers for both project assessment, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

18. To ensure that project M&E activities are appropriately prioritized, the applicant's risk management unit manages a project risk rating mechanism. This mechanism assigns a watch status or downgrades the rating of projects, where necessary.

2.1.4 **Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms**

19. The applicant did not apply for assessment against this standard at this time.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

20. The applicant's capacity for managing on-lending and/or blending activities is validated by its successful issuance of securities in the international Eurodollar market. The successful completion of the approval, registration and issuance process, and furthermore the market acceptance of these securities (as demonstrated by investor demand) provide external validation of the adequacy of the applicant's financial management capacity.

21. APL013 received an international investment grade credit rating from a leading international rating agency for both the applicant's general credit risk and for the risk specific to the securities that it issued in the international financial markets.

22. The applicant has demonstrated a strong on-lending track record. It has secured credit facilities in excess of US\$ 1 billion from both development finance institutions (DFIs) and global commercial banks. The applicant's on-lending framework and capacity consists of incorporating the applicable requirements of the credit facilities into its robust and detailed project identification, appraisal and monitoring processes.

23. Its on lending and/or blending effectiveness is supported by the structured approach to project assessment and approval previously described. Project approval by the investment committee provides clear guidelines for on-lending and/or blending activities for loans and equity investments.

24. The applicant's credit risk policy provides guidance for the entire investment process, including origination, technical assistance, appropriate financial structure, appropriate funding sources (including debt and/or equity) and final approval. Compliance with the applicant's credit risk guidelines is ensured by the required investment committee approval.

25. APL013 has financed projects that are aligned with the Fund's objectives, such as renewable energy projects, including a hydroelectric power plant and a wind power farm. In

these projects, the applicant demonstrated its ability to finance jointly with both private banks and DFIs.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 Section 6.1: Policy

26. The applicant has, over the past two years, systematically implemented an environmental and social management system (ESMS), which is strategically derived from its overarching environmental and social policy. The policy's key principles are typical of a private sector organization that invests across a diverse set of infrastructure asset classes.

27. Over the course of implementing its ESMS, the applicant has worked with external experts and an international development finance institution to develop and codify its policies and procedures, the process of which culminated in approval by its board of its policy and ESMS in the first quarter of 2015.

28. APL013 has a policy and manual that guides its environmental and social safeguards (ESS) approach. While both documents were recently board-approved, the principles of the policy have been piloted over the past year and were subjected to an audit based on key performance indicators. With the implementation of the policy, the applicant intends to adhere to international standards and international best practice in the assessment and management of E&S risks. The policy is being implemented under the guidance of its risk department at an executive level.

29. The key principles of the policy have been developed to:

- (a) Reflect the applicant's stated intent in respect of its management of E&S risk. This recognizes the necessity to identify, manage, monitor and mitigate, on an ongoing basis, E&S risks across all areas of its business activities;
- (b) Accommodate flexibility where the applicant is a lender participating in project finance transactions; and
- (c) Require its E&S standards to apply from the commencement of its participation in the project or provide for an adoption of its E&S standards over time where the project's financing structure (e.g. equity or project development) and project itself necessitates this approach.

30. This fit-for-purpose approach described above has been considered the most effective tool by which to facilitate the applicant's participation in markets where E&S standards are in various stages of development. Moreover, it has ensured that the governance structure used to affect the desired ESS outcome is firmly entrenched in its processes. The applicant has recognized that its sphere of influence in respect of E&S standards may differ from project to project and its level of participation; therefore, to mitigate E&S risk, it has codified a structured and pragmatic approach.

31. The applicant's policy also provides for an exclusion list.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

32. The applicant's standards in respect of the identification of risks and impacts fully meet the Fund's ESS and in order to establish this practice, the applicant's E&S risk identification, assessment and management has been integrated and codified into its entire investment process from feasibility phase to exit. Implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the risk department at an executive level.

33. Moreover, the applicant has acquired a tool for the E&S risk categorization of projects, which includes detailed guidelines for the identification and categorization of E&S risks and impacts. The applicant fully meets the Fund's ESS in this regard.

2.2.3 **Section 6.3: Management programme**

34. APL013 has recognized that E&S risk identification in the early due diligence phase is key to ensuring that management of E&S risks and impacts are adequately provided for in its management programme. For all high E&S risk Category A/I-1 projects, the assistance of an external expert is mandatory. The applicant's ESS is a reportable item in all its investment committee decisions and the applicant has codified the management of E&S risk in all stages of project development and/or project operations. Training material has been developed and the ESMS procedures and processes have been communicated to its entire staff.

2.2.4 **Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency**

35. The applicant's executive risk officer (ESMS manager) maintains responsibility for the organization's adherence to its policy and ESMS. A suitably qualified ESMS officer is responsible for the day-to-day implementation of its ESMS. The ESMS manager takes the lead on matters relating to planning, implementation, developing, educating, training and liaising with internal and external stakeholders. In addition to its in-house competency, the applicant will, for all high E&S risk Category A/I-1 projects, employ the services of an external expert to assist with the implementation of the ESMS process as envisaged in its manual.

2.2.5 **Section 6.5: Monitoring and review**

36. APL013 has codified the monitoring and reporting mechanism in great detail in its ESMS, and the roles and responsibilities involved are sufficiently documented with clear requirements for site visits, including the designation of the persons concerned. It has prepared thorough reporting templates and reporting on its ESS is mandatory, including to its investment committee. High E&S risk Category A/I-1 projects receive specific emphasis in this regard. The applicant has developed an audit protocol for the purpose of internal audit.

2.2.6 **Section 6.6: External communications**

37. The applicant has published its policy on its website and highlights E&S responsibilities in its annual report. External communications, in general, are the responsibility of its vice-president of communications, however the applicant does not make provision for receiving external communications on its website. Communication from external parties would normally be sent to a general website address and all such information is generally kept for a period of 12 months.

2.3 Gender

38. The applicant does not have a gender policy applied at an investment level. It does, however, provide for the equal treatment for all its employees across all of its operations as part of its staff policy.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

39. Following its assessment, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:
- (a) The applicant substantially meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards and fully meets the requirements for the specialized fiduciary standard for project management and the specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending for loans, equity and guarantees. It is recommended that the applicant complement its investigations function with a mechanism, such as a link on its website, in order to receive and process third-party complaints that arise from projects financed by the applicant;
 - (b) The applicant substantially meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the high E&S risk Category A/I-1. Having incorporated the fundamental elements of a well-managed ESMS and policy in its business operations, it is recommended that the applicant seek external assistance so as to further develop its E&S policy and its application as appropriate for the type of activities for which it will seek finance from the Fund; and
 - (c) While the applicant has demonstrated that it is an equal opportunity employer as far as its own operations are concerned, it has not provided evidence that gender considerations, consistent with the Fund's gender policy, are part of its investment policies or procedures. It is required that the applicant:
 - (i) Develop a gender policy consistent with the Fund's gender policy to be applied in projects and programmes funded by the Fund.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

40. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL013) for accreditation as follows:
- (a) **Accreditation type:**
 - (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Large (including micro, small and medium);
 - (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
 1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and

-
- (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** High risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2⁴ and Category C/I-3⁵));
- (b) **Conditions:** The applicant will be required to submit to the AP, through the Secretariat, information on how it has complied with the conditions. The AP will thereafter assess whether the conditions have been met. This assessment will be communicated by the Secretariat, on behalf of the AP, to the Board for information purposes. The condition is:
- (i) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 39 (c) (i) above prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant.
41. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 40 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as “Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures” and Intermediation 2 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented”.

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as “Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts” and Intermediation 3 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts”.

Annex XIV: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 014 (APL014)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 014 (APL014) is an international commercial bank with extensive experience and a presence in Africa, Latin America and the Asia-Pacific and Caribbean regions. The applicant has a well-established track record in implementing private sector investment opportunities in climate change adaptation and mitigation. In particular, it has managed investment funds which have been used in sustainable development initiatives in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency and agriculture, all of which overlap with the results area of the Green Climate Fund (the Fund). In the past year, the applicant has financed renewable energy projects worth EUR 4.3 billion, which includes investing EUR 1 billion of its own capital. Bringing with it its progressive experience, the applicant seeks accreditation to the Fund in order to contribute to the Fund's objectives by mobilizing funds through a variety of instruments, including loans, equity and guarantees, for implementing scalable, innovative climate change adaptation and mitigation projects, including through local small- and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries. By leveraging its global partnerships, the applicant offers the Fund a unique opportunity through which to raise additional resources from private sector sources, under diverse modes of engagement, such as structured joint financing arrangements and specialized investment funds.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 28 January 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** International access. While not required, the applicant additionally received a national designated authority or focal point nomination for its accreditation application;
- (b) **Track:** Normal track;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Large;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - (iv) Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** High risk (Category A/Intermediation 1 (I-2)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "large" is defined as "total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category A is defined as "Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented" and Intermediation 1 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP).
4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the website of the United Nations Environment Programme Financial Initiative⁴ (of which the applicant is a member), as well as the websites of specialized investment funds in which multilateral financial institutions have invested with the applicant, as sources of third-party evidence.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. The applicant has a well-established organizational and corporate governance structure which demonstrates and assures that key administrative and financial capacities are in place. It has internal control systems appropriate for the size and scope of the organization. Evidence has been provided for a clear definition of internal control roles and responsibilities of business and oversight units and their effective functioning.
6. At the executive level, there is a clear definition of the organizational units and an appropriate segregation of functions among the different departments, including an independent internal audit function.
7. APL014 has implemented the required technology to provide timely information for the effective management of risk, and for internal, regulatory and external reporting. This ensures that the applicant has appropriate management oversight and control over its activities.
8. The applicant's internal control framework is designed based on the guidelines of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, as per the Fund's basic fiduciary standards. The responsibilities for following specific internal controls and detailed procedures are clearly defined.
9. Its external auditor certified that the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are adhered to, as per the Fund's basic fiduciary standards. The adherence to IFRS guarantees that periodic, complete, timely and accurate financial statements and information are available. Furthermore, the external auditor confirmed that the review of the applicant's financial statements has not led to any reservations.
10. APL014, as a global organization, has mature and well-developed procurement processes that ensure appropriate controls to prevent mismanagement and ensure cost efficiency. The applicant's global procurement organization is responsible for all third-party expenditure on goods and services. Utilizing the global organization's processes ensures that there is business and budget approval for all procurement activities. The following policies provide additional guidance for procurement activities: the code of ethics, the anti-fraud policy, and the organization's sustainability principles.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

11. The applicant has published a code of business conduct and ethics that is communicated throughout the organization, which clearly defines the conduct expectations of the organization and applies to every staff member.

⁴ Available at <<http://www.unepfi.org/>>.

12. APL014 has an established policy of zero tolerance for fraud, financial mismanagement and other forms of malpractice by staff members and other parties associated with the applicant. Its code of business conduct and ethics supports this policy. Furthermore, the applicant has implemented policies that ensure the proper management of resources in a financial institution. Additionally, it has a published investigation policy, which is enforced by an independent investigations unit.

13. The applicant is committed to the highest standards of anti-money laundering (AML) and countering the financing of terrorism (CFT). Moreover, as a global organization, it is subject to several advanced AML/CFT regulations. Therefore, the applicant has developed advanced mechanisms for AML/CFT. However, recent history of regulatory fines evidences deficiencies in assuring entity-wide compliance with the required guidelines. The applicant can benefit from improving the mechanism to assure compliance with the applicable guidelines and regulations.

2.1.3 **Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management**

14. APL014's processes for project identification, preparation and appraisal are defined in the context of new product development, with both applicant-wide guidelines, and product specific requirements, incorporated in the defined processes. Project identification, preparation and appraisal are based on a mature project screening process, a comprehensive due diligence process and clearly defined approval authorities.

15. When a new product involves project management, a framework by which to manage the associated risks is developed. This framework assigns clear roles and responsibilities to adequately manage projects and will ensure compliance with applicant-wide internal risk management policies and external regulatory requirements.

16. To monitor and evaluate projects, the applicant utilizes three main tools:

- (a) A project plan established at the beginning of each fiscal year (the business plan includes annual budgets and specific performance targets);
- (b) Key performance indicators to ensure that the project is attaining the desired results; and
- (c) Specialized reports to evaluate project performance.

2.1.4 **Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms**

17. The applicant is seeking accreditation for grants and/or funding allocation mechanisms in order to enhance specific products that it offers through the provision of technical assistance support.

18. The funding allocation processes established by the applicant assign the responsibility for overseeing these funds to a technical assistance (TA) manager who is responsible for receiving and processing TA requests, which are approved by a TA committee. For each assignment, the TA committee approves the respective scope of work, budget and the procurement method, before the TA facility manager can start disbursement.

19. The applicant has experience in managing alternative funding mechanisms in the form of grants on behalf of external donors.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

20. The applicant has demonstrated, as evidenced by its track record, that it has developed the capacities required in order to appropriately engage in on-lending and/or blending

operations, as well as equity investments and issuing guarantees. It has the policies, procedures, managerial skills and experience to effectively manage external funds.

21. As a global financial institution, subject to regulatory requirements in different jurisdictions and aligned with sound banking practices, the applicant has implemented the processes and procedures, enabled by an advanced technological platform, to provide assurance of effective control (at a global level) over the external funds it receives.

22. The applicant's processes for financial and risk management, as well as its due-diligence processes, are well developed and supported by a strong technological infrastructure and well-defined investigation and audit functions.

23. The applicant has been rated with an investment grade rating by all three major rating agencies (Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch).

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 Section 6.1: Policy

24. The applicant has an overarching risk principles framework, which includes E&S principles. This is underpinned by additional policies and procedures that provide more granularity, especially with regard to high-risk sectors, and guide staff in decision-making. The applicant has experience in implementing the Fund's environmental and social safeguards (ESS) on a variety of projects and has committed to continuing this practice on all projects financed by the Fund.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

25. APL014's risk principles framework defines the risk criteria under which projects are to be elevated for additional review and decision. This policy is supported by operational guidelines which provide further instruction to the applicant's staff on how to identify risks and impacts, and templates, checklists and tools so as to ensure consistent practice.

26. The applicant's E&S risk categorization system is comparable to that used by the Fund. The initial categorization is assigned by the relevant business unit and is also reviewed and verified through a system of checks.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

27. The applicant has documented the processes, tools and templates in place in order to guide staff to systematically manage E&S risks and impacts at the institutional and investment levels. At the institutional level, E&S risk management is embedded in the overall risk management function and is supported by checks and balances which can escalate E&S risk review. The sustainability control function and the audit function also evaluate E&S risk on a portfolio basis to identify emerging trends in order to better provide advice to the business unit and to update the E&S management system (ESMS) and supporting tools, as needed.

28. At the investee level, business unit staff may be supported by the sustainability control function or by a regional independent external compliance adviser to assist with E&S risk identification and mitigation development and management. Support to the investee may include technical assistance to establish an ESMS within the investee's organization in order to ensure that the investee can manage identified risks and impacts, and implement the time-bound environmental and social action plan established for the investment, if applicable.

2.2.4 **Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency**

29. The applicant has recently updated its sustainability training such that all business unit staff who are in charge of implementing the applicant's ESMS at the investment level are trained on: sustainability trends; sustainability across various industry sectors, types of executing entities and ESMS; and knowledge-sharing through case studies. The business unit staff are supported organizationally both by regional consultants and by internal staff in the sustainability control function who report to a managing director and group sustainability officer.

2.2.5 **Section 6.5: Monitoring and review**

30. The applicant has a mature mechanism for monitoring and reviewing safeguard implementation in its operations. All project aspects are reviewed on a quarterly basis, annual monitoring of reporting requirements is embedded in investment legal requirements and site supervision visits are conducted. Moreover, key performance indicators are included in monitoring reports to ensure that investment impact reaches beneficiaries.

2.2.6 **Section 6.6: External communications**

31. APL014 has an external communication mechanism that allows the public to make comments or ask questions via its website. In addition, a written protocol is applied to individual investment funds so as to ensure that these funds have an external communications channel, which includes designating a responsible person to address the complaints or grievances received.

2.3 Gender

32. The applicant does not have a specific gender policy. At the institutional level, its commitment to gender-related matters is captured across a number of documents, which include diversity guidelines, a hiring policy, and a procedural commitment to monitoring and fostering female representation in senior management and the wider workforce which is supported by training programmes. At the investment level, through the application of the Fund's ESS, gender benefits will accrue but it does not have a focused investment strategy for gender or perform a gender assessment or project screening for gender sensitivity on investment projects.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

33. Following its assessment, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, specialized fiduciary standard for project management, specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, and specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending for loans, equity and guarantees. However, the applicant is required to:
 - (i) Provide the Fund, through the Secretariat, with a letter of comfort executed by the appropriate authority within the applicant entity stating that it is taking the necessary actions to strengthen its internal controls related to compliance with relevant regulations, including, but not limited to, risk management,

- management of operational risk and anti-money laundering and countering the financing terrorism; and
- (ii) Provide the Fund, through the Secretariat, with its annual reports that disclose information on regulatory compliance.
- (b) It fully meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the high E&S risk Category A/I-1; and
- (c) While the applicant has demonstrated that it has elements contained within its existing and applied policies and procedures consistent with the Fund's gender policy, it is required that the applicant:
- (i) Develop a gender policy consistent with the Fund's gender policy to be applied in projects and programmes funded by the Fund.

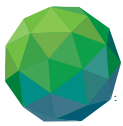
3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

34. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL014) for accreditation as follows:

- (a) **Accreditation type:**
- (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Large (including micro, small and medium);
 - (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
 1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 4. Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
 - (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** High risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2⁵ and Category C/I-3⁶));
- (b) **Conditions:** The applicant will be required to submit to the AP, through the Secretariat, information on how it has complied with the conditions. The AP will thereafter assess whether the conditions have been met. This assessment will be communicated by the Secretariat, on behalf of the AP, to the Board for information purposes. The conditions are:

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as "Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures" and Intermediation 2 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

⁶ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as "Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts" and Intermediation 3 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts".



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- (i) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 33 (a) (i) and (c) (i) above prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant; and
 - (ii) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 33 (a) (ii) on an annual basis. This condition is not required to be met prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant.

35. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 34 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

Annex XV: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 015 (APL015)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 015 (APL015) is a public international financial institution established several decades ago. The applicant's mandate is to contribute to social and economic development through sustainable and inclusive growth, enhancing livelihoods and natural resource management. With operations in more than 90 developing countries across all regions, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, the applicant is actively engaged in climate change mitigation and adaptation actions across all sectors. The applicant made a commitment of almost US\$3 billion to climate finance last year, employing a range of financial instruments. The applicant has delivered projects and programmes in renewable energy, energy efficiency, public transport, disaster risk management in urban areas and water resources management, improving livelihoods and well-being, adaptive agriculture and forestry. The applicant seeks accreditation with the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) to utilize its experience in project delivery by offering support to national priorities in climate resilient development pathways. The applicant also seeks to promote direct access to climate finance by strengthening the institutional capacities of national and regional entities.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 23 January 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** International access;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid of the European Commission (EU DEVCO);
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Large;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - (iv) Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans and guarantees); and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** High risk (Category A/Intermediation 1 (I-1)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "large" is defined as "total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category A is defined as "Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented" and Intermediation 1 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for, and applied under, the fast-track accreditation process as an EU DEVCO entity. Its application has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website, the applicant's credit rating by Standards & Poor and websites of international development funds that partner with the applicant as a means of gaining additional information to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities are considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability, with the exception of item 4.2.5, Anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing, have been met by way of the fast-track accreditation.

7. Regarding item 4.2.5, the applicant is a regulated financial institution subject to banking regulations and supervision in all matters pertaining to anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT). The regulations place a legal obligation on the applicant to undertake the necessary due diligence before entering into a business relationship with an executing entity, and to verify the executing entity is not involved in money laundering or terrorism financing during the course of such a business relationship. The applicant has a comprehensive framework in place for ensuring compliance with the applicable banking regulations, and its policies and procedures for AML/CFT are set out in circulars which are widely disseminated throughout the institution. The applicant does not receive deposits from the general public, thus reducing the exposure to money laundering and terrorism financing risks.

8. The applicant provides training on AML/CFT to all of its employees, including those in its country offices. The applicant carries out "know-your-customer" due diligence checks on all prospective and existing executing entities to assure compliance with its AML/CFT policies.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

9. The information provided by the applicant entity demonstrates a solid track record and experience in project management. The entity has robust policies, procedures and frameworks to guide its operations in all stages of the project cycle: identification, preparation, appraisal, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

10. The applicant provided key operational policies and procedures, as well documents that demonstrate compliance with and effective use of these policies and procedures. The entity exercises adequate oversight and control over the operations it finances, including the oversight of preparations for project implementation plans, budgets and the utilization of project funds.

11. Functioning M&E capacities based on recognized international M&E standards are in place, demonstrated through project M&E reports.

12. The applicant's disclosure policy of wide dissemination of M&E reports to the public is adequately implemented.

13. The applicant has demonstrated strong project risk assessment capabilities, guided by sound risk assessment policies and procedures, including procedures for the development and implementation of mitigation strategies for addressing the identified risks.

2.1.4 **Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms**

14. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard concerning grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

15. The applicant provides on-lending or blended finance by raising capital funds and blending them with international donor funds. The strategy of blending these two sources of funds allows the applicant to implement the financing strategy best able to meet the specific needs of the beneficiaries in the countries in which it operates. The concessional funds provide enhancements to the financial structures (i.e. technical cooperation, interest rate subsidies and investment grants) benefiting the recipients of the blended loans and have proven an effective mechanism for attracting additional investors.

16. The applicant has well-established on-lending and blending policies and procedures that provide assurance of its capacity. Furthermore, as a regulated institution, the applicant is subject to supervision by the national regulators; this provides additional assurance regarding the effective management of on-lending and blending operations.

17. The applicant has demonstrated that it has thorough due-diligence processes in place, as well as an effective monitoring function for all of its on-lending and blending operations.

18. The applicant has a centralized risk management function that is responsible for assessing, monitoring and controlling risks. This risk management function provides assurance of the effectiveness of, and compliance with, the established risk guidelines. Furthermore, the applicant is subject to external audits by national audit entities.

19. The applicant has an established information disclosure policy that assures relevant information is disclosed to its stakeholders. Evidence of information disclosure demonstrating the applicant's commitment to transparency and accountability was provided.

20. The applicant provided information on the funds it raises from financial markets, as well as funds it manages on behalf of international development finance institutions. This demonstrates that the applicant is able to effectively manage the funds it receives.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 Section 6.1: Policy

21. The applicant has developed and implemented a comprehensive E&S policy framework, which includes economic, sustainability, environmental and social principles, as well as thematic E&S standards. This framework is applied in all of its operations during the 2012-2016 period. As a part of this framework, the applicant has a strategic E&S policy supported by project-specific E&S procedures, methodological guides, checklists, risk assessment tools and plans that the applicant uses in its operations. The E&S standards are fully consistent with the Fund's environmental and social safeguards (ESS).

22. Moreover, the applicant has developed a carbon footprint tool to apply to its projects, a strategy on the issuance of green bonds and impact assessment tools for climate change mitigation projects.

23. The applicant is in the process of developing a new overarching E&S policy framework document for the period following 2016. The policy is expected to be available at the end of 2015.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

24. The applicant's E&S risk management procedure contains the principles and provisions for assessing, managing and monitoring the E&S risks of its operations, including projects it directly finances, programmes financed through multiple sources, and financial intermediation of projects. The procedure is supported by the corresponding methodological guide and tool for E&S risk classification. The E&S risk categorization system regulated by the procedural framework and applied by the applicant at the organizational level, is fully consistent with the Fund's interim ESS.

25. Each project categorized as having high (category A/I-1) or medium (Category B/I-2) E&S risks is required to undergo a comprehensive E&S impact assessment study. The entity also presented several examples of sustainable development projects of high and medium risk that are screened and categorized against the E&S risk criteria using the risk assessment tools.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

26. The applicant's ESS are managed through clearly established procedures and assignment of roles. The applicant operates a formal mechanism in order to manage E&S risks and impacts throughout the project preparation and implementation stages. The applicant assigns responsibilities for the project appraisal, due diligence and risk mitigation strategy, as well as monitoring progress and compliance with the applicant's ESS standards.

27. The applicant has a clear organizational structure with respect to E&S management. The E&S team is dedicated to identifying E&S risks and developing mitigation measures during project appraisal and implementation. The project approval process is based on the mature decision-making process and involves senior management committee resolutions.

2.2.4 Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency

28. The applicant has demonstrated a strong organizational capacity based on the experience and competence of staff members working in the division supporting the project E&S assessment and evaluation. The designated technical specialists are responsible for identifying E&S risks and impacts at all stages of the project cycle, confirming a project's E&S categorization and reviewing relevant safeguard reports.

29. Moreover, the applicant has developed and implemented training programmes on their E&S policy and methodological framework for new staff. It also has started a web-based training session for staff in its country offices, and plans to run this training twice a year.

2.2.5 Section 6.5: Monitoring and review

30. The entity maintains monitoring and review procedures for E&S safeguards at both the individual project level and the programme level. The monitoring plan is developed on the basis of the E&S impact assessment for each individual project/programme. Monitoring includes tracking progress in the implementation of mitigation measures and achievements. Monitoring reports from executing entities are recorded and the applicant's project managers perform quality reviews of the reports.

31. Supervision of the projects is undertaken by the E&S division specialists, who assess the implementation of E&S mitigation measures. The applicant, in cooperation with executing entities, also performs ex-post evaluations aimed at measuring the effectiveness of the risk mitigation measures.

2.2.6 Section 6.6: External communications

32. Stakeholder consultation is part of the applicants' E&S approach to ensure that various stakeholders, including government, local authorities, associations, non-governmental organizations, etc., have been informed and involved in project design and implementation. The applicant is in the process of approving and establishing a formal complaints mechanism. The mechanism is expected to be deployed in late 2015. The applicant has, however, provided examples of projects where external stakeholder communications were received and addressed.

2.3 Gender

33. The applicant has a well-developed gender policy and experience in undertaking gender initiatives for gender equality and women's empowerment. The applicant implemented a strategic document that outlines its commitment to gender quality and equity, and the need to allocate resources to both climate change mitigation and adaptation activities. The applicant has gender specific indicators. Moreover, it has developed a training programme in order to strengthen internal capabilities on gender-related issues for its staff members. The applicant has two specialists with gender-related competencies and experience. Evidence of the gender policy implementation was supported by a number of illustrative examples in climate change adaptation, microfinance, education, and health and livelihood improvement.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

34. Following its assessment and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, specialized fiduciary standard for project management, specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, and specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending for loans and guarantees;
- (b) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the high E&S risk Category A/I-1. The AP recommends that the applicant finalize the implementation of its stakeholder response mechanism and make the contact information for submitting and registering a complaint publically available on its website; and
- (c) The applicant has demonstrated that it has policies, procedures and competencies found to be consistent with the Fund's gender policy, and has also demonstrated that it has experience with gender consideration in the context of climate change activities.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

35. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL015) for accreditation as follows:

- (a) **Accreditation type:**
- (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Large (including micro, small and medium);
 - (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
 - 1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 - 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - 4. Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans and guarantees); and
 - (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** High risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2⁴ and Category C/I-3⁵)); and
- (b) **Conditions:**
- None.
36. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 35 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

3.3 Additional remarks

37. The applicant is currently developing a new ESS procedural framework for the period following 2016 and is requested to submit it to the Fund when it is ready.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as “Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures” and Intermediation 2 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented”.

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as “Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts” and Intermediation 3 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts”.

Annex XVI: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 016 (APL016)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 016 (APL016) is a non-profit organization that operates internationally in over 30 countries across six continents with a wide range of partners in order to empower societies to responsibly and sustainably care for nature for the well-being of humanity. It has built strong relationships with communities, governments, academia, foundations, civil society organizations and the private sector in order to deliver innovative nature-based solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation. In developing countries, it partners with the host country government institutions, research or academic institutions, as well as indigenous peoples' organizations. With global private corporations, the applicant has developed a track-record of improving the sustainability of business operations. Key activities include reducing deforestation, improving agricultural practices, protecting natural ecosystems to serve as carbon sinks, and developing standards for effective mitigation and adaptation activities. It has leveraged over US\$ 100 million for 'debt-for-nature' swaps and has raised over US\$ 30 million for a carbon fund. The applicant seeks to scale up its impact on combating climate change by delivering more climate action on the ground, providing accessible and science-based tools for decision makers, and mobilizing a network of major corporations as well as ensuring the involvement of all stakeholders.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 12 February 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded at the end of May 2015. APL016 has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Green Climate Fund's (the Fund's) fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** International access;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Medium;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** Minimal to no risk (Category C/Intermediation 3 (I-3)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "medium" is defined as "maximum total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 50 million and up to and including US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as "Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts" and Intermediation 3 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for, and applied under, the fast-track accreditation process as a GEF agency. Its application has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website and a programme website as additional sources of information, to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities are considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability, with the exception of item 4.2.5 of the application, Anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing policies, have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

7. Regarding item 4.2.5, the applicant fully meets the requirements of the basic fiduciary standards related to anti-terrorist financing and anti-money laundering. The applicant has policies which are based on the United States of America's Patriot Act and Executive Order 13224 Policy, and has demonstrated the use of tools that support the enforcement of the policies.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

8. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard for project management is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.4 Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms

9. It is assessed that the applicant fully meets the requirements of the specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms. The applicant demonstrates experience in implementing grant programmes, by serving as a GEF agency and managing a fund for critical ecosystems, both of which have requirements and procedures consistent with those of the Fund.

10. The applicant also demonstrates regular monitoring of grantees and provides public access to information on the progress of individual projects. The entity has provisions for an annual independent external audit of its grant award activities and has suitable procedures for the suspension, reduction or termination of a grant in the event of a beneficiary failing to comply with its obligations.

2.1.5 Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending

11. The applicant did not apply for assessment against this standard at this time.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 Section 6.1: Policy

12. Commensurate with the fit-for-purpose accreditation approach and with the nature of Category C/I-3 as being minimal to no environmental and social risk, an E&S policy within an institutional environmental and social management system (ESMS) is not required for the Category C/I-3 level of risk. However, the applicant has developed and enforced environmental and social policies that ensure its projects and programmes meet the safeguard principles it has set. APL016 enforces a policy to only support and implement projects that contribute to environmental sustainability and human well-being. In the area of social safeguards, the applicant established an overarching social policy in the mid-1990s, with various components added more recently. Additionally, it has long-standing policies and tools that address, for example, human rights, indigenous peoples, vulnerable groups, gender and involuntary resettlement. The applicant provided evidence that such standards and tools have been applied and enforced in its projects and programmes.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

13. The applicant has a project screening form that is assessed to be consistent with the Fund's environmental and social safeguards (ESS). The screening form is part of the E&S framework that the applicant uses for its activities under the GEF, and, if accredited, will be applied in any projects and programmes approved by the Fund. The applicant provided evidence that the screening mechanism is implemented for its GEF-funded projects. In addition, for its non-GEF-funded projects, APL016 demonstrates an operational system for identifying E&S risks and impacts at the project level and for the identification of mitigation measures.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

14. If accredited, projects and programmes funded by the Fund will be managed by the same division established to manage the applicant's GEF-funded projects. The E&S management framework for this division specifies the roles and responsibilities of the applicant as well as its executing entity (entities) with respect to ESS throughout the project cycle. The management framework is assessed to meet the requirements of the Fund's ESS.

2.2.4 Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency

15. The applicant provided an overall organizational chart for the entity, which shows the position of the division managing its GEF-funded projects. The division is led by a senior officer, and staffed by competent individuals such as technical and safeguards leads, policy and compliance leads as well as finance leads. The division also has access to expertise in other divisions within the organization, should a project need additional support regarding a specific safeguard issue or performance standard. The applicant meets the Fund's ESS for this item.

2.2.5 Section 6.5: Monitoring and review

16. APL016 has demonstrated that projects/programmes and portfolios managed by the applicant undergo monitoring and evaluation on a regular basis, as described in its E&S management framework. In an effort to strengthen the monitoring and review of its GEF-funded projects, the applicant has developed a new evaluation policy intended to evaluate the contribution of its actions in achieving the applicant's goals. If accredited, this would similarly apply to projects and programmes funded by the Fund.

2.2.6 Section 6.6: External communications

17. At the institutional level, the applicant adopted a code of ethics, and operates an ethics hotline through a separate website managed by an independent service that is certified as a safe harbour. There is sufficient information to confirm that such a mechanism is operational and uses sound procedures for handling complaints and grievances received.

18. The applicant adopted an accountability and grievance mechanism aimed at ensuring appropriate measures for the receipt of and timely response to complaints from parties affected by the implementation of its GEF-funded projects. If accredited, the applicant will apply this mechanism in projects and programmes funded by the Fund. Under this mechanism, APL016 has not received any grievances or complaints in the last three years.

2.3 Gender

19. The applicant meets the Fund's gender requirements. It has a comprehensive gender policy and gender mainstreaming framework as well as a set of implementation guidelines, and has utilized its gender approach in many of its programmes. Gender is addressed in its E&S framework which is applied to its GEF-funded projects. The applicant demonstrates competence and the undertaking of a serious effort in order to integrate gender into all its operations and activities on the ground.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

20. Following its assessment and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, specialized fiduciary standard for project management and specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms;
- (b) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to minimal to no E&S risk Category C/I-3.⁴ If accredited, the E&S management framework that was developed for its GEF-funded projects and has been adjusted to meet the Fund's interim ESS, will be applied to projects and programmes funded by the Fund. For some items, the applicant demonstrates a greater degree of ESMS maturity than is required by the Fund's interim ESS for Category C/I-3 against which the applicant is seeking accreditation. It is recommended that the applicant seeks to deepen its knowledge and application of the Fund's interim ESS in order to support a potential future upgrade of its accreditation to the medium E&S risk level Category B/I-2;⁵ and

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as "Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts" and Intermediation 3 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts".

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as "Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures" and Intermediation 2 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

- (c) The applicant has demonstrated that it has policies, procedures and competencies in order to implement its gender policy, and has demonstrated that it has experience with gender considerations in the context of climate change activities.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

21. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL016) for accreditation as follows:

(a) **Accreditation type:**

- (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Medium (including micro and small);
- (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
- (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** Minimal to no risk (Category C/I-3); and

(b) **Conditions:**

None.

22. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 21 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

Annex XVII: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 017 (APL017)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 017 (APL017) is an international entity with the mandate to promote transition towards a sustainable, open market economy and to foster innovation. Its work includes project investment, technical assistance, institutional capacity-building, and policy advisory services with a regional focus on Central Asia, south east Mediterranean and Eastern Europe. The applicant's work is strongly focused on the private sector and micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises, and uses a broad range of financing instruments, mainly loans, equity investments and guarantees. The areas of investment for mitigation activities are energy efficiency, infrastructure, the power sector, renewable energy, sustainable energy financing facilities and carbon market development. The areas of investment for adaptation activities are water supplies, water efficiency, hydropower, and coastal and port infrastructure. If accredited, the applicant seeks to support the Green Climate Fund (the Fund's) paradigm shift objective by delivering effective, transformational and innovative mechanisms with sustainable development impact.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 27 January 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** International access;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Adaptation Fund;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Large;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - (iv) Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** High risk (Category A/Intermediation 1 (I-1)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "large" is defined as "total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category A is defined as "Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented" and Intermediation 1 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for, and applied under, the fast-track accreditation process as a GEF agency and as an accredited entity of the Adaptation Fund. Its application has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website and third-party websites to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities are considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

7. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard for project management is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.4 Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms

8. It is assessed that the applicant fully meets the requirements of the specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms. The applicant is a well-established organization with long-standing experience in providing development finance and execution of funding allocation to its target countries. Although it does not operate a competitive grant award scheme, the applicant has a mature set of standards and procedures for the allocation of funds for various types of projects and programmes, such as to provide technical assistance to support the implementation of credit lines, projects and energy efficiency audits.

9. The applicant has a track record in implementing its standards and procedures for funding allocation. Specifically, it utilizes donor-funded grants to channel technical assistance and technical cooperation for consultancy assignments. Projects and programmes undertaken by the applicant are identified in partnership with the governments of countries in which the applicant operates.

10. The grant award mechanism implemented by the applicant is transparent with formally documented procedures for assessing grant proposals. The applicant monitors the implementation of funded programme activities, may undertake site visits, and actively supports its executing entities through the provision of counselling and advice.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

11. It is assessed that the applicant fully meets the requirements of the specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending. The applicant has a banking credit process and due diligence procedures and guidelines in place to conduct its financing operations, which comprise donor-funded, commercial and other concessional, typically co-financing activities. It also has a strong track record of accessing multilateral climate finance or concessional loan grant resources typically blended to support projects with a high impact in terms of transition to efficient markets and low carbon development.

12. The applicant conducts financial due diligence before engaging in financing operations of intermediaries and has a project approval and monitoring cycle in place. Monitoring and reporting mechanisms of the sub loan portfolios are established to ensure that the credit facilities extended to partner institutions as intermediaries are actually on-lend towards sustainable executing entities/projects on the ground. Teams of experts assist the partner banks in developing, implementing and reporting on subprojects.

13. In addition, APL017 engages in the financing of clean energy projects through participation in multi-donor funds. Thus the applicant blends its commercial financing with grant joint financing and technical assistance in order to increase the affordability and accelerate the implementation of projects.

14. The applicant is 'AAA' rated with a stable outlook, which all three major rating agencies recently reaffirmed (Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch).

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 **Section 6.1: Policy**

15. The applicant has a well-developed E&S policy, which is published on its website. All relevant staff members with responsibilities for implementing the E&S policy are provided with periodic training on this policy. The day-to-day implementation of the E&S policy lies within the responsibility of an environmental and sustainability department, which has around 50 staff and reports to senior management.

2.2.2 **Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts**

16. APL017's E&S policy and operational procedures are mature and fully implemented. The E&S risk categories under the applicant's process include four categories: Categories A to C and financial intermediaries, which are found to be comparable to that of the Fund's environmental and social safeguards (ESS). The applicant provided an extensive track record of E&S risk identification and categorization. The risk category is tracked across the project pipeline and the number of projects categorized in each category is reported annually in the applicant's sustainability report. The E&S risk categorization for each project is determined by a team of E&S specialists, reviewed by a reviewer and signed off by the E&S department's management team.

2.2.3 **Section 6.3: Management programme**

17. The applicant's ESS are managed through clearly established procedures. The applicant operates due diligence mechanisms to manage E&S risks at the project development stage, and assigns responsibilities to its intermediaries in cases of on-lending. The relevant units within the applicant's organization perform due diligence as well as the monitoring of progress and compliance with its E&S policy.

2.2.4 **Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency**

18. The applicant provided its organizational structure clearly attributing responsibilities for implementing its E&S policy, which are further specified in its E&S procedures. Moreover, it has implemented a training programme to support the roll out of its recently revised E&S policy. To date, the programme has trained a total of 400 staff across various teams and regional offices. This programme is ongoing.

2.2.5 **Section 6.5: Monitoring and review**

19. The applicant has a mature mechanism for monitoring safeguard implementation and projects. This covers monitoring activities being undertaken by executing entities as well as monitoring those undertaken by the applicant's staff through the review of reports received, site visits and third-party monitoring information. The project monitoring activities are also described in the annual sustainability reports, which include data on the number of projects visited and Category A project performance ratings, and are published on the applicant's website.

2.2.6 **Section 6.6: External communications**

20. The applicant has implemented a public information policy which provides for both disclosure of E&S information as well as the receipt of external communications from the public. The policy sets out the general procedures for handling information requests and the types of information that will typically be provided. Project-related complaints are dealt with separately through an independent project complaints mechanism.

2.3 Gender

21. The applicant has a mature gender policy, and has developed gender initiatives for gender equality and women's empowerment. The applicant implemented a strategic gender initiative, which was approved in early 2013 and aims to identify and develop projects with either a gender component or a gender focus in order to promote access by women to employment and skills, finance and services. The first report was prepared for the applicant's board. The applicant established a gender team in 2012, which is responsible for the development, implementation and provision of guidance on gender mainstreaming institutionally across the applicant's organization. APL017 provided examples of where its gender team developed gender assessments in projects. For example, it developed lending credit lines for women-led small- and medium-enterprises so as to contribute to reducing gender gaps in access to finance.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

22. Following its assessment and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, specialized fiduciary standard for project management, specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, and specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending for loans, equity and guarantees;

- (b) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the high E&S risk Category A/I-1; and
- (c) The applicant has demonstrated that it has policies, procedures and competencies in place in order to implement its gender policy, which is found to be consistent with the Fund's gender policy, and has demonstrated that it has experience with gender consideration in the context of climate change activities.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

23. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL017) for accreditation as follows:

- (a) **Accreditation type:**
 - (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Large (including micro, small and medium);
 - (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
 1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 4. Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
 - (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** High risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2⁴ and Category C/I-3⁵)); and
- (b) **Conditions:**

None.

24. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 23 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as "Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures" and Intermediation 2 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as "Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts" and Intermediation 3 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts".

Annex XVIII: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 018 (APL018)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 018 (APL018) is an international entity with several decades of experience in promoting poverty reduction, economic growth, private sector development and in fostering regional integration and trade in developing countries in the Latin American and Caribbean region. The applicant has a successful track record in implementing projects and programmes in clean energy, health-care sectors, agricultural development and natural resources management. Last year, the applicant committed nearly US\$ 2.5 billion to climate change mitigation and adaptation actions. It has delivered projects and programmes, including the reduction of carbon emissions through low-carbon transport systems, climate-resilient agricultural development, integrated watershed modelling tools and early warning systems. Building on its existing experience, knowledge and strong presence in the region, the applicant seeks accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) in order to catalyse the regional impact of its climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes, paying particular attention to vulnerable communities. In addition the applicant seeks to strengthen the institutional capacities of national entities in the region to enable them to access climate finance directly.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 24 January 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** International access;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Adaptation Fund. During the review of the application, following information related to eligibility for fast-tracking as a Global Environment Facility (GEF) agency, the applicant was thereafter assessed under fast-track as both a GEF agency and an accredited entity of the Adaptation Fund;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Large;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - (iv) Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** High risk (Category A/Intermediation 1 (I-1)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "large" is defined as "total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category A is defined as "Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented" and Intermediation 1 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for the fast-track accreditation process as a GEF agency and as an accredited entity of the Adaptation Fund. Its application has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities are considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

7. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard for project management is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.4 Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms

8. It is assessed that the applicant fully meets the requirements of the specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms. The applicant has emphasized that it is seeking accreditation for grant awards and/or funding allocation mechanisms to further enhance its capacity to provide technical assistance in its region of operation. The identification and selection of technical assistance support opportunities is aligned with the applicant's annual programming exercise and identification of country needs.

9. Additionally, the applicant has experience in awarding grants through a public competitive bidding process in which bids are called for, evaluated and awarded in a transparent manner. Examples of such grant award processes were provided.

10. All grants and funding allocations received by the applicant are managed under a single organizational unit within the applicant's organization in order to ensure proper control and accountability.

2.1.5 Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending

11. It is assessed that the applicant fully meets the requirements of the specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending. The applicant has over 45 years of experience providing financial support in its region of operation. During this period, the applicant has developed processes and procedures so as to manage financial resources.

12. The applicant has an extensive track record in working with international and multilaterals sources of funds, and evidence of the cooperation agreements in which it has participated was provided.

13. It has been rated 'AAA' since its inception, and its AAA rated status has been recently reaffirmed by all three major rating agencies (Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch).

14. The applicant provided documentation on its on-lending/blending processes and procedures, which provide assurance that it has well-developed capacities for undertaking on-lending and blending operations. The procedures implemented by the applicant, for loans and guarantees include detailed guidelines for initial assessment, due diligence, approval, closing, monitoring and repayment of on-lending/blending operations. The applicant also has procedures in place to ensure that its loan portfolio is monitored for compliance with the guidelines established in its risk framework.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 Section 6.1: Policy

15. APL018 has a well-developed E&S policy (approved by its board) and implementation guidelines (approved by senior management), which are available to the public. The applicant's strategic planning department is responsible for monitoring the performance of its environmental and social safeguards (ESS) compliance. The day-to-day implementation of the E&S policy lies within the responsibility of the environmental safeguards unit, which is responsible for ensuring the environmental viability of projects.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

16. The applicant's E&S policy and operational procedures guide technical staff in identifying risks and impacts through screening and assessment processes. The risk categories under the applicant's process include four categories: Categories A to C and financial intermediaries, which are found to be comparable to that of the Fund's interim ESS. The applicant provided a track record showing a consistent implementation of its standards, policies and procedures related to E&S risk identification and categorization. The applicant has its own unit in place that is responsible for conducting due diligence exercises and impact assessments, and designing and supervising risk management and mitigation activities throughout the project cycle.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

17. The applicant's ESS are managed through clearly established procedures. Its management programme requires development and implementation of an E&S management plan for all operations under Categories A and B. For all other operations, an E&S review mechanism has to be applied. Furthermore, the applicant has showcased examples that demonstrate the effectiveness of its E&S management programmes.

2.2.4 Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency

18. APL018 provided its organizational structure clearly attributing responsibilities for implementing its E&S policy. In its environment safeguards unit, it has a dedicated unit to ensure that operations follow the applicant's ESS policies. The unit endorses E&S sustainability standards, provides safeguards training for its own staff and executing entities, and reports on the E&S sustainability of the applicant's operations. The unit chief reports directly to senior management.

2.2.5 Section 6.5: Monitoring and review

19. The applicant has a mature mechanism for monitoring safeguard implementation and projects. Monitoring is implemented based on internal and external reviews. Projects that do not meet the applicant's performance requirements are required to develop and implement a corrective action plan. Performances are periodically reported on, at least twice a year, to senior management. Evidence of the implementation of the monitoring and review process, including communication of the results to senior management and their reviews, has been evidenced.

2.2.6 Section 6.6: External communications

20. APL018 has an independent consultation and investigation mechanism in place, which provides a formal external communication channel by which to receive and register communications from the public on specific projects or programmes. For comments not related to a specific project or programme, the applicant has established a web-based system through which complaints or grievances can be submitted.

2.3 Gender

21. The applicant has a mature gender policy. To ensure the successful implementation and monitoring of the policy, the applicant approved a three-year gender action plan for operations that is currently being implemented. APL018 has a team of over 25 staff and consultants who focus on gender issues and provide gender mainstreaming support. It has a gender and diversity division in place that is leading the implementation of the gender policy and action plan in coordination with gender focal points in each division and country office. The applicant provided examples of mainstreaming gender in different types of climate change projects. It invests in projects that foster gender equality in the workplace and enable women-led small businesses to reach their full potential. It has developed sector-specific guidelines that facilitate the integration of methods that promote gender equality into interventions on climate change.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

22. Following its assessment and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, specialized fiduciary standard for project management, specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, and specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending for loans, equity and guarantees;
- (b) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the high E&S risk Category A/I-1; and
- (c) The applicant has demonstrated that it has policies, procedures and competencies by which to implement its gender policy, which is found to be consistent with the Fund's gender policy, and has also demonstrated that it has experience with gender consideration in the context of climate change activities.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

23. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL018) for accreditation as follows:

(a) **Accreditation type:**

- (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Large (including micro, small and medium);
- (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
 - 1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 - 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - 4. Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and
- (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** High risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2⁴ and Category C/I-3⁵)); and

(b) **Conditions:**

None.

24. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 23 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as “Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures” and Intermediation 2 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented”.

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as “Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts” and Intermediation 3 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts”.

Annex XIX: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 019 (APL019)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 019 (APL019) is an international entity whose mandate is to promote sustainable development and prudent use of the global environment. It assists many countries to achieve resilient, low-emission pathways through its flagship programmes in adaptation, forestry, energy efficiency and transition to sustainable development. Its key activities include promoting investment in clean technologies in order to reduce emissions, protecting biodiversity and ecosystems, alleviating poverty, and ecosystem-based adaptation in order to reduce human vulnerability and strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change. It works with the financial communities to mobilize financial resources for investments in low carbon and climate resilient development; developing climate finance readiness and capacity-building; and undertaking policy and research analysis. The applicant's climate change portfolio has a total volume of over US\$ 400 million. APL019 seeks accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) in order to catalyse the use of ecosystem services to achieve a paradigm shift to resilient, green sustainable development by using its vast experience of providing green solutions in both climate change mitigation and adaptation.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 21 January 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in May 2015. It has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** International access;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Adaptation Fund;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Small;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards; and
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** Medium risk (Category B/Intermediation 2 (I-2)).³

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for, and applied under, the fast-track accreditation process as a GEF agency and as an accredited entity of the Adaptation Fund. Its application has been

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "small" is defined as "maximum total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 10 million and up to and including US\$ 50 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme)".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as "Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures" and Intermediation 2 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website and third-party websites to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities are considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

7. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard for project management is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.4 Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms

8. The applicant did not apply for assessment against this standard at this time.

2.1.5 Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending

9. The applicant did not apply for assessment against this standard at this time.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 Section 6.1: Policy

10. The applicant has an E&S framework, which includes overarching environmental, social, economic and sustainability principles, as well as thematic E&S standards that are to a large extent consistent with the Fund's environmental and social safeguards (ESS). Its approach through screening, assessing, planning, disclosing and managing, reporting and evaluating the safeguard risks are an integral part of its project cycle management. The framework also provides the possibility for the use of the safeguards system of the host countries or partners. In certain cases, the applicant may agree with a host country on actions to enhance its capacity, so as to permit the use of the country's system. The framework also establishes an accountability framework that includes a stakeholder response mechanism. It is widely communicated throughout the institution. All of the key policy documents are available on the applicant's website.

2.2.2 Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts

11. APL019's E&S framework includes an organizational process for identifying and addressing safeguard risks within the project cycle, including a screening process at the project preparation stage for identifying potential risks and impacts of projects. The applicant's E&S

standards are largely consistent with the Fund's interim ESS, however, there are some gaps, specifically related to performance standard 4. If accredited, the applicant has indicated that it will apply the Fund's interim ESS for any projects and programmes financed by the Fund, and it has already provided an E&S risk identification and categorization template in line with the Fund's interim ESS for this purpose. This template, as well as related policies and procedures, have yet to be formalized and adopted.

2.2.3 **Section 6.3: Management programme**

12. The applicant has a comprehensive institutional process for managing E&S risk mitigation measures and actions, including a track record of implementing this process. Depending on the E&S risks identified in the screening process, relevant assessment and management tools are applied. Under the new implementation and monitoring requirements, executing entities are required to have safeguard management plans and regular stakeholder consultations on progress, and to disclose the meeting reports. With regards to auditing on institutional management programme effectiveness, there is an independent office for stakeholder safeguard response housed within the organization.

2.2.4 **Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency**

13. The applicant has a large number of staff with technical competencies across the environmental and social disciplines, covering all the areas of the Fund's interim ESS. This includes a dedicated safeguards advisor in the applicant's gender and social safeguards unit. The applicant is carrying out various awareness-raising efforts within the organization in order to actively inform its staff and promote its E&S policy. A training programme on safeguards application in project cycle management, including the aspects of gender and indigenous peoples, is under preparation with the aim of delivering it to its staff in mid-2015.

2.2.5 **Section 6.5: Monitoring and review**

14. During project implementation, the applicant's project managers are responsible for ensuring that the actions specified in the safeguard management plans are carried out, for consulting with the affected communities on risk management, and for reporting and disclosing progress in the implementation of the risk management plans. Project mid-term reviews assess whether the environmental, social and economic risks are being managed and monitored, and whether the E&S policy requirements have been complied with. The relevant programme coordinators maintain oversight on the implementation of the E&S framework and conduct an evaluation across the organization of the implementation of its E&S framework on a periodic basis. The applicant's senior management assesses and decides on actions related to the E&S framework, strategies, approaches and capacity gaps.

2.2.6 **Section 6.6: External communications**

15. The applicant's E&S framework establishes an accountability framework that includes a stakeholder response mechanism. This mechanism will facilitate the resolution of stakeholder concerns and address stakeholder responses to environmental and social management performance. It elaborates on the scope, requirements and procedures for filing complaints and addressing disputes. The contact information and procedures for filing a complaint will be available to the public on the organization's website.

2.3 Gender

16. The applicant has a well-developed gender strategy and its gender policy and procedures are assessed to be consistent with the Fund's requirements. Moreover, in 2014, the applicant approved its policy and strategy for gender equality and the environment. It also uses a mechanism that provides a system-wide policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women, on the basis of six key factors. Based on its participation in projects via grant award, the applicant has demonstrated its experience in undertaking gender considerations with respect to its climate change activities. These include projects specifically targeting women and girls and those promoting clean cookstoves.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

17. Following its assessment and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:

- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards and specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
- (b) The applicant substantially meets the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the medium E&S risk Category B/I-2. It has an overarching E&S framework procedure in place and an E&S risk identification system that it plans to use. However, some gaps exist between the applicant's E&S policies and the Fund's interim ESS, specifically related to performance standard 4. The applicant is required to:
 - (i) Adopt specific policies and procedures to address performance standard 4 of the Fund's ESS in order to undertake a project/programme that bears risks contained in performance standard 4;
- (c) The AP recommends the applicant to finalize the implementation of its stakeholder response mechanism and to make the contact information for submitting and registering a complaint publically available on its website; and
- (d) The applicant has demonstrated that it has policies, procedures and competencies, which are found to be consistent with the Fund's gender policy, and has also demonstrated that it has experience with gender consideration in the context of climate change activities.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

18. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL019) for accreditation as follows:

- (a) **Accreditation type:**
 - (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Small (including micro);

-
- (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
1. Basic fiduciary standards; and
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and
- (iii) **Environmental and social risk category:** Medium risk (Category B/I-2) (including lower risk (Category C/I-3)⁴); and
- (b) **Conditions:** The applicant will be required to submit to the AP, through the Secretariat, information on how it has complied with the condition. The AP will thereafter assess whether the condition has been met. This assessment will be communicated by the Secretariat, on behalf of the AP, to the Board for information purposes. The condition is:
- (i) The applicant shall meet the requirements indicated in paragraph 17 (b) (i) above prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme that bears risks contained in performance standard 4.
19. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 18 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as “Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts” and Intermediation 3 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts”.

Annex XX: Accreditation assessment of Applicant 020 (APL020)

I. Introduction

1. Applicant 020 (APL020) is an international organization with a strong global presence and mandate to reduce poverty by promoting sustainable economic development. The applicant works in partnership with developing countries through national governments in order to support the coordinated delivery of its projects and programmes in various sectors and through the use of various financial instruments, including grants, loans and guarantees. Over the past few years, the applicant has provided over US\$ 30 billion in finance for climate change related activities globally. It is engaged in climate change mitigation across all sectors and regions. Its work in mitigation covers renewable energy generation, energy efficiency and access, forestry and sustainable transport projects and programmes. In addition, it has supported the least developed countries, small island developing States and other vulnerable countries in climate change adaptation by financing projects in disaster risk reduction and ecosystem services in sectors such as fisheries and water resources management. Bringing with it its experience in climate change mitigation and adaptation programming, and utilizing its knowledge and delivery infrastructure to enhance direct access to climate finance by developing countries, the applicant seeks accreditation to the Fund.

2. The applicant submitted its application for accreditation to the Secretariat via the Online Accreditation System on 10 February 2015. Stage I, Institutional assessment and completeness check, and Stage II (Step 1), Accreditation review, were concluded in June 2015. The applicant has applied to be accredited for the following parameters under the Fund's fit-for-purpose approach:

- (a) **Access modality:** International access;
- (b) **Track:** Fast-track under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Adaptation Fund;
- (c) **Size of project/activity within a programme:** Large;¹
- (d) **Fiduciary functions:**²
 - (i) Basic fiduciary standards;
 - (ii) Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 - (iii) Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 - (iv) Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans and guarantees); and
- (e) **Environmental and social (E&S) risk category:** High risk (Category A/Intermediation 1 (I-1)).³

¹ As per Annex I to decision B.08/02, "large" is defined as "total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, of above US\$ 250 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme".

² Decision B.07/02.

³ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category A is defined as "Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented" and Intermediation 1 is defined as "When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented".

II. Accreditation assessment

3. The applicant is eligible for, and applied under, the fast-track accreditation process as a GEF agency and as an accredited entity of the Adaptation Fund. Its application has been assessed against the Fund's standards by the Accreditation Panel (AP) in accordance with the requirements and gaps identified in decision B.08/03.

4. As a part of this assessment, the AP has consulted the applicant's website and third-party websites to complement the information provided by the applicant in its application.

2.1 Fiduciary standards

2.1.1 Section 4.1: Basic fiduciary standards: Key administrative and financial capacities

5. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning key administrative and financial capacities is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation

2.1.2 Section 4.2: Basic fiduciary standards: Transparency and accountability

6. As per paragraph 3 above, the basic fiduciary standards concerning transparency and accountability has been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.3 Section 5.1: Specialized fiduciary standard for project management

7. As per paragraph 3 above, the specialized fiduciary standard for project management is considered to have been met by way of fast-track accreditation.

2.1.4 Section 5.2: Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms

8. It is assessed that the applicant fully meets the requirements of the specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms. The applicant is a well-established organization with several decades of experience in providing development finance to developing countries. The total financing envelope under these arrangements is in the range of billions of United States dollars. The applicant has various projects in almost all sectors, mostly co-financed and generally does not engage in stand-alone projects with third-party resources.

9. Grant resources are sourced from contributions from donor countries and from the applicant's net income. The grant award mechanism implemented by the applicant is transparent with formally documented procedures for assessing and approving grant proposals, as well as for implementation and monitoring. Potential grant funding proposals are identified in partnership with donors and country governments, and are then assessed by a group, including senior management. The applicant monitors the implementation of funded activities, undertakes site visits, and supports beneficiaries through counselling and advice. In accordance with its procedures, the applicant also executes grants from a wide range of trust funds. APL020 provided evidence that it has a substantial track record in implementing its procedures and standards for the allocation of funds.

10. All grants, as well as loans, provided by the applicant are subject to its anti-corruption and anti-fraud policy, which prohibits all forms of corrupt practices. The applicant has the right to investigate all projects that it has financed in the case of credible complaints of corruption during the implementation of the project, including the right to inspect and audit the accounts of the project and the relevant executing entity.

2.1.5 **Section 5.3: Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending**

11. It is assessed that the applicant fully meets the requirements of the specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending. The applicant has a mature set of operational policies for on-lending and blending activities. For on-lending, the provisions for assessments and due diligence for financial intermediaries cover areas of financial performance, governance structure, risk and funds flow. Whether directly or through an intermediary, the applicant typically invests in high-quality assets. Decisions on specific funding activities are made publicly available. Monitoring and evaluation provides information to verify progress made and results achieved, supports learning from experience, and promotes accountability. The applicant conducts financial due diligence during the assessment of the project and of the executing entity, and has an extensive and systematic review process during the project implementation phase involving the recipient government, executing entity and its own staff. APL020 has various management committees in place, which oversee asset and liability, and risk management, and has a robust financial and risk management system.

12. The applicant has a strong track record, experience and capacities for on-lending and blending with resources from its own sources, as well as from international and multilateral sources and global trust funds. Its executing entities cover a large number of developing countries that have received financing in a range of several billions of United States dollars per year. The applicant also provides guarantees as credit enhancements for eligible projects in order to cover risks that the project and its commercial co-financing partners cannot easily absorb or manage on their own.

13. The applicant is an 'AAA' rated entity (Fitch) with a superior track record in credit and financial management.

2.2 Environmental and social safeguards

2.2.1 **Section 6.1: Policy**

14. The applicant has a well-developed environmental and social safeguards (ESS) policy supplemented by a series of manuals and sourcebooks to guide implementation. The policy requires the applicant to undertake environmental assessments of potential projects and programmes in order to ensure that they are environmentally sound and sustainable, and sets out operational procedures for who and how the policy is implemented. The group to which the applicant belongs also has developed a separate policy that facilitates financing for private-sector-led economic development projects by applying E&S policy standards that are more specific to the private sector.

2.2.2 **Section 6.2: Identification of risks and impacts**

15. The applicant's E&S policy and operational procedures guide technical staff in identifying E&S risks and impacts through screening and assessment processes. The four risk categories under the applicant's process are: Categories A to C and financial intermediaries. The applicant utilizes clear procedures and tools for E&S risk categorization, and the approval involves multiple reviews by different parts of the organization. The E&S risks and impacts identification process set out in the environmental assessment document is consistent with performance standard 1 of the Fund's ESS, and is designed to accommodate performance standards 2 to 8. The E&S risk categorization system outlined in the performance standards for private sector entities is fully consistent with the Fund's ESS.

2.2.3 Section 6.3: Management programme

16. The applicant's ESS are managed through clearly established procedures and assignment of roles. The applicant operates a formal mechanism in order to manage E&S risks and impacts, and assigns responsibilities to the applicant's relevant units for due diligence as well as the monitoring of progress and compliance with the applicant's safeguard policies. Moreover, APL020 demonstrates that it has a safeguards compliance review mechanism that is followed from the project concept phase to implementation.

17. Additionally, there are internal arrangements to supervise a project's E&S aspects on the basis of the E&S provisions and the executing entity's reporting arrangements as agreed in the project's legal documents.

2.2.4 Section 6.4: Organizational capacity and competency

18. The applicant has a clear organizational structure with respect to E&S management. ESS are integrated into its investment operations, with oversight at the senior management level. Designated technical specialists provide quality control on the proper application of environmental and social safeguards at all levels of the project cycle, review the proper identification of risks and impacts, confirm a project's E&S categorization, and review and clear relevant safeguard documents. Regular training is provided to staff and E&S experts on the E&S policies generally and on specific issues.

2.2.5 Section 6.5: Monitoring and review

19. APL020 has a mature mechanism for monitoring the safeguards' implementation and projects, including through an internal portfolio performance monitoring system. During project implementation, the executing entity is required to report on compliance with measures agreed with the applicant on the basis of the findings and results of the environmental assessment, including implementation of any E&S management plan, as set out in the project documents, the status of mitigating measures, and the findings of monitoring programmes. Safeguard monitoring reports prepared for individual projects are available publicly through the applicant's website.

2.2.6 Section 6.6: External communications

20. The applicant demonstrated a functioning external communication system, and inquiries, complaints or issues are registered and duly responded to. External communication is governed appropriately and the management of public input is elaborated in the operational procedures. The policy is outlined on its website. Communities and individuals affected by the applicant's projects may submit complaints regarding a project at any level of the institution, both in country and at its headquarters. The applicant has a corporate grievance redress service that centralizes grievances and ensures that complaints received are promptly reviewed in order to address project-related concerns.

2.3 Gender

21. The applicant has a policy and strategy for mainstreaming gender-responsive actions into its development assistance work. The gender and development policy framework comprises investment policies relevant for investment lending in general, for development policy lending, and for safeguard policies, and each is supported by a designated unit responsible for the coordination and monitoring of implementation and results. The applicant is also committed to incorporating considerations of gender equality in the analysis, content and monitoring of all projects, programmes and country strategies. In addition, in all projects, it

implements gender equality action plans. The applicant has gender experts working at its headquarters as well as in its national offices. It provided evidence of its experience in applying gender approaches, including in climate change related projects and programmes. It also demonstrated the application of its gender policies in various poverty reduction and infrastructure projects.

III. Conclusions and recommendation

3.1 Conclusions

22. Following its assessment and noting that the applicant has applied under the fast-track accreditation process, the AP concludes the following in relation to the application:
- (a) The applicant fully meets the requirements of the Fund's basic fiduciary standards, specialized fiduciary standard for project management, specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms, and specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending for loans and guarantees;
 - (b) The applicant is aligned largely with the requirements of the Fund's interim ESS in relation to the high E&S risk Category A/I-1; and
 - (c) The applicant has demonstrated that it has policies, procedures and competencies in order to implement its gender policy, which is found to be consistent with the Fund's gender policy, and has demonstrated that it has experience with gender consideration in the context of climate change activities.

3.2 Recommendation on accreditation

23. The AP recommends, for consideration by the Board, the applicant (APL020) for accreditation as follows:

- (a) **Accreditation type:**
 - (i) **Size of an individual project or activity within a programme:** Large (including micro, small and medium);
 - (ii) **Fiduciary functions:**
 1. Basic fiduciary standards;
 2. Specialized fiduciary standard for project management;
 3. Specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and
 4. Specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans and guarantees); and

- (ii) **Environmental and social risk category:** High risk (Category A/I-1), including lower risk (Category B/I-2⁴ and Category C/I-3⁵); and

- (b) **Conditions:**

None.

24. The applicant has been informed of the recommendation for accreditation, including the accreditation type and conditions, as identified in paragraph 23 above, and agrees to the recommendation.

3.3 Additional remarks

25. The applicant is currently undertaking a review and possible revision of its own ESS and is requested to keep the Fund informed of developments in this respect.

⁴ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category B is defined as “Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures” and Intermediation 2 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented”.

⁵ As per Annex I to decision B.07/02, Category C is defined as “Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts” and Intermediation 3 is defined as “When an intermediary’s existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts”.

Annex XXI: Additional entities of other relevant funds for fast-track accreditation eligibility

I. Background

1. In decision B.08/03, paragraphs (e)–(g), the Board decided that entities under the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Adaptation Fund (AF), and the Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid of the European Commission (EU DEVCO), as contained in Annex V to decision B.08/03, are eligible to apply under the fast-track accreditation process for the Fund’s accreditation requirements identified in relevant paragraphs of the decision.
2. The entities presented below are entities that have been accredited by the GEF, AF and EU DEVCO since 17 October 2014 contained in decision B.08/03.

II. Global Environment Facility

Table 1: Agencies that have been approved by the GEF Accreditation Panel since 17 October 2014¹

Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade – Brazil	FUNBIO
Foreign Economic Cooperation Office – China	FECO
Development Bank of Latin America	CAF
Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement	BOAD

3. FUNBIO, FECO, BOAD and CAF have received approval from the GEF Accreditation Panel to progress from Stage II of the GEF accreditation procedure (review by the GEF Accreditation Panel) to Stage III (final stage which involves signing of formal agreements, including the memorandum of understanding (MOU) and financial procedures agreement (FPA) between the GEF and the entity), as per document GEF/C.48/10/Rev.01 and noted by the GEF Council in the *Joint Summary of the Chairs, 48th GEF Council Meeting, June 02-04, 2015*.
4. Entities must complete Stage III of the GEF accreditation procedure in order to become a fully accredited agency under the GEF.
5. To date, of the four entities, FUNBIO has signed the MOU and FPA in Stage III of the GEF accreditation procedure.

III. Adaptation Fund

Table 2: Adaptation Fund – National implementing entities since 17 October 2014²

Name	Acronym	Country
Fundación NATURA	Fundación NATURA	Panama
Micronesia Conservation Trust	MCT	Micronesia

¹ GEF, 2015. *Progress Report on the Pilot Accreditation of GEF Project Agencies*. GEF/C.48/10/Rev.01. Available at <https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/EN_GEF.C.48.10.Rev_01_Progress_Report_on_the_Pilot_Accreditation_of_GEF_Project_Agencies.pdf>. The report has also been noted in the *Joint Summary of the Chairs, 48th GEF Council Meeting, 2-4 June 2015*, available at <https://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/EN_GEF.C.48_Joint_Summary_of_the_Chairs_.pdf>.

² Available at <<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/national-implementing-entities>>.

6. MCT was accredited by the AF Board, subject to two conditions per the AF Board's decision B.25/4.³

IV. EU DEVCO

Table 3: EU DEVCO – National public-sector bodies or bodies governed by private law with a public-service mission (NAs) that have undergone European Union (EU) institutional compliance assessments (pillar assessments) since 17 October 2014⁴

Name	Acronym	Country
Agence Française d'Expertise Technique Internationale	AFETI	France
Nederlandse Financierings-Maatschappij voor Ontwikkelingslanden	FMO	Netherlands

7. On 23 June 2015, EU DEVCO confirmed to the Secretariat that the NAs listed above have been successfully assessed, meet the requirements of the relevant EU legislation, and are authorized to carry out EU budget implementation tasks without conditions concerning their institutional compliance.

8. As of 1 January 2015, Agence Française d'Expertise Technique Internationale, as listed above, is the result of a merger between two entities, Assistance au Développement des Échanges des Technologies Économiques et Financières (ADETEF) and France Expertise International (FEI). As such, ADETEF and FEI, entities which were identified as fast track eligible in decision B.08/03, are replaced by AFETI in the list.

³ Adaptation Fund, 2015. *Decisions of the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board*. AFB/B.25/7. Available at <<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/sites/default/files/AFB.B.25.7%20Decisions.pdf>>.

⁴ The list of national public-sector bodies or bodies governed by private law with a public-service mission (NAs) that have undergone EU institutional compliance assessments (pillar assessments) was provided by EU DEVCO to the Secretariat and approved for publication on 23 June 2015.

Annex XXII: List of conditions and recommendations related to the accreditation type of entities recommended for accreditation

1. The table below presents the list of conditions and recommendations concerning the accreditation type of entities recommended for accreditation, as contained in Annexes VIII to XX.

Table 1: List of conditions and recommendations related to the accreditation type of entities recommended for accreditation

Applicant number	Conditions and recommendations related to the accreditation type recommended by the Accreditation Panel
<p>APL008</p>	<p><u>Conditions prior to the first disbursement by the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant:</u></p> <p>(iii) Undertake an initial internal audit of its operations. The items to be addressed in the internal audit should include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A sample review of three grant awards, including contractual arrangements for risk, assessed against its procedures; 2. Confirmation that its procurement practice complies with national law; and 3. A review of the new information technology control framework; <p>(iv) Submit the internal audit plan for the next financial year, 2016;</p> <p>(v) Submit the revised procurement policy and procedures; and</p> <p>(vi) Publish information on its grant award mechanism and process on its website</p> <p><u>Conditions to be met on an annual basis for the three consecutive years, starting with the financial year 2016:</u></p> <p>Submit internal audit reports annually for three consecutive financial years, starting with the financial year 2016</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <p>It is recommended that the applicant continues to develop its grant mechanism, including the compilation of a process and procedure manual that incorporates all the mechanism's elements;</p> <p>It is recommended that the applicant seeks to deepen its knowledge of the Fund's interim environmental and social safeguards (ESS) while further developing its environmental and social (E&S) management system in order to support a potential future upgrade of its accreditation for medium E&S risk level Category B/I-2</p>
<p>APL009</p>	<p><u>Conditions prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant:</u></p> <p>(ii) Publishing on its website, the instructions and appropriate forms through which to log a complaint;</p> <p>(iii) Preparing quarterly reports on case trends and maintaining a formal record of all complaints received; and</p> <p>(iv) Submitting a report of the incidents recorded to its Office of the Ombudsman for investigation on a monthly basis</p> <p><u>Other conditions:</u></p> <p>(v) Use external support, including from co-financiers, acceptable to the Fund, to help to prepare projects or programmes that invoke any of performance standards 2 to 8</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <p>The applicant is recommended to consider undertaking an equivalence assessment of the country's legal framework with respect to the Fund's project-specific performance standards 2 to 8, which would apply to projects and programmes funded by the Fund</p>



Applicant number	Conditions and recommendations related to the accreditation type recommended by the Accreditation Panel
APL010	<p><u>Conditions prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (vi) Approve the environmental and social safeguards policy, and communicate the policy and procedures within the organization as well as to its executing entities; (vii) Develop a gender policy in line with the Fund’s gender policy to be applied in projects and programmes funded by the Fund
APL011	<p><u>Conditions prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (viii) Ensure that the project-specific performance standard 2 is fully aligned with the Fund’s ESS when it is applied in projects, and to strengthen its monitoring and review of E&S risks and impacts, as part of its environmental and social management system (ESMS); and (ix) Approve by senior management the consolidated blueprint for E&S management and to communicate the blueprint within the organization and to its executing entities
APL012	<p><u>Conditions prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (x) Adopt, through its audit committee, the audit charter as its frame of reference; (xi) Submit its internal audit plan for the next financial year, 2016; (xii) Establish a “know-your-customer” procedure as part of its anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing procedure; and (xiii) Adopt a gender policy consistent with the Fund’s gender policy to be applied in projects and programmes funded by the Fund <p><u>Conditions to be met on an annual basis for the three consecutive years, starting with the financial year 2016:</u></p> <p>Submit internal audit reports annually for three consecutive financial years, starting with the financial year 2016.</p>
APL013	<p><u>Conditions prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (xiv) Develop a gender policy consistent with the Fund’s gender policy to be applied in projects and programmes funded by the Fund <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <p>It is recommended that the applicant complement its investigations function with a mechanism, such as a link on its website, in order to receive and process third-party complaints that arise from projects financed by the applicant;</p> <p>Having incorporated the fundamental elements of a well-managed ESMS and policy in its business operations, it is recommended that the applicant seek external assistance so as to further develop its E&S policy and its application as appropriate for the type of activities for which it will seek finance from the Fund</p>
APL014	<p><u>Conditions prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (xv) Provide the Fund, through the Secretariat, with a letter of comfort executed by the appropriate authority within the applicant entity stating that it is taking the necessary actions to strengthen its internal controls related to compliance with relevant regulations, including, but not limited to, risk management, management of operational risk and anti-money laundering and countering the financing terrorism; and (xvi) Develop a gender policy consistent with the Fund’s gender policy to be applied in projects and programmes funded by the Fund <p><u>Other conditions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (xvii) Provide the Fund, through the Secretariat, with its annual reports that disclose information on regulatory compliance



Applicant number	Conditions and recommendations related to the accreditation type recommended by the Accreditation Panel
APL015	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> The AP recommends that the applicant finalize the implementation of its stakeholder response mechanism and make the contact information for submitting and registering a complaint publically available on its website</p> <p><u>Requests:</u> The applicant is currently developing a new ESS procedural framework for the period following 2016 and is requested to submit it to the Fund when it is ready</p>
APL016	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended that the applicant seek to deepen its knowledge and application of the Fund's interim ESS in order to support a potential future upgrade of its accreditation to the medium E&S risk level Category B/I-2</p>
APL017	None
APL018	None
APL019	<p><u>Conditions prior to the first disbursement by the Fund for an approved project/programme to be undertaken by the applicant:</u></p> <p>(xviii) Adopt specific policies and procedures to address performance standard 4 of the Fund's ESS in order to undertake a project/programme that bears risks contained in performance standard 4</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u> The AP recommends the applicant to finalize the implementation of its stakeholder response mechanism and to make the contact information for submitting and registering a complaint publically available on its website</p>
APL020	<p><u>Requests:</u> The applicant is currently undertaking a review and possible revision of its own ESS and is requested to keep the Fund informed of developments in this respect</p>

Annex XXIII: Proposed risk dashboard and related categories and subcategories of risk

1. Table 1 summarizes the definition of the eight risk categories and 28 subcategories to be monitored.

Table 1: Risk categories and subcategories to be tracked

Category	Subcategory	Source of risk
Strategic	Climate impact & results	Failure to deliver the expected transformative mitigation and adaptation climate impact as defined by the Green Climate Fund's (the Fund's) objectives, investment criteria and the results management framework
	Concentration	Concentration on a limited number or types of AEs or geographies that fail to generate the required balance in mitigation/adaptation; pipeline of projects/programmes
	Portfolio management	Failure to build an optimal portfolio of projects/programmes as defined by the Fund's initial results management framework
	Accountability	Failure of governance to enable and make timely decisions in corporate affairs or to respond to COP guidance
	Country ownership	Failure to develop a portfolio of projects and programmes that is fully aligned with country priorities and strategies; that fosters the involvement of local actors; and that is consistent with the country's debt sustainability framework
Reputational	Business practices	Events or issues that have a material adverse effect on the Fund's credibility in developing countries or with contributors, AEs or civil society
	Unexpected shocks	Adverse publicity that occurs as a result of fraud, implementation failure or other types of shocks related to the Fund's operations
	AE and other party activities	Adverse publicity that occurs as a result of activities of AEs, or of other parties involved in projects/programmes that are not related to the Fund, or from their failure to disclose relevant information
Operational	AE and other party risk	Failure of AEs to comply with the Accreditation Master Agreement, including the information disclosure component. Lack of AE implementation capacity leading to lack of or slow disbursement; Failure of other parties involved in the Fund's projects and programmes to comply with their respective agreements with the Fund
	Fiduciary	Failure of the Fund to effectively exercise its fiduciary duty due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Failure of internal controls in administrative and operational procedures; (b) Failure to effectively monitor risks and take appropriate mitigation measures; (c) Poor management of AEs, executing entities or NDAs; and (d) Internal or external fraud
	Staffing	Operational failures, losses and other disruptions arising from the Fund's staffing model, including staff numbers and external consultants as well as problems with recruitment, retention, succession planning, and integrity and morale among the Fund's staff
	Business disruption	Disruption of business due to catastrophic events or system failures (hardware, software, telecommunications, wars)

Category	Subcategory	Source of risk
Legal	Legislative	Failure by the Fund, AEs or executing entities to implement legislative or regulatory requirements related to the Fund's operations or engagement in situations where governing laws or rules are ambiguous or untested
	Contractual	Use of defective contracts that expose the Fund to disputes and losses
	Non-contractual	The Fund, AEs or executing entities fail(s) to keep to the spirit, as well as the letter, of non-contractual law: for example, infringement of third-party intellectual property rights
Compliance	External	Failure to comply with the standards and codes of conduct that are set by international law and the host countries in which the Fund invests
	Internal	Failure of staff or board members to comply with the standards and codes of conduct that are set by the Fund itself through its policies and procedures
Performance	Temporal	Failure of AEs or executing entities to respect tenors and/or schedules pertaining to financial obligations or the execution of projects/programmes
	Monetary	Failure of AEs and executing entities to honour financial obligations (repayment of principal, interest, fees and/or expected return on equity) in a timely manner. This includes credit risk; counterparty risk; equity risk; and political risk including nationalization, expropriation, convertibility and transferability
	Investment criteria	Failure of AEs or executing entities to adhere to the investment criteria results to which they committed themselves
	Concentration	Failure to sufficiently diversify the portfolio of AEs and/or investments such that a material adverse event related to a restricted number of AEs and/or projects would have a portfolio threatening impact on the Fund
Funding	Conversion	Failure to convert pledges into contributions in a timely manner
	Encashment	Expected payments in cash and promissory payments, or the encashment of promissory notes, do not materialize within the expected time frame
	Reflow	Expected reflows to the Fund from the project portfolio do not materialize within the expected time frame
	Concentration	Failure to sufficiently diversify the portfolio of contributors such that a material adverse event related to one or a few key contributors would give rise to a Fund-threatening liquidity or solvency situation
Market	FX	Foreign exchange risk
	Interest rate	Changes in interest rates such as investment losses in the liquid portfolio managed by the Interim Trustee
	Liquidity	Timing mismatch between the cash inflows and cash outflows leading to a shortage in the ability of the Fund to face its payment obligations

Abbreviations: AE = accredited entity, COP = Conference of the Parties, FX = foreign exchange, H = high, M = medium, L = low.

2. The risk dashboard where the risk categories and subcategories will be monitored is presented in Table 2.



Table 2: Risk dashboard

Risk type	Category	Subcategory	Priority (VH/H/M/L) ^a	Key performance metric	Triggers	Flag	Corrective action plan	
Non-financial risk	Strategic	Climate impact & results	TBD	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target TBD • Limit TBD 		TBD in cases of flags	
		Concentration	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Portfolio management	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Accountability	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Country ownership	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
	Reputational	Business practices	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Unexpected shocks	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		AE and other party activities	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
	Operational	AE and other party risk	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Fiduciary	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Staffing	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Business disruption	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
	Legal	Legislative	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Contractual	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Non-contractual	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
	Compliance	External	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Internal	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
	Financial risk	Performance	Temporal	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD
			Monetary	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD
			Investment criteria	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD
Concentration			TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
Funding		Conversion	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Encashment	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Reflow	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Concentration	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
Market		FX	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
		Interest rate	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD	
	Liquidity	TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD		

Abbreviations: AE = accredited entity, FX = foreign exchange, H = high, M = medium, L = low, TBD = to be determined.

^a. Noting that for financial risks, a quantified scale would need to be developed reflecting expected potential losses.

3. The Secretariat is to further define each subcategory when working on developing the risk registry in consultation with the Risk Management Committee.

Annex XXIV: Risk appetite methodology

1. The proposed risk appetite methodology (RAM) for the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) consists of the following five steps:

I. Agreement on risk categories and subcategories

2. The RAM begins with agreement by the Board on the risk categories and subcategories that will be tracked and modelled. These are provided in Annex XXIII to this document.

II. Agreement on a risk dashboard

3. The risk dashboard consists of regular snapshots of the Board-agreed risk categories and subcategories that will be tracked by the Secretariat, the Risk Management Committee and the Board. The structure of the risk dashboard is provided in Annex XXIII to this document, and consists of the level of priority of each risk subcategory, the key performance metric(s), the triggers (target and limit), the flag and the corrective action plan – if any.

III. Development of scenarios

4. A series of scenarios that pertain to these risk categories will be analysed in consultation with the Risk Management Committee in order to identify the risk targets, tolerances and limits. These scenarios should take into account all the key risks faced by the Fund. Based on the scenarios, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Risk Management Committee, is thereafter to propose to the Board the relevant key performance metric(s) by which to measure tolerance and limit as well as the related target.

5. The Secretariat, in running the risk scenarios, will also assign a priority level (high/medium/low) to risk subcategories, which will be derived from their probability of occurrence and predicted impact on the Fund should they occur.

6. A risk subcategory's probability of occurrence can be categorized as follows:

- (a) High – Highly likely to occur within the next 12 months;
- (b) Somewhat likely – Would not be surprising if it occurred within the next 24 months;
- (c) Somewhat unlikely – Would be surprising if it occurred within the next 24 months; and
- (d) Low – Highly unlikely to occur within the next 24 months.

7. A risk subcategory's impact in the event that it occurs can be categorized as follows:

- (a) High – A material adverse impact that could impede the franchise's ongoing viability and/or its ability to meet its strategic objectives;
- (b) Somewhat disruptive – An adverse impact that would be disruptive to the Fund's viability and/or its ability to meet its strategic objectives;
- (c) Somewhat non-disruptive – A relatively contained adverse impact that could impact the Fund's financials and/or its ability to meet its strategic objectives by up to 10 per cent; and
- (d) Low – Minimal and contained impact.

8. Table 1 below illustrates how different combinations of probability of occurrence and impact in the event of different occurrence yield priorities.

9. For example, a risk subcategory with a high priority of occurrence that would have a high impact in the event of occurrence would be deemed a high priority.

Table 1: Priority grid

Impact Occurrence probability	(1) Low	(2) Somewhat non- disruptive	(3) Somewhat disruptive	(4) High
Low (1)	Low priority	Low priority	Low priority	Medium priority
Somewhat unlikely (2)	Low priority	Low priority	Medium priority	Medium priority
Somewhat likely (3)	Low priority	Medium priority	High priority	High priority
High (4)	Medium priority	Medium priority	High priority	Very high priority

10. Risk subcategories that are deemed to have medium or high priorities and for which the key performance metric has breached the target shall be tagged with a red flag on the dashboard so as to solicit a management action plan and attention by the Board.

IV. Agreement on risk targets, tolerances, and limits and development of a risk appetite statement

11. Based on the risk scenarios already developed, the Secretariat will present a proposed set of risk targets as well as their respective tolerances and limits to the Board for consideration and adoption. Subsequently, the Secretariat will work with the Risk Management Committee on preparing a risk appetite (RA) statement for consideration by the Board. Upon approval of the RA statement – as well the targets, tolerances and limits – credit and investment manuals and software can be developed in order to embed the risk framework into the day-to-day management of the Fund.

V. Risk reporting

12. As a last step, the Secretariat will integrate targets, tolerances and limits into the risk dashboard and risk register based on the risk monitoring and reporting management system adopted by the Board under the initial financial risk management framework (decision B.07/05). This reporting will be the basis for continuous review and updating of the Fund's RA and risk management practices. The Fund would need to conduct risk control and self-assessment, a process of identification, assessment, effective internal control and action plans related to high-risk events, in a timely manner, in order to ensure the robustness of the risk framework. Such periodic reporting from the Secretariat will enable the Board to review the evolution of the risk borne by the Fund and to make any necessary adjustments.

Annex XXV: Draft provisions for privileges and immunities

Article * Purpose

1. To enable the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) to effectively fulfil its purpose and carry out the functions entrusted to it, the status, immunities, exemptions and privileges set forth shall be accorded to the Fund in the territory of [country].

Article * Legal Status

2. The Fund shall possess full juridical personality and, in particular, full capacity to:
- (a) Contract;
 - (b) Acquire, and dispose of, immovable and movable property; and
 - (c) Institute legal proceedings.

Article * Immunity from Judicial Proceedings

3. The Fund shall enjoy immunity from every form of legal process, except in cases arising out of or in connection with the exercise of its powers to borrow money, to guarantee obligations, or to buy and sell or underwrite the sale of securities, in which case, action may be brought against the Fund in a court of competent jurisdiction in the territory of a country in which the Fund has its principal or a branch office, or has appointed an agent for the purpose of accepting service or notice of process, or has issued or guaranteed securities.
4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, no action shall be brought against the Fund by [country], or by any agency or instrumentality of [country], or by any entity or person directly or indirectly acting for or deriving claims from [country] or from any agency or instrumentality of [country]. Any dispute regarding the application or interpretation of this agreement will be resolved through mutual consultation.
5. Property and assets of the Fund, shall, wheresoever located and by whomsoever held, be immune from all forms of seizure, attachment or execution before the delivery of final judgement against the Fund.

Article ** Immunity of Assets

6. Property and assets of the Fund, wheresoever located and by whomsoever held, shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation or any other form of taking or foreclosure by executive or legislative action.

Article ** Immunity of Archives

7. The archives of the Fund, and, in general, all documents and data, in whatever format, including electronic format, belonging to it, or held by it, shall be inviolable, wherever located.

Article ** Freedom of Assets from Restrictions

8. To the extent necessary to carry out the purpose and functions of the Fund effectively, and subject to the provisions of this Agreement and the laws and regulations of [country], all property and assets of the Fund shall be free from restrictions, regulations, controls and moratoria of any nature.

9. Subject to the laws and regulations of [country], the Fund may without being restricted by financial controls, regulations or moratoria of any kind:

- (a) Hold funds, gold or currency of any kind and operate accounts in any currency; and
- (b) Shall be free to transfer its funds, gold or currency from one country to another, or within any country, and convert any convertible currency held by it into any other convertible currency.

10. In exercising its rights under paragraph 1 of this Article, the Fund shall pay due regard to any representations made by the Government insofar as it is considered that effect can be given to such representations without detriment to the interests of the Fund.

Article ** Privileges for Communications

11. Official communications of the Fund shall be accorded treatment no less favourable than that accorded to the official communications of international organizations present in [country].

Article ** Immunities and Privileges of Fund Officials

12. All Board members, alternates, their advisers, officers and employees of the Fund, including experts performing missions for the Fund:

- (a) Shall be immune from legal processes with respect to acts performed by them in their official capacity, except when the Fund waives the immunity;
- (b) Where they are not local citizens or nationals, shall be accorded the same treatment with respect to immigration requirements, alien registration requirements and national service obligations, and the same facilities as regards exchange regulations, as are accorded by members to the representatives, officials and employees of comparable rank of other international organizations; and
- (c) Shall be granted the same treatment in respect of travelling facilities as is accorded by [country] to representatives, officials and employees of comparable rank of other international organizations.

13. For the purposes of Article **, **, and **, “experts performing missions for the Fund” includes an expert or consultant providing services under contractual arrangement with the Fund, including its monitoring and accountability units and members of Board committees, panels, and working groups.

Article ** Facilitation of Travel

14. [Country] shall facilitate transit of movement, including through the expedited processing of applications of visas, where required, and where the laws and regulations of [country] allow, for Board members, alternates, their advisers, officers, and employees of the Fund, including experts performing missions for the Fund.

Article ** Exemption from Taxation

15. The Fund, its assets, property, income and its operations and transactions shall be exempt from all taxation and from all customs duties. The Fund shall also be exempt from any obligation for the payment, withholding or collection of any tax or duty.

16. No tax shall be levied on or in respect of salaries or emoluments paid by the Fund to Board members, alternates, their advisers, officers or employees of the Fund, including experts performing missions for the Fund, except for the salaries and emoluments paid by the Fund to citizens or nationals of [country].

17. [Country] shall not levy any tax on any obligation or security issued by the Fund, including any dividend or interest thereon, by whomsoever held:

- (a) If it discriminates against such obligation or security solely because it is issued by the Fund; or
- (b) If the sole jurisdictional basis for such taxation is the place or currency in which it is issued, made payable or paid, or the location of any office or place of business maintained by the Fund.

18. No tax of any kind shall be levied on any obligation or security guaranteed by the Fund, including any dividend or interest thereon, by whomsoever held:

- (a) Which discriminates against such obligation or security solely because it is guaranteed by the Fund; or
- (b) If the sole jurisdictional basis for such taxation is the location of any office or place of business maintained by the Fund.

Article ** Waiver of Immunities, Exemptions and Privileges

19. The Fund, at its discretion, may waive any of the privileges, immunities and exemptions conferred under this Chapter in any case or instance, in such manner and upon such conditions as it may determine to be appropriate in the best interests of the Fund, taking into account that privileges and immunities are accorded to Board members, alternates, their advisers, officers and employees of the Fund, including experts performing missions the Fund, not for their personal benefit, but in the interest of the effective functioning of the Fund. Consequently, the Fund not only has the right but is under a duty to waive the immunity of Board members, alternates, their advisers, officers and employees of the Fund, including experts performing missions for the Fund, in any case where, in the opinion of the Fund, as the case may be, the immunity would impede the course of justice, and where it can be waived, without prejudice to the purpose for which the immunity is accorded or to the interests of the Fund, as the case may be.

Annex XXVI: Policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for external members of the Green Climate Fund panels and groups

I. Scope, purpose and applicability

1. This policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for external members of panels and groups sets out principles and ethical standards for the external members serving on panels and groups established by the Board of the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) in connection with, or having a bearing upon, their status and responsibilities in the Fund. As these members shall assist the Board in conducting its business and in performing its functions, their professional and personal conduct must comply with the ethical standards and procedures set out herein.
2. The Policy is in furtherance of the general principle set out in the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund that the Fund shall operate in a transparent and accountable manner guided by efficiency and effectiveness.

II. Definitions

3. For the purposes of the Policy, the following terms shall have the meaning set out below:
 - (a) **Associated Institution** means:
 - (i) Any entity, agency, organization, corporation, administration or similar institution in which a Covered Individual is serving as an officer, director, Stakeholder, trustee, partner or employee or for which the Covered Individual is working as consultant, that receives or may receive directly or indirectly, funding from the Fund or with which the Fund has, either directly or through an intermediary, an agreement, contract, grant, understanding, arrangement or relationship; or
 - (ii) Any entity, agency, organization, corporation, administration or similar institution with which a Covered Individual is applying for, or negotiating to have, an arrangement concerning employment or consultancy;
 - (b) **Board** means the Board of the Fund;
 - (c) **Covered Individual** means the external members of technical and expert panels and groups referred to in paragraph 18 (g) of the Governing Instrument and paragraph 32 of the Rules of Procedure of the Board;
 - (d) **Ethics and Audit Committee** means the committee of the Board established by decision B.05/13, paragraph (e);
 - (e) **Executive Director** means the executive director of the Fund as referred to in paragraph 20 of the Governing Instrument;
 - (f) **External Member** means an expert procured, selected and contracted by the Secretariat on behalf of the Fund and serving as an external member on a panel or group established by the Board;
 - (g) **Fund** means the Green Climate Fund;
 - (h) **Gift** means any gratuity, favour, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, honorarium or other item having monetary value. These include services as well as gifts of training, transportation, local travel, lodgings and meals, whether provided in-kind, by purchase of a ticket, payment in advance or reimbursement after the expense has been incurred;
 - (i) **Governing Instrument** means the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund;

- (j) **Immediate Family Members** means a Covered Individual's spouse, partner under domestic legislation, child, mother, father, brother or sister and persons primarily dependent on such an individual for financial support;
- (k) **Independent Integrity Unit** means the independent integrity unit referred to in paragraph 68 of the Governing Instrument;
- (l) **Panel or Group** means panels and groups established by the Board of the Green Climate Fund;
- (m) **Policy** means this policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for external members on panels and groups;
- (n) **Prohibited Practices** means any of the following practices:
 - (i) A "corrupt practice" is the offering, giving, receiving or soliciting, directly or indirectly, anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another entity and/or individual;
 - (ii) A "fraudulent practice" is any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, an entity and/or individual to obtain a financial or other benefit, or to avoid an obligation;
 - (iii) A "coercive practice" is impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any entity and/or individual improperly or the property of that entity and/or individual to influence improperly the actions of an entity and/or individual;
 - (iv) A "collusive practice" is an arrangement between two or more entities and/or individuals designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to improperly influence the actions of another entity and/or individual;
 - (v) An "obstructive practice" includes deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing evidence in an investigation; making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede an investigation; threatening, harassing or intimidating any entity and/or individual to prevent it or he/she from disclosing its or his/her knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation; or materially impeding the Fund's rights of audit or access to information; and
 - (vi) "Harassment" means unwelcome verbal or physical behaviour that unreasonably interferes with work or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment;
- (o) **Secretary to the Board** means the member of the Staff serving as Secretary to the Board;
- (p) **Staff** means all staff of the Secretariat of the Fund, including the Executive Director, as described in paragraph 21 of the Governing Instrument; and
- (q) **Stakeholder** means a person having a proprietary or economic interest in an entity.

III. Basic standard of conduct

4. Covered Individuals shall carry out their responsibilities as prescribed in the Governing Instrument, their respective agreements with the Fund and the Terms of Reference of the relevant Panel and Group, and comply with all applicable current and future policies of the Fund, to the best of their ability and judgement and shall maintain the highest standards of integrity and ethics in their personal and professional conduct, and observe principles of good governance.

5. In order to reflect the importance of the Policy and the obligations contained in it, Covered Individuals shall, upon their appointment read and sign the Declaration of Office, a template of which is contained in Appendix I herein, to be deposited with the Secretary to the Board.
6. Covered Individuals shall observe the laws of each jurisdiction in which they are present pursuant to their official duties and responsibilities, associated with the Fund, so as not to be perceived as abusing the privileges and immunities conferred upon the Fund and upon them. This provision does not abrogate or waive any privileges and immunities which they may enjoy.
7. Covered Individuals shall, in their interactions with others at the Fund, act with tolerance, sensitivity and respect for cultural differences. Any form of discrimination based on any ground such as gender, race, colour, national, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be against the Policy.
8. Covered Individuals, shall abide by the following standards of conduct:
 - (a) Covered Individuals must not act in any manner that will undermine public confidence and trust in the Fund. In particular, Covered Individuals will refrain from engaging in Prohibited Practices;
 - (b) Covered Individuals must not encourage anyone to take any actions listed under paragraph 8 (a) above; and
 - (c) Covered Individuals must disassociate from, and report to the Independent Integrity Unit, any suspected misconduct by other Covered Individuals or other individuals associated with the Fund, including those actions listed under paragraph 8 (a) above when it comes to their attention, in accordance with the procedure set out in Chapter IV below, and to refrain from retaliation against an individual who provides information in good faith about suspected misconduct.

IV. Non-compliance with the Policy

9. Alleged breaches of a provision of the Policy by a Covered Individual or their Immediate Family Members shall be referred by the Secretariat, or by any individual or entity, to the Independent Integrity Unit pursuant to the procedure set out in Appendix II to the Policy.
10. The Independent Integrity Unit shall, upon formally establishing the breach of a provision of the Policy, after due enquiry, notify the Executive Director and the Ethics and Audit Committee of its findings with a recommendation on action to be taken against the Covered Individual. If, at any time during the investigation, the Independent Integrity Unit considers that it would be prudent, as a precautionary measure or to safeguard information, to recommend placement of limits on the official activities of the Covered Individual or to recommend that he or she be suspended from duty, the Independent Integrity Unit shall refer the matter to the Executive Director for appropriate action.
11. The Executive Director may, in consultation with the Ethics and Audit Committee, where upon it being formally established after due enquiry by the Independent Integrity Unit that there has been a breach of a provision of this Policy, take the following action against a Covered Individual:
 - (a) Termination of the appointment of such Covered Individual; and/or
 - (b) Instruction that the Covered Individual in question shall be ineligible for any future appointment or to serve in any capacity with the Fund indefinitely or for a limited period of time.

12. The Independent Integrity Unit shall inform the Board of its findings in the event that it establishes a breach. The Independent Integrity Unit shall also, after consultation with the Executive Director, inform the Board whether such findings reveal that the breach in question tangibly affected the operations of the Fund, thus requiring remedial action.

13. The procedures for handling allegations of a breach of the Policy may be amended by the Board, upon the recommendation of the Ethics and Audit Committee.

V. Conflicts of interest

14. A conflict of interest arises when a Covered Individual has interests that could, or could reasonably be perceived to, improperly influence the activities of the Fund and the policy decisions of the Board, as well as the Covered Individual's performance of official duties or responsibilities, contractual obligations or compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

15. In general, and without limitation, conflicts of interest may be deemed to exist in the following situations:

(a) Where a Covered Individual's interests, or the interests of an Immediate Family Member or Associated Institution could affect the conduct of his or her duties and responsibilities with respect to the Fund or result in a reasonable perception that a conflict of interest exists;

(b) Where Covered Individual's actions create the perception that s/he is using his or her position at the Fund for the benefit of an Immediate Family Member or an Associated Institution; and

(c) Where Covered Individuals hold positions in government or non-governmental organizations which engage with the Fund, or who are working in, or have a contractual arrangement, as consultants or otherwise, with an Associated Institution, accredited entity or entity seeking or receiving funding from the Fund.

16. If an appearance of a conflict of interest arises, or if there is doubt whether a conflict, actual, apparent or perceived, exists, the Covered Individual concerned shall promptly refer the matter in writing to the head of the Independent Integrity Unit for guidance.

17. In order to avoid conflicts of interest, Covered Individuals shall submit to the Independent Integrity Unit a list of their functions and roles outside the Fund and any financial or business interests which may reflect unfavourably upon the Fund or which may be in actual or perceived conflict with her/his duties, and shall update such list if and when required to reflect amendments.

18. All Covered Individuals shall disclose existing and potential conflicts of interest upon consideration for appointment to any Panel or Group and before every relevant Panel or Group meeting.

19. During the course of a Panel or Group meeting, a Covered Individual with an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest shall disclose the conflict to the chair of the meeting as soon as possible upon learning of a possible conflict of interest and under no circumstances later than the beginning of discussion of the relevant agenda item, and recuse her/himself from participating in the proceedings of that item.

VI. Procedure when a conflict of interest arises

20. All actual or potential conflicts of interest or the reasonable appearance thereof shall be immediately disclosed in writing to the Independent Integrity Unit. In addition, others such as

the Secretariat may bring an actual or potential conflict of interest of a Covered Individual to the attention of the Independent Integrity Unit.

21. The Independent Integrity Unit shall promptly review these disclosures or any alleged conflicts of interest communicated to it and determine whether an actual or potential conflict of interest exists and, if so, whether to issue a waiver defining the extent to which the Covered Individual may participate in any discussion of the issue that has given rise to the conflict. The Independent Integrity Unit may also, at its discretion, bring any conflicts of interest issues to the entire Board for further consideration and decision.

22. When it is determined by the Independent Integrity Unit that an actual or potential conflict of interest exists, the Covered Individual shall not participate in the matter that has given rise to the conflict absent a waiver from the Independent Integrity Unit.

23. If the determination affects a Covered Individual, such Covered Individual may appeal the decision to the Board.

VII. Future employment

24. When seeking, negotiating for, or entering into an arrangement concerning, prospective employment outside the Fund for themselves or for Immediate Family Members, Covered Individuals shall not allow such circumstances to influence the performance of their duties nor may they have any involvement with respect to a Fund decision in which a prospective employer has or may have an interest.

25. A Covered Individual shall not apply for or accept any employment, including as a consultant, with an entity applying, or reasonably likely to apply, for accreditation with the Fund, unless disclosed to, and approved by the Independent Integrity Unit. The Independent Integrity Unit will assess whether an actual or potential conflict of interest exists in these circumstances and, if so, the remedy to address such conflict.

26. Employment by the Secretariat: Any Covered Individual and Immediate Family Member shall not be eligible for employment by the Fund, including as a consultant, until one and a half years following the last date of service of the Covered Individual in the relevant position. The Independent Integrity Unit may waive this provision only in exceptional circumstances. A request for such a waiver must be submitted by the individual concerned to the Independent Integrity Unit before s/he applies for employment by the Fund. A decision by the Independent Integrity Unit granting such a waiver shall state the circumstances justifying the decision. The Fund shall not take action on or accept an application for employment from such an individual unless a waiver has been granted by the Independent Integrity Unit.

VIII. Transparency and disclosure of information

27. Covered Individuals explicitly acknowledge that they may have access to information regarding the Fund and its operations that is deemed confidential according to the Fund's information disclosure policies and agree that at all times they shall respect the confidentiality of such information and shall not use such information for the purpose of furthering their personal interest or the personal interest of any other person or entity for whom or which such information is not intended. They shall comply with the information disclosure policies of the Fund. The provisions of this paragraph shall continue to apply to Covered Individuals after their service as a Covered Individual has ended.

28. Covered Individuals shall consult the Independent Integrity Unit if they have doubts as to whether certain information is deemed confidential. The determination of the Independent Integrity Unit is final.

29. If a Covered Individual believes that confidential information may have been improperly disclosed, s/he shall promptly inform the Independent Integrity Unit and the Executive Director.¹

30. Covered Individuals may not:

- (a) Communicate any unpublished and/or confidential information known to them by reason of their official position to any person within or outside the Fund who they know or should know is not authorized by the Fund to receive such information; or
- (b) Use, or allow the use of, unpublished and/or confidential information known to them by reason of their official position with the Fund to private advantage, directly or indirectly, or for any interest contrary to the interests of the Fund.

In complying with the above obligations, which continue after separation from the Fund, Covered Individuals must scrupulously observe the rules and procedures established by the Fund to protect unpublished and/or confidential information; and

(c) Publications and Public Speaking

Covered Individuals during the term of their appointment or service may not:

- (i) Publish, cause to be published, or assist in the publication of any book, pamphlet, article, letter or other document relating to the policies or activities of the Fund or on any national political questions;
- (ii) Deliver any speech or presentation, broadcast through radio, television or other electronic media, or hold press conferences or grant press interviews on such policies, activities or questions; or
- (iii) Speak on behalf of the Fund or state its policies as a participant in any seminar or conference.

IX. Gifts and entertainment

31. All Covered Individuals and their Immediate Family Members are prohibited from accepting Gifts under circumstances where it could reasonably be construed that the Gift is motivated by the position of the Covered Individual in relation to the Fund and interests that could be substantially affected by the Fund.

32. All Covered Individuals and their Immediate Family Members are prohibited from giving Gifts where it could reasonably be construed that the Gift is intended to affect the policies or practices of the Fund or any of the programmes it funds.

33. A Covered Individual may accept unsolicited Gifts on behalf of the Fund when refusal to do so would embarrass the Gift provider or the Fund or otherwise not be in the interest of the Fund, such as when a refusal to accept would be considered impolite. Except when impractical (such as in the case of meals), Gifts accepted on behalf of the Fund will be turned over to the Secretariat and handled under applicable current and future Fund procedures and guidelines for dealing with Gifts.

X. Previous involvement in decision-making processes

34. Except where expressly authorized by the Independent Integrity Unit, Covered Individuals must not be involved in any decision-making process to determine the selection of

¹ The Executive Director is to be informed promptly in order to manage any potential liability towards third parties to whom the Fund has confidentiality obligations, for example under a non-disclosure agreement.

any entity if they are or were previously employed or otherwise associated with such entity, which is:

- (a) A supplier of goods and/or services to the Fund;
- (b) A recipient or beneficiary of Fund financing; or
- (c) A guarantor of any such financing.

XI. Review and amendment

35. The Board, on the recommendation of the Ethics and Audit Committee, shall keep this Policy under regular review and amend the Policy, as necessary, to ensure that the highest ethical standards are applied to the Covered Individuals.

XII. Effective date

36. The Policy shall come into effect upon adoption by the Board, and shall remain in effect until amended or superseded by the Board.

37. Covered Individuals already in office at the time the Policy comes into effect shall submit the signed Declaration of Office promptly upon the effective date of the Policy in accordance with paragraph 5 above.

38. Amendments to the Policy and any amendments thereto, shall come into effect in accordance with paragraph 35 above.

Appendix I: Declaration of Office of External Members of _____ [Panel/Group] of the Green Climate Fund

1. I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and responsibilities as a member of _____ [Panel/Group] of the Green Climate Fund honourably, faithfully, and conscientiously.
2. I solemnly declare and promise that I shall have no personal interest in any matter I am involved with in performing my duties on the _____ [Panel/Group] of the Green Climate Fund.
3. I solemnly declare that I accept and will be bound by the policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for external members of Green Climate Fund Panels and Groups.
4. I explicitly acknowledge that I may have access to information regarding the Fund and its operations that is deemed confidential according to the Fund's information disclosure policies and agree that at all times I shall respect the confidentiality of such information and shall not use such information for the purpose of furthering my personal interest or the personal interest of any other person or entity for whom or which such information is not intended. I shall comply with the information disclosure policies of the Fund. The provisions of this paragraph shall continue to apply after my service as a member of the Panel/Group has ended.
5. I shall disclose to the Independent Integrity Unit any interest in any matter under consideration by the Panel/Group which may constitute a conflict or potential conflict of interest or which might be incompatible with the requirements of integrity and transparency in my functions as a member of the Panel/Group and I shall refrain from participating in the work of the Panel/Group in relation to such a matter, unless a waiver has been granted by the Independent Integrity Unit.

Full Name

Signature

Date

Appendix II: Procedures for Handling Allegations of Misconduct

1. Charges of misconduct and/or breaches of the policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for external members of panels and groups, made by any individual or entity against a Covered Individual or their Immediate Family Members, shall be submitted in writing and in confidence to the Head of the Independent Integrity Unit.
2. The Covered Individual concerned shall not be presumed to have engaged in the alleged misconduct until such time as the Independent Integrity Unit decides that there is sufficient evidence to establish, on a balance of probabilities that the alleged misconduct did occur.
3. As soon as is practicable, the Independent Integrity Unit shall review the allegations and determine whether they are credible and whether they are appropriate for taking action by the Independent Integrity Unit. If the allegations do not appear credible, the Independent Integrity Unit may decide to take no further action. If the allegations appear credible and appropriate for taking action by the Independent Integrity Unit, it shall take such action promptly.
4. As soon as is practicable, based on the findings of the investigation, the Independent Integrity Unit shall make a recommendation to the Executive Director and the Ethics and Audit Committee whether the facts indicate that the misconduct occurred, and if so, what measures may be appropriately imposed. The Executive Director shall take a final decision, in consultation with the Ethics and Audit Committee, based on the findings and recommendations of the Independent Integrity Unit.
5. The Executive Director may, after consultation with the Ethics and Audit Committee, where upon it being formally established after due enquiry by the Independent Integrity Unit that there has been a breach of a provision of this policy, take the following action against the Covered Individual in question:
 - (a) Termination of the appointment of such Covered Individual; and/or
 - (b) Instruction that the Covered Individual in question shall be ineligible for any future appointment or to serve in any capacity with the Fund indefinitely or for a limited period of time; and
 - (c) In addition, the Executive Director shall inform the Board of the findings of the Independent Integrity Unit and the action taken against the Covered Individual.
6. Each Covered Individual, if alleged to have committed misconduct, shall be provided with timely notice of the allegations, all relevant documentation and the opportunity to present his or her views regarding the allegations to the Independent Integrity Unit before it makes its determination, and to the Executive Director, before s/he takes any decisions, as set out in these procedures:
 - (a) Whether to conduct an investigation; or
 - (b) Whether the facts indicate that the misconduct occurred, and if so, what measures may be appropriately imposed.
7. In exceptional cases, the Independent Integrity Unit may permit the individual who is alleged to have committed misconduct to be accompanied by an advisor of her/his choice.
8. If a charge of misconduct under this Policy is made against a Covered Individual, the following interim measures may be taken by the Executive Director, after consultation with the Ethics and Audit Committee, pending investigation of the charges against the Covered Individual:
 - (a) Limit/Denial of access. The Covered Individual's access to the Fund or Fund premises (including files, electronic databases and e-mail facilities) may be limited or denied; and/or

- (b) Temporary removal from Panel/Group. The Covered Individual may be asked to abstain from work on the Panel/Group, either with or without remuneration.
9. Any Staff member who makes frivolous or knowingly false allegations against a Covered Individual shall be subject to disciplinary procedures in accordance with the Fund's HR Guidelines. Frivolous or knowingly false allegations made by a Covered Individual shall be considered a violation of the Policy and will be subject to the procedures of this Policy.

Annex XXVII: Policy on Ethics and Conflicts of Interest for the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund Secretariat

I. Scope, purpose and applicability

1. This policy on ethics and conflicts of interest sets forth principles and ethical standards for the Executive Director in connection with, or having a bearing upon her/his status and the discharge of her/his responsibilities as the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund Secretariat. As the Executive Director is entrusted with responsibilities as prescribed in the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund and relevant decisions and policies of the Green Climate Fund (the Fund), her/his personal and professional conduct must comply with the standards and procedures set forth herein.
2. The Policy is in furtherance of the general principles set out in the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund that the Fund shall operate in a transparent and accountable manner guided by efficiency and effectiveness.
3. Should the Executive Director have any doubt as regards her/his proper course of action in any matter related to this Policy, s/he shall seek the advice and guidance of the Ethics and Audit Committee.

II. Definitions

4. For the purposes of this Policy, the following terms shall have the meaning set out below:
 - (a) **Administrative Tribunal** means the tribunal to be established by the Fund to deal with disputes between staff and the Fund referred to in the Administrative Guidelines on Human Resources;
 - (b) **Board** means the Board of the Fund;
 - (c) **Ethics and Audit Committee** means the committee of the Board established by decision B.05/13 paragraph (e);
 - (d) **Executive Director** means the Executive Director heading the Secretariat and appointed by and accountable to the Board pursuant to paragraph 20 of the Governing Instrument;
 - (e) **Fund** means the Green Climate Fund;
 - (f) **Gift** means any gratuity, favour, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, honorarium or other item having monetary value. These include services as well as gifts of training, transportation, local travel, lodgings and meals, whether provided in-kind, by purchase of a ticket, payment in advance, or reimbursement after the expense has been incurred;
 - (g) **Governing Instrument** means the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund;
 - (h) **Harassment** means unwelcome verbal or physical behaviour that unreasonably interferes with work or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment;
 - (i) **Headquarters Agreement** means the Agreement between the Republic of Korea and the Green Climate Fund concerning the Headquarters of the Green Climate Fund;
 - (j) **Immediate Family Members** means the Executive Director's spouse, partner under domestic legislation, child, mother, father, brother or sister and persons primarily dependent on such an individual for financial support;

- (k) **Independent Integrity Unit** means the independent integrity unit referred to in paragraph 68 of the Governing Instrument;
- (l) **Policy** means this policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund;
- (m) **Secretary to the Board** means the staff member of the Secretariat of the Fund serving as Secretary to the Board; and
- (n) **Secretariat** means the Secretariat of the Green Climate Fund referred to in Section E of the Governing Instrument.

III. Basic standard of conduct

5. The Executive Director shall carry out her/his responsibilities as prescribed in the terms of reference for her/his post, her/his contract with the Fund and relevant decisions and policies of the Fund, to the best of her/his ability and judgment, and shall maintain the highest standards of integrity in her/his personal and professional conduct and observe principles of good governance. In view of the high office that the Executive Director holds, s/he shall at all times conduct her/himself in keeping with the dignity of that office. The terms of her/his employment contract with the Fund shall be consistent with this policy.

6. The Executive Director shall not interfere in the political affairs of any State. In the discharge of her/his office, the Executive Director shall not seek or receive instructions from any government or authority otherwise than in conformity with the Governing Instrument.

7. In the discharge of her/his office the Executive Director owes a duty entirely to the Fund and no other authority. In implementing decisions of the Fund, the Executive Director will only take into account considerations relevant to the Fund's purpose, functions and operations. Her/his considerations shall be taken impartially in order to achieve and carry out the purpose and functions of the Fund as set out in the Governing Instrument and/or determined by the Board.

8. In the performance of her/his functions the Executive Director shall act with tolerance, sensitivity and respect for cultural differences and must show respect for varied cultures, beliefs and backgrounds. S/he must avoid behaviour that constitutes Harassment or bullying or that can be perceived by others as Harassment or bullying.

9. The privileges, immunities, exemptions and facilities which the Executive Director enjoys under the Headquarters Agreement and any other agreement entered into between the Fund and governments of other countries are granted in the interest of the Fund and not for the personal benefit of the individual. Therefore, these privileges, immunities, exemptions and facilities offer no excuse for non-performance of private obligations or failure to observe laws and police regulations. The Executive Director is expected to satisfy in good faith her/his obligations as resident of the host country of the Fund, including all applicable personal obligations outside the Fund, the non-fulfilment of which could reflect unfavourably upon her/his position as the Executive Director or could affect the efficient performance of her/his duties.

IV. Local laws

10. The Executive Director shall observe the laws of each jurisdiction in which s/he is present pursuant to her/his duties so as not to be perceived as abusing the privileges and immunities conferred upon the Fund and upon her/him. This does not abrogate or waive any of the privileges or immunities which s/he enjoys.

V. Conflict of interest

11. Conflict of Interest. A conflict of interest arises when the personal interests of the Executive Director interfere in any way with her/his public duty or with the interests of the Fund. A conflict of interest may arise when the Executive Director takes actions or has interests that make it difficult to perform her/his work objectively and effectively, or when the Executive Director takes actions that intentionally result in improper benefits for her/himself, Immediate Family Members or other persons or entities. An actual conflict of interest involves a conflict between the official duties of the Executive Director and her/his personal interests that could improperly influence the performance of those official duties. An apparent conflict of interest arises when it could reasonably be perceived that the Executive Director's personal interests could improperly influence the performance of her/his official duties even if this is not in fact the case.

12. In performing her/his duties, the Executive Director shall carry out her/his responsibilities to the exclusion of any personal advantage.

13. The Executive Director shall endeavour to avoid any situation involving an actual conflict, or the appearance of a conflict, between her/his personal interests and the performance of her/his official duties. If an actual conflict arises, the Executive Director shall promptly refer the matter in writing to the Chair of the Ethics and Audit Committee and shall withdraw from attendance or participation in deliberations or decision-making connected with that matter pending guidance from the Ethics and Audit Committee. If an appearance of conflict arises, or if there is doubt whether a conflict, actual or apparent, exists, the Executive Director shall promptly refer the matter in writing to the Chair of the Ethics and Audit Committee for guidance.

VI. Personal financial affairs

14. Except within the limits specified in this Section VI, during her/his employment with the Fund the Executive Director or her/his Immediate Family Members shall avoid having any financial interest in transactions of the Fund or in projects or enterprises involving the Fund. The Executive Director shall not use any information not generally available to the public to further her/his private interests or those of any other person or entity.

15. In particular, the Executive Director or Immediate Family Members must refrain from:

- (a) Short-term trading in securities issued by the Fund;
- (b) Making investments in securities of an entity known by her/him to be an actual or prospective recipient of the Fund's financing, investment or guarantee; or
- (c) Making investments in securities of any company or other entity upon whose board of directors or trustees the Executive Director serves or served as part of her/his duties for the Fund, except with respect to qualifying shares required by law or by the articles of such company or other entity.

16. If the Executive Director or an Immediate Family Member has or comes into possession of any securities referred to in paragraph 15 above, the Executive Director must make immediate arrangements for their prompt divestiture.

17. However; the foregoing shall not include the management of any private investments of the Executive Director provided that such investments do not constitute substantial control in the enterprise or enterprises concerned and that the Executive Director conduct her/his private business affairs in such a manner as to avoid a conflict of interest between her/him and the interest of the Fund.

18. The Executive Director shall seek guidance of the Ethics and Audit Committee prior to undertaking financial transactions that may be restricted by this Chapter VI or provisions of this Policy.

VII. Disclosure of financial and business interests

19. The Executive Director shall promptly disclose to the Ethics and Audit Committee any financial or business interest that s/he or an Immediate Family Member has, which might reflect unfavourably on the Fund or which might be in actual or perceived conflict with her/his duties. Upon such disclosure, the Executive Director shall refrain from taking any action as Executive Director that might affect such interest, except as otherwise directed by the Board.

20. The Executive Director must file annually until separation from the Fund, a financial interest disclosure form in a form and manner to be proposed by the Chief Financial Officer and approved by the Ethics and Audit Committee. In the event that a financial disclosure reveals a conflict of interest, the Ethics and Audit Committee will provide advice on how to obviate or mitigate the conflict.

VIII. Outside activities and other employment

21. The Executive Director shall devote her/himself to the activities of the Fund on a full-time basis and dissociate from any other public or private position that s/he may hold upon joining the Secretariat. The Executive Director shall not, without the prior written approval of the Board, accept any position or obligation or have any interest directly or indirectly in any activity which may interfere with the discharge of her/his duties as the Executive Director.

22. Previous Association: The Executive Director shall not be personally involved in a Fund transaction involving a former employer other than a government or international organization, as:

- (a) A recipient or beneficiary of the Fund's financing, investments or guarantees;
- (b) A guarantor of any such financing; or
- (c) A supplier of goods or services to the Fund, except as authorized by the Board.

23. Prospective employment: When seeking, negotiating for, or entering into an arrangement concerning, prospective employment outside the Fund for her/himself or for Immediate Family Members, the Executive Director shall not allow such circumstances to influence the performance of her/his duties and must not exercise any responsibility with respect to a Fund transaction in which a prospective employer has or may have an interest.

24. Subsequent Employment: The Executive Director may not, within one and a half years after her/his separation from the Fund, seek, apply or take up appointment as a Fund staff member, engagement as a Fund consultant, or any other work remunerated by the Fund. The Board may waive this provision upon recommendation from the Ethics and Audit Committee. A request for such a waiver must be submitted to the Ethics and Audit Committee before s/he applies for employment by the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall not take action on or accept an application for employment from such previous Executive Director unless a waiver has been granted by the Board.

IX. Disclosure of information

25. The Executive Director shall at all times observe the applicable policies of the Fund regarding disclosure of information.

26. The Executive Director shall protect the security of any information s/he obtained in the performance of her/his duties that is not otherwise available to the public and, except as required to perform her/his duties the Executive Director, shall not use such information or disclose it to others who s/he knows or should know are not authorized by the Fund to receive such information. The provisions of this paragraph shall continue to apply to the Executive Director after her/his term of service has expired.

27. The Executive Director shall not use, or allow the use of, unpublished and/or confidential information known to her/him by reason of her/his official position with the Fund to private advantage, directly or indirectly, or for any interest contrary to the interests of the Fund.

X. Political and external activities and interests

28. The Executive Director may exercise her/his political rights, but shall refrain from participation in political activities that may interfere or conflict with her/his duties or status as Executive Director. The Executive Director must resign her/his position immediately if s/he becomes a candidate for any national public office of a political character or accepts a nomination for such an office.

XI. Gifts and awards

29. The Executive Director and her/his Immediate Family Members are prohibited from accepting gifts under circumstances where it could reasonably be construed that the gift is motivated by her/his position in relation to the Fund and interests that could be substantially affected by the Fund, except when such gifts are allowable under the provisions referred to in paragraph 31 below.

30. The Executive Director and her/his Immediate Family Members are prohibited from giving gifts where it could reasonably be construed that the gift is intended to affect the policies or practices of the Fund or any of the programmes it funds.

31. The Executive Director may accept unsolicited gifts when refusal to do so would embarrass the gift provider or the Fund or otherwise not be in the interest of the Fund, such as when a refusal to accept would be considered impolite, provided that such gifts over US\$ 100 shall be reported to the Ethics and Audit Committee. Except when impractical (such as in the case of meals), gifts accepted on behalf of the Fund will be turned over to the Secretariat and handled under procedures as defined in Appendix 5 of the Fund's Administrative Guidelines on Procurement.

32. Considering the international character of the position of the Executive Director, s/he may not accept, without authorization by the Board, any honours, decorations or favours from any government, or from any other authority or person external to the Fund in connection with services rendered during her/his term of office with the Fund.

XII. Conduct within the institution

33. The Executive Director shall treat her/his colleagues and staff with courtesy and respect.

34. The Executive Director shall exercise adequate control and supervision over matters for which s/he is individually responsible and the resources for which s/he is entrusted, and shall know and observe the budgetary standards and restrictions prescribed under relevant Fund

policy. The Executive Director shall ensure that property and services of the Fund are used by her/himself and persons in her/his offices only for the official business of the Fund.

XIII. Procedures for handling allegations of misconduct

35. Allegations of misconduct and/or breach of this Policy made by the Independent Integrity Unit, or by another official of the Fund, or by any individual or entity, against the Executive Director or her/his Immediate Family Members, shall be submitted in writing and in confidence to the Chair of the Ethics and Audit Committee who shall bring any such allegation to the attention of the Ethics and Audit Committee for its consideration in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Policy.

36. The Executive Director shall not be presumed to have engaged in the alleged misconduct until such time as the Ethics and Audit Committee determines that there is sufficient evidence to establish, on a balance of probabilities that the alleged misconduct did occur.

37. As soon as is practicable, the Ethics and Audit Committee shall review the allegations and determine whether they are credible and whether they are appropriate for taking action by the Ethics and Audit Committee. The Independent Integrity Unit shall be available to assist the Ethics and Audit Committee with this review, if requested by the Ethics and Audit Committee. If the Ethics and Audit Committee determines the allegations do not appear credible and do not warrant further investigation, it will decide to take no further action.

38. If the Ethics and Audit Committee determines that the allegation of misconduct is credible and warrants a further investigation, it will conduct such investigation and inform the Board, through a confidential document thereof. Based on the findings of the investigation, the Ethics and Audit Committee shall prepare and submit a confidential report to the Board, with a recommendation whether the facts indicate that misconduct occurred, and if so, what action may be appropriately taken by the Board. In conducting an investigation, the Ethics and Audit Committee may rely on the Independent Integrity Unit. The Ethics and Audit Committee may also appoint an outside investigator of high professional standing and experience to assist them in gathering facts and evidence after informing the Board. Any outside investigator appointed by the Ethics and Audit Committee shall comply with the policy on disclosure of information. Any outside investigators shall have access to all pertinent records, documents and officials of the Fund, as it determines necessary to perform its investigations.

39. Based on the findings of the Ethics and Audit Committee and after having heard and duly considering representations from the Executive Director, it is for the Board to decide what action should be taken with respect to her/him. Appropriate measures may include written censure, suspension from duties pending investigation, termination of employment or any other appropriate action by the Board including but not limited to referral to relevant authorities.

40. The Executive Director shall be provided immediately with notice of any allegation of misconduct. The Executive Director shall also be provided with all relevant documentation and the opportunity to present his or her views, regarding the allegations to the Ethics and Audit Committee before it makes its determination, and to the Board, before it takes any decisions, as set out in these procedures:

41. Whether to conduct an investigation; or

42. Whether the facts indicate that misconduct occurred, and if so, what action may be appropriately taken by the Board.

43. The Executive Director, if alleged to have committed misconduct, shall have the duty to cooperate fully with the Board, the Ethics and Audit Committee, and any outside investigators appointed by the Ethics and Audit Committee in all stages of the consideration and investigation of the allegations of misconduct. The Executive Director, if alleged to have committed

misconduct, shall be allowed to be accompanied by up to two advisers of her/his choice from within or outside of the Fund.

44. Upon initiation of an investigation, the Executive Director shall follow such recusal or other measures directly related to the alleged misconduct as the Ethics and Audit Committee may determine, on a temporary basis, as necessary to prevent irreparable harm to the Fund.

45. The Executive Director may submit an appeal to the Board with respect to any action taken by the Ethics and Audit Committee against her/him, which shall be decided promptly, and may seek further consideration by the Administrative Tribunal against any decision taken by the Board against her/him.

46. The process and internal deliberations of the Ethics and Audit Committee and the Board involving allegations of misconduct by the Executive Director shall be kept strictly confidential, unless requested by a competent authority.

XIV. Effective date of application

47. This Policy shall take effect on the date of adoption by the Board.

Annex XXVIII: Fourth Report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

I. Executive summary

1. Over the period December 2014 to May 2015, the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) has made significant progress towards the full implementation of its policies and operational guidelines, and the commencement of its operations. Some key milestones achieved in this period, paving the way for the Board to consider funding proposals for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes at its eleventh meeting, are as follows:

- (a) More than 120 developing countries have nominated their national designated authority (NDA) or focal point to the Fund, half of which are already engaging with the Fund to receive readiness and preparatory support;
- (b) The Fund has accredited its initial seven entities, partners through which the Fund's resources in a variety of financial instruments, including grants, loans, equity and guarantees, will be channelled through to undertake climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes in developing countries. To date, 95 institutions, including subnational, national, regional, private, non-governmental and international organizations, from all over the world have begun the accreditation application process. Of these, 55 institutions have applied for accreditation, including those that have been already accredited. The Board will continue to consider additional applications for accreditation while aiming to achieve a balance of diversity in the Fund's accredited entities;
- (c) The Fund has secured US\$ 10 billion equivalent in pledges from 33 countries so far, and will continue to mobilize resources on an ongoing basis. Parties are invited to contribute further to the Fund; and
- (d) The Fund reached effectiveness in May 2015 and can start allocating resources towards projects and programmes. Twenty-two countries have signed contribution agreements/arrangements, bringing the total of signed contribution agreements to US\$ 5.47 billion equivalent, above the 50 per cent threshold necessary to declare the Fund effective. All remaining contributors are strongly encouraged to promptly turn pledges into contributions in order to further allow the Fund to progress its operations in delivering maximized climate results.

2. The Fund decided to consider its first projects and programmes for funding decisions no later than its third meeting in 2015 to support low emission and climate resilient activities on the ground in developing countries.

II. Milestones in resource mobilization

3. The Fund has secured US\$ 10 billion equivalent in pledges to date and is working expeditiously with all contributors to discuss and finalize the necessary legal documentation in order to convert pledges into contribution agreements/arrangements.

4. Since the Fund's 2014 Pledging Conference, 22 countries have signed contribution agreements/arrangements for a total of approximately US\$ 5.47 billion equivalent (as at 31 May 2015). This amount takes the Fund above the effectiveness threshold of 50 per cent.

5. The attainment of effectiveness means the Fund is in a position to start taking financing decisions on climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes no later than its third meeting in 2015 as earlier targeted by the Board.

6. The Fund is continuing to work with all remaining contributors with the aim of converting all pledges into actual contributions as soon as possible. Efforts to mobilize additional resources are ongoing as scale is essential for the Fund to deliver on its mandate. The US\$ 10 billion equivalent of pledges, received in 2014, are just the beginning of the Fund's fundraising efforts, and it is essential that new and additional resources continue to be pledged to the Fund on an ongoing basis. The Paris Agreement is an important opportunity for Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to agree on the pathway for growth in the Fund's resources beyond 2020, thereby allowing the Fund to continue delivering on its mandate to contribute to the achievement of the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC.¹

III. Milestones in operationalizing access to the Fund's resources

3.1 Readiness and preparatory support

7. To facilitate access to the Fund's resources by developing countries, the Fund allocated an initial amount of US\$ 16 million for readiness and preparatory support in October 2014.

8. Following the allocation, the Fund has engaged with countries to better understand their needs and has since developed standardized packages of US\$ 300,000 under its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme ("Readiness Programme") in support of establishing and strengthening NDAs or focal points and strategic frameworks, including the preparation of country programmes. More than half of the developing countries that have nominated their NDA or focal point (FP) are seeking this support.

9. In coordination with NDAs and FPs, the Fund is supporting subnational, national and regional entities through the accreditation process of the Fund. Approximately 24 direct access entities are receiving in-kind support in this area to orient them on the Fund's accreditation requirements and assist them through the accreditation application process.

10. In addition, the Fund is engaging with NDAs and FPs to identify the appropriate means by which to support the development of project and programme proposals that reflect country needs and priorities and to align with the objectives and initial investment framework of the Fund.

11. The fifth pillar of the Readiness Programme seeks to support information sharing, experience exchange and learning at regional level. To this end, the Fund has:

- (a) Supported a regional workshop for the NDAs of Central American countries in San Salvador, El Salvador, in March 2015;
- (b) Co-hosted the regional workshop on climate finance for 20 NDAs from Asia and Eastern Europe in April 2015; and
- (c) Convened a South-South learning webinar for potential accredited entities in the Latin American region in May 2015 where one of the initial entities accredited to the Fund shared with the participants its experience in gaining accreditation to the Fund.

12. As a part of the learning component, the Fund has supported NDA and focal point visits to its headquarters at Songdo, Republic of Korea. Delegations from Fiji and Mongolia visited the headquarters in May and June 2015. The visits yielded positive feedback from the NDAs, who

¹ Governing Instrument for the Fund, paragraph 2.

reported that the two-day orientation enhanced their understanding of, and ability to engage with, the Fund.

13. The Fund is open to respond to additional expressions of interest to access readiness support.

14. Further developments under the Readiness Programme are regularly produced and are available on the Fund's website.²

3.2 Operational framework

15. The operation of the Fund has commenced together with the implementation of a comprehensive operational framework. Key achievements relating to the Fund's operational guidelines and implementation to date are as follows:

- (a) The accreditation framework: Following the launch of its online accreditation system in November 2014, 95 institutions have begun the accreditation application process and, of these, 55 institutions from all over the world have already applied. These institutions reflect a diversity of subnational, national, regional, private, non-governmental and international organizations that can operate at various levels of scale and can undertake a range of financial instruments, such as grants, loans, equity and guarantees, underscoring the appeal of the Fund's 'fit-for-purpose' approach. The Fund has accredited its initial seven entities through which resources for approved projects and programmes will be deployed. The Board will continue to consider additional applications for accreditation and intends to consider ways to further support subnational, national, regional and private sector entities in getting accredited. At its first meeting in 2015, the Board adopted the Fund's legal framework for accredited entities. At the same time, the monitoring and accountability framework for accredited entities and the development of a pilot programme for enhancing direct access to the Fund's resources are under way;
- (b) The initial proposal approval process and investment framework: The Fund has further developed its initial proposal approval process. Most recently, the Board deliberated the Fund's impact analysis and adopted the Fund's initial activity-specific sub-criteria and indicative assessment factors that supplement the Fund's broader investment criteria. This will be critical in selecting projects and programmes that best achieve the objectives of the Fund. The initial proposal approval process and investment framework now provides a holistic framework through which the Board can take decisions on project and programme proposals starting from its third meeting in 2015;
- (c) Initial results management framework: The Board adopted the Fund's mitigation and adaptation performance measurement frameworks, which are embedded in the initial results management framework, and some of its indicators. The remaining indicators are being refined and are expected to be considered by the Board at its eleventh meeting. The indicators will help the Fund to ensure that its activities will deliver maximized climate results in developing countries;
- (d) Initial risk management framework: The Fund conducted a survey of methodologies applied by relevant institutions to define and determine the risk appetite of the Fund. A methodology for determining the Fund's initial risk appetite is to be considered by the Board in 2015. This methodology would allow the Fund to identify the interventions in which it can achieve the most significant add-value to climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes; and

² See <<http://www.gcfund.org/documents/all-board-documents.html>> and <<http://www.gcfund.org/operations/readiness/updates.html>>.

(e) The Fund also adopted a Fund-wide gender policy and action plan for 2015–2017 to ensure that a gender-sensitive approach is effectively embedded in the operations of the Fund.

16. The Fund has embraced the approach of ‘learning-by-doing’, already incorporating lessons learned by related institutions into its operational guidelines and implementation as part of its ongoing effort to enhance the Fund’s own framework over time.

IV. Milestones of the Private Sector Facility

17. The Fund is working to ensure that private sector entities and public entities experienced in working with the private sector are accredited in 2015. One private sector and two public sector entities that engage with the private sector have so far been accredited to the Fund. An additional 22 such entities have applied for accreditation to the Fund, of which 11 are applying under the direct access track; eight are headquartered in developing countries and another eight have subsidiaries in developing countries.

18. The Fund is actively promoting a country-driven approach for its private sector operations. In this context, accredited entities are being encouraged to interact with relevant NDAs and focal points in the prioritization of projects and programmes at the country level, and to engage stakeholders, including relevant local private sector actors.

19. Progress has been made in efforts to expedite engagement with local private sector actors in developing countries, including small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Five concept notes with the direct involvement of SMEs and local financial institutions in developing countries have been received so far.

20. The development of a framework to mobilize resources at scale, and a strategic approach for engaging with the private sector has also registered progress. In this regard, the Fund has adopted the use of guarantees and equity, both of which have the potential to leverage third-party funding at scale. Accredited and potentially accredited entities have also been encouraged to identify pipeline projects and programmes with significant potential to mobilize funding at scale, including through the use of innovative financing structures such as green bonds.

V. Milestones in governance, internal structures and administration

21. The Fund has made progress in its work related to policies and procedures as elaborated below.

22. The Board has put in place an ad hoc Appointment Committee to assist the Board in the appointments of the heads of the Independent Evaluation Unit, the Independent Integrity Unit and the Independent Redress Mechanism. This is a step further in the operationalization of the three accountability units of the Fund.

23. Further, the Board adopted the terms of reference for an independent Technical Advisory Panel and will consider the appointment of its experts at its tenth meeting. The panel will assess funding proposals against the investment criteria for consideration by the Board starting at its eleventh meeting.

24. In addition, at its ninth meeting the Board adopted the Fund’s policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for the Board. The Fund’s information disclosure policy is also planned for consideration by the Board this year.

25. The Fund has developed a template for the bilateral agreement on privileges and immunities to form the basis for individual agreements with countries taking into account their specific circumstances. Negotiations on such individual agreements will commence shortly. Notwithstanding the above, the Board considers it desirable to further pursue consideration of an institutional linkage between the United Nations and the Fund.

26. In terms of staffing, 40 staff have joined the Secretariat or have accepted offers so far, enhancing the capacity of the institution. The Fund continues to promote balance in gender and in geographical representation between developed and developing countries in its staff pool. To date 47.5 per cent of staff members are female while 52.5 per cent are male; and 57.5 per cent are from developing countries while 42.5 per cent are from developed countries.

27. Additionally, the Fund has further developed its administrative guidelines. The Board adopted guidelines on the budget and accounting system while guidelines on the internal control framework and internal audit standards are under consideration.

28. All the milestones reached in 2014 and 2015 have put the Fund in a position to take decisions on funding proposals before the end of the year in support of climate action.

Fourth Report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

I. Introduction

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) provides guidance annually to the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) on its policies, programme priorities and eligibility criteria as an operating entity entrusted with the operation of the Convention's Financial Mechanism. The Fund therefore takes appropriate action on guidance received from the COP on an ongoing basis.

2. The fourth annual report of the Fund to the COP provides an overview of the progress made by the Fund in addressing guidance received from the twentieth session of the COP (COP 20), and guidance from the seventeenth to the nineteenth sessions of the COP (COP 17–COP 19) that is still relevant for reporting.

3. In addition to addressing specific COP guidance, the report provides further updates of the progress achieved by the Fund towards the fulfilment of its mandate in promoting a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways by providing support to developing countries so as to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

4. The report covers the period of December 2014 to May 2015. Key progress achieved during this period includes the following:

- (a) The Fund has reached effectiveness and can now commit resources to climate mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes. The Board decided to aim to start taking decisions on programme and project proposals no later than its third meeting in 2015;
- (b) Efforts to mobilize resources in addition to the US\$10 billion in pledges continue. Parties are invited to come forward and pledge additional resources;
- (c) More than 120 countries have registered national designated authorities (NDAs)/focal points to the Fund;
- (d) The Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme has been operationalized. Half of the registered NDAs and focal points are already engaging with the Fund to receive readiness and preparatory support;
- (e) The Fund has accredited an initial seven entities, partners through which the Fund's resources in a variety of financial instruments will be channelled, to undertake climate change mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes in developing countries. The Fund continues to consider further applications for accreditation;
- (f) Progress towards operationalization of the Private Sector Facility has been made. The entities accredited to date include one from the private sector and many more private institutions have applied to be accredited to the Fund;
- (g) Advancements towards completing work in developing policies and procedures have been achieved. In this regard, milestones have been made in the Fund's initial approval process, initial investment framework, initial risk management framework and the initial results management framework; and
- (h) The Fund has also advanced its work related to governance and internal structures. This includes advancements in the Fund's administrative guidelines; the nomination of an ad hoc Appointment Committee to assist the Board in the appointments of the heads of the three accountability units (the Independent Evaluation Unit, the Independent Integrity

Unit and the Independent Redress Mechanism); progress in the appointment of an independent Technical Advisory Panel; the adoption of a policy on ethics and conflicts of interest for the Board; and the recruitment of additional Secretariat staff to enhance the capacity of the institution.

5. The Fund decided to consider its first projects and programmes for funding decisions no later than its third meeting in 2015 in order to support low emission and climate resilient activities on the ground in developing countries.

II. Action taken in response to guidance from the Conference of the Parties

6. The overall status of the Fund's progress in relation to the guidance received from COP 20 is reflected in Tables 1A, 1B and 1C below. Guidance from COP 17, COP 18 and COP 19 that is still relevant for reporting is presented in Tables 2A and 2B.

2.1 Overview of guidance from the Conference of the Parties at its twentieth session and actions taken by the Fund

Table 1A: Overview of actions taken pursuant to decision 7/CP.20: Report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the Green Climate Fund

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Urges</i> the Green Climate Fund, the Interim Trustee, and contributors to confirm the pledges in the form of fully executed contribution agreements/arrangements, taking note that the commitment authority of the Green Climate Fund will become effective when 50 per cent of the contributions pledged by the November 2014 pledging session are reflected in fully executed contribution agreements/arrangements received by the secretariat no later than 30 April 2015 as provided for in Green Climate Fund Board decision B.08/13, Annex XIX, paragraph 1 (c)</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 5</i></p>	<p>Since the Green Climate Fund's (the Fund's) 2014 Pledging Conference, 22 countries have signed contribution agreements/arrangements for a total of approximately US\$ 5.47 billion equivalent (as at 31 May 2015), which represents 58.5 per cent of the contributions pledged at the Conference. This takes the Fund above the effectiveness threshold of 50 per cent;</p> <p>The Fund is therefore in a position to start taking decisions on projects and programmes no later than its third meeting in 2015 as per decision B.08/07; guidance from the Conference of the Parties (COP) (decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 5); and decision B.08/13 of the Board that outlined the condition for the Fund's effectiveness and commitment authority;</p> <p>The Fund strongly encourages contributors of the remaining US\$ 4.7 billion equivalent to promptly turn pledges into contributions;</p> <p><i>[Please refer to the Pledge Tracker in Appendix III to this document for individual contribution details as at 28 May 2015]</i></p>
<p><i>Welcomes</i> Green Climate Fund Board decision B.08/07 to start taking decisions on the approval of projects and programmes no later than its 3rd meeting in 2015</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 7</i></p>	<p>In accordance with decision B.08/07, the Board aims to start taking decisions on project and programme proposals no later than its third meeting in 2015</p>
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to accelerate the operationalization of the adaptation and mitigation windows, and to ensure adequate resources for capacity-building and technology development and transfer, consistent with paragraph 38 of the Governing Instrument (Annex to decision 3/CP.17)</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 8</i></p>	<p>With regard to operationalizing the Fund's adaptation and mitigation windows, the Board aims to start taking decisions on project and programme proposals at its third meeting in 2015. The Fund's initial approval process takes into consideration capacity-building and technology development in its assessment of funding proposals. In addition, the Fund's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme which is dedicated to supporting activities that build the capacity of countries in enabling them to access and utilize the Fund's resources for mitigation and adaptation activities is already under way</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Also requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to accelerate the operationalization of the private sector facility by aiming to ensure that private sector entities and public entities with relevant experience in working with the private sector are accredited in 2015, expediting action to engage local private sector actors in developing country Parties, including small- and medium-sized enterprises in the least developed countries, small island developing States and African States, emphasizing a country-driven approach, expediting action to mobilize resources at scale, and developing a strategic approach to engaging with the private sector <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 9</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At its ninth meeting, the Board approved the Fund’s initial seven accredited entities, one of which was from the private sector (Acumen Inc.), and a further two entities with significant experience working with the private sector (KfW Group and the Asian Development Bank). At the same meeting, the Board requested the Secretariat to “aim to achieve a diverse balance in accredited private entities including subnational, national regional and international intermediaries that have significant on the ground presence in developing countries”. The Board will continue to consider additional applications for accreditation at its second and third meetings in 2015; At its ninth meeting, the Board also requested the Secretariat, in consultation with the Accreditation Panel, to provide recommendations for the fast-tracking of national, regional and private sector entities (decision B.09/07). Pursuant to this decision, ways to further support the accreditation of national, regional and private sector entities will be considered by the Board at its tenth meeting; <p>The Board considered at its ninth meeting the following agenda items: “Private Sector Facility: Working with local private entities, including small- and medium-sized enterprises”; and “Private Sector Facility: Potential approaches to mobilizing funding at scale”. Following consideration of these items, the Board decided to receive recommendations from the Private Sector Advisory Group on these matters, and to consider at its eleventh meeting a draft request for proposals for a small- and medium-sized enterprise programme and an outline of activities that could be undertaken to mobilize resources at scale (decision B.09/09).</p>
<p><i>Further requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund, in the implementation of its 2015 work plan;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to complete its work related to policies and procedures to accept financial inputs from non-public and alternative sources, the investment and risk management frameworks of the Green Climate Fund; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The matters covered and to be addressed by the Board in 2015 are aimed towards completing work related to policies and procedures of the Fund. During 2015, the Fund has made significant progress in advancing, among other things, its accreditation framework; country ownership and readiness and preparatory support; initial proposal approval process and investment framework; and the overall institutional framework; In decision B.05/04, the Board requested the Secretariat to prepare a document for understanding and defining alternative sources of financial inputs to the Fund for consideration by the Board. The Board also requested the Secretariat at its eighth meeting to develop policies and procedures for contributions from philanthropic foundations, and other non-public and alternative sources (decision B.08/13). These agenda items are in the pipeline for consideration by the Board; Through decision B.09/05, the Board adopted the initial activity-specific sub-criteria and indicative assessment factors to further develop the Fund’s initial investment framework. The initial proposal approval process and investment framework now provide a holistic framework through which the Board can consider project and programme proposals.

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the impact analysis on its initial results areas, including options for determining Board level investment portfolios across the structure of the Fund (Green Climate Fund Board decision B.08/07, paragraph (l)); and the approval process of the Fund, including methodologies for selecting programmes and projects that best achieve the objectives of the Fund (Green Climate Fund Board decision B.07/03, paragraph (b)) <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 10</i></p>	<p>In decision B.09/06, the Board took note of the survey of methodologies carried out to define and determine risk appetite of the Fund. The Board is to consider in 2015 a methodology for determining the initial risk appetite of the Fund;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At its ninth meeting, the Board, having considered document GCF/B.09/06 <i>Analysis of the Expected Role and Impact of the Green Climate Fund</i>, adopted decision B.09/02. In this decision, the Board requested the Secretariat “to monitor the portfolio, report to the Board, and recommend needed actions, in order to align the portfolio composition with the initial results management framework (...) when the portfolio reaches US\$ 2 billion, but no later than two years after the first funding decision”; Through decision B.09/05, the Board at its ninth meeting adopted the initial activity-specific sub-criteria and indicative assessment factors which take into account the Fund’s initial investment framework, the Fund’s initial result areas and initial results management framework, to be further applied in the selection of proposals that best achieve the Fund’s objectives.
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to consider ways by which to further increase the transparency of its proceedings</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 11</i></p>	<p>A comprehensive draft information disclosure policy is to be considered by the Board in 2015. Revised guidelines on the participation of observers in Board meetings are also to be considered by the Board in 2015, as a step forward towards achieving broader stakeholder engagement in the Fund’s processes and activities.</p>
<p><i>Also requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to accelerate the implementation of its work programme on readiness and preparatory support, ensuring that adequate resources are provided for its execution, including from the initial resource mobilization process, providing urgent support to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and African States, led by their national designated authorities or focal points to build institutional capacities in accordance with Green Climate Fund Board decision B.08/11</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 12</i></p>	<p>The Fund is making progress in all five activity areas of its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity area 1: <i>Establishing and strengthening the national designated authority or focal point;</i> Activity area 2: <i>Strategic frameworks, including the preparation of country programmes;</i> Activity area 3: <i>Selection of intermediaries and implementing entities and support for accreditation;</i> Activity area 4: <i>Initial pipelines of project and programme proposals;</i> and Activity area 5: <i>Information sharing, experience exchange and learning;</i> <p>The Fund has developed standardized packages of US\$ 300,000 in support of establishing and strengthening national designated authorities or focal points and strategic frameworks, including the preparation of country programmes (activity areas 1 and 2). Approximately half of the developing countries that have nominated their national designated authority (NDA) or focal point are seeking support for activity areas 1 and 2;</p> <p>In coordination with NDAs and focal points, the Fund is also providing in-kind support to subnational, national and regional entities to orient them on the accreditation requirements and assist them through</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
	<p>the accreditation application process (activity area 3). Approximately 24 direct access entities are benefitting from such support;</p> <p>In addition, the Fund is engaging with NDAs and focal points to identify the appropriate means by which to support the development of project and programme proposals that reflect country needs and priorities, and align with the objectives and initial investment framework of the Fund (activity area 4);</p> <p>Activity area 5 seeks to support information sharing, experience exchange and learning. To this end, the Fund has supported a regional workshop in San Salvador, El Salvador, in March 2015 for Central American countries. Furthermore, the Fund co-hosted the regional workshop on climate finance for 20 NDAs from Asia and Eastern Europe. In May 2015, the Fund also convened a South–South learning webinar for potential accredited entities in the Latin American region where one of the initial entities accredited to the Fund shared its experience in gaining accreditation to the Fund;</p> <p>As part of learning, the Fund has supported NDA and focal point visits to its headquarters in Songdo, Republic of Korea. Delegations from Fiji and Mongolia visited the headquarters in May and June 2015. The visits yielded positive feedback from the NDAs, who reported that the two-day orientation enhanced their understanding of and ability to engage with, the Fund;</p> <p>Further details on progress in readiness are outlined in the progress reports on the Readiness Programme (documents GCF/BM-2015/Inf.05 and GCF/B.10/Inf.06) available on the Fund’s website.¹</p>
<p><i>Encourages</i> the timely implementation of the accreditation framework and <i>requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund, in its implementation, to pay adequate attention to the priorities and needs of developing country Parties, including the least developed countries, small island developing States and African States, emphasizing the need to provide readiness support to those national and regional entities eligible for fast tracking that request it</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 13</i></p>	<p>At its ninth meeting, the Board approved the Fund’s initial seven accredited entities (decision B.09/07), including national, regional, private sector and international entities with a balanced geographical representation. The Board will continue to consider an additional 13 applications for accreditation in its second meeting in 2015, and further entities at its third meeting in 2015. In addition, in its guidance to the Secretariat at its ninth meeting, the Board specifically “encourages the timely implementation of the accreditation framework and requests the Secretariat to pay special attention to the priority needs of developing countries, emphasizing readiness support to national and regional entities that request it, including those eligible for fast-tracking” (decision B.09/07, paragraph (d));</p> <p>The Board continues to develop its accreditation framework and adopted at its ninth meeting the Fund’s legal and formal arrangements with accredited entities (decision B.09/08)</p> <p>In coordination with NDAs and focal points, the Fund is providing in-kind support to regional, national and subnational entities to orient them on the Fund’s accreditation requirements and assist them with the accreditation application process of the Fund (activity area 3 of the Readiness Programme).</p>

¹ See <<http://www.gcfund.org/documents/all-board-documents.html>>.

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Invites</i> developing country Parties to expedite the nomination of their national designated authorities and focal points as soon as possible, as well as the selection of their national and subnational implementing entities, to facilitate their engagement with the Green Climate Fund</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 14</i></p>	<p>As at 31 May 2015 the Secretariat had registered 126 NDA/focal point nominations. The Secretariat continues to reach out to countries through the Fund’s Readiness Programme, encouraging them to submit their nominations;</p> <p>With regard to support to potential accredited entities, the Fund is engaging with relevant NDAs and focal points, and providing in-kind support to direct access entities to orient them on the accreditation requirements and the overall process for applications for accreditation. So far the Fund has provided such assistance to 24 entities that have submitted or are in the process of submitting applications for accreditation under the direct access modality. Three have been accredited and six are to be considered at the tenth meeting of the Board. The Fund has similarly provided assistance to many more subnational, national and regional entities that have expressed their interest in or are preparing to apply for accreditation to the Fund. As part of these efforts, the Secretariat convened a South–South learning webinar in May 2015, where one of the initial accredited entities to the Fund shared its experience in gaining accreditation to the Fund (activity area 5 of the Readiness Programme).</p>
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund, when deciding its policies and programme priorities, to consider the information and lessons learned through engagement with other relevant bodies under the Convention, and other relevant international institutions</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 15</i></p>	<p>The Fund continues to engage with, consider lessons learned by, and adopt applicable best practices from relevant bodies under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other relevant international institutions in the development and implementation of its policies, procedures and programme priorities. The following are examples of recent efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the development of the Fund’s initial activity-specific sub-criteria and methodology, such methodologies used by other climate funds and international financial institutions were identified and compared; • As per decision B.07/05, paragraph (e) (i), the initial step in developing the Fund’s initial risk management framework was a survey of methodologies used by relevant institutions to define and determine the risk appetite of the Fund; • The REDD-plus initial logic model and performance measurement framework of the Fund were prepared in accordance with the methodological guidance in the Warsaw Framework for REDD-plus. (The response to the decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 18 (b), below has further details pertaining to the development of the REDD-plus initial logic model); • Recommendations made by the Adaptation Committee to the Board outlined decision 4/CP.20, annex, paragraph 4, concerning the Fund’s monitoring and evaluation framework are being taken into consideration in the ongoing revision of the initial results management framework/performance measurement framework; <p>Efforts to engage with and learn from existing relevant thematic bodies of the Convention are ongoing, with an increasing number of events held by the thematic bodies of the Convention being attended by the Fund’s representatives.</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Also requests</i> the Green Climate Fund to enhance its collaboration with existing funds under the Convention and other climate relevant funds in order to enhance the complementarity and coherence of policies and programming at the national level</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 16</i></p>	<p>The interaction with and learning from funds under the Convention and other climate relevant funds, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Climate Investment Funds (CIFs), the Adaptation Fund (AF), the Multilateral Fund and other climate relevant institutions related to topics such as readiness, accreditation, results management and monitoring and evaluation, among others, are continuously considered in the development of the policies, guidelines and operations of the Fund;</p> <p>Examples of enhanced complementarity and coherence of policies and programming as a result of the Fund's engagement with the bodies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision B.08/03, indicating that institutions accredited by and in full compliance with the standards of the GEF and the AF are eligible to apply for accreditation to the Fund under the fast-track accreditation process; and • The Fund's adoption of the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standards as its interim environmental and social safeguards; <p>The Secretariat is also currently working on defining which greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting methodologies should be used by its accredited entities to measure the relevant results management framework mitigation indicators related to reductions in and cost of tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. The Fund continues to learn from interaction with the main relevant international bodies such as the clean development mechanism and other international development and finance institutions. It has also started to be actively engaged in a working group on the harmonization of the GHG accounting methodologies; this group is composed of the main international finance institutions and organizations that have finalized methodologies for renewable energy and aims at completing the methodologies for transport and energy efficiency by the end of 2015;</p> <p>The Fund Secretariat has also benefited from the interaction with and lessons learned from the Multilateral Fund Secretariat;</p> <p>The Fund continues to participate in events of funds under the Convention and other climate-relevant funds such as the meeting of the Board of the Adaptation Fund in April 2015, the CIFs meetings in May 2015 and the Council Meeting of the GEF in June 2015.</p>
<p><i>Further requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to further enhance the participation of all stakeholders in accordance with paragraph 71 of the Governing Instrument and other relevant Board decisions</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 17</i></p>	<p>The Board adopted at its third meeting the Fund's guidelines relating to observer participation, accreditation of observer organizations and participation of active observers in meetings of the Board (Annex XII to decision B.01-13/03). The review of the guidelines on the participation of observers and their consideration by the Board is planned to be carried out during 2015. The civil society organizations and private sector organizations have been invited to provide their inputs;</p> <p>By its decision B.09/11, the Board adopted a Fund-wide gender policy and action plan. One main objective of the policy is to enhance the participation of women in activities of the Fund, consistent with the Governing Instrument, which explicitly lists women among the Fund's stakeholders.</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a monitoring and accountability framework in accordance with Green Climate Fund Board decision B.08/02; • To consider decisions relevant to REDD-plus (Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries), including decisions 1/CP.16, 2/CP.17, 12/CP.17 and decisions 9/CP.19, 10/CP.19, 11/CP.19, 12/CP.19, 13/CP.19, 14/CP.19 and 15/CP.19 <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 18</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 8</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursuant to decision B.08/02, the agenda item “Initial monitoring and accountability framework for accredited entities (progress report)” is to be addressed at the tenth meeting of the Board; • The Board identified REDD-plus implementation as one of the initial result areas of the Fund. In decision B.08/08, the Board adopted a logic model and performance framework for ex-post REDD-plus results-based payments, which were developed based on the methodological guidance in the Warsaw Framework for REDD-plus and in decisions 1/CP.16 and 12/CP.17. The next step towards the completion of the framework within which REDD-plus can be supported by the Fund is to develop methodologies for the indicators in the performance measurement framework. The Board, in decision B.08/08, specifically noted that methodologies for the indicators will be aligned with methodological guidance provided by the COP.
<p><i>Urges</i> the Green Climate Fund to ensure that staff selection is open, transparent and based on merit without discrimination, taking into account geographical and gender balance, in accordance with the administrative policies of the Green Climate Fund (Green Climate Fund Board decision B.06/03, annex I)</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 19</i></p>	<p>So far, 40 staff have joined the Secretariat or have accepted offers of employment and thus enhancing the capacity of the institution. The Fund continues to promote the gender balance and diversity balance of the staff so that to date 47.5 per cent of staff members are female while 52.5 per cent are male, and 57.5 per cent are from developing countries while 42.5 per cent are from developed countries;</p> <p>The Fund has striven to diversify its recruitment strategy. Vacant positions are currently advertised across numerous websites in order to reach out to candidates from as many parts of the world as possible. An additional strategy is applied to vacancy announcements, which have a clear statement that “ applications are strongly encouraged from women and citizens of developing countries”. Staff selection is in accordance with the administrative policies of the Fund, thereby ensuring an open, transparent process based on merit without discrimination and taking into account geographical and gender balance.</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Takes note</i> of Green Climate Fund Board decision B.08/24 on the institutional linkage between the United Nations and the Green Climate Fund, and <i>requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to continue further deliberations on privileges and immunities, and to report on this matter to the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-first session (November–December 2015)</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 20</i></p>	<p>Further to decision B.08/24, the Board continued its deliberations on an institutional linkage between the United Nations and the Fund, which might either entail that the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations would become applicable to the staff of the Fund, or, alternatively, with a more limited scope and purpose, that the staff of the Fund may make use of the United Nations laissez-passer. The Fund considers it desirable that a detailed study regarding this matter be carried out by the UNFCCC secretariat. To this end, the Fund recommends that the COP request the UNFCCC secretariat to prepare a technical paper to explore various options of an institutional linkage between the United Nations and the Fund, including those mentioned above.</p>
<p><i>Urges</i> developing country Parties to enter into bilateral agreements with the Green Climate Fund based on the template to be approved by the Board of the Green Climate Fund, in order to provide privileges and immunities for the Fund, in accordance with Green Climate Fund Board decision B.08/24, paragraph (b)</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 21</i></p>	<p>It is important to ensure that the Fund and the persons associated with it are covered by privileges and immunities in the country Parties to the Convention. To this end, the Fund has developed a template bilateral agreement on privileges and immunities as a framework for individual agreements with country Parties to the Convention, which will take account of the specific circumstances of country Parties. The Board will consider the template at its tenth meeting.</p>
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to report biennially to the Conference of the Parties on the status of existing privileges and immunities with regard to its operational activities, starting at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 22</i></p>	<p>At its eleventh meeting, the Board will consider a biennial report on privileges and immunities, with the aim of submitting the report to the UNFCCC secretariat prior to the twenty-first session of the COP.</p>
<p><i>Also requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to make available its annual report in a timely manner and no later than 12 weeks prior to a session of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 15, for due consideration by Parties</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 23</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 15</i></p>	<p>In an effort to submit the report in a timely manner, the Board addressed the Fund's report to the COP at its second meeting of the year rather than at its third meeting; This report, which was submitted in a timely manner, responds to this request.</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant action taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Further requests</i> the Green Climate Fund to include in its annual report to the Conference of the Parties the recommendations of its independent redress mechanism, if any, and any actions taken by the Board in response to those recommendations (In accordance with the annex to decision 5/CP.19, paragraph 9)</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 24</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 9</i></p>	<p>The Redress Mechanism of the Fund is in the process of being set up in accordance with previous decisions of the Board; the operations of the mechanism have not yet commenced.</p>
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-first session on progress made in the implementation of this decision, as well as the elements and provisions of the guidance contained in decisions 3/CP.17, 6/CP.18, 4/CP.19 and 5/CP.19.</p> <p><i>Decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 25</i></p>	<p>The first column of this table indicates links to previous decisions where applicable. In addition, Tables 2A and B below addresses guidance contained in decisions 3/CP.17, 6/CP.18, 4/CP.19 and 5/CP.19 that is still relevant for reporting.</p>

Table 1B: Overview of actions taken pursuant to decision 4/CP.20: Report of the Adaptation Committee (AC)

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Requests Parties, operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and other relevant entities working on adaptation to consider the recommendations contained in chapter V of the report of the Adaptation Committee, as included in the annex</i></p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.20, paragraph 4</i></p>	<p>Please see below for the responses to decision 4/CP.20, annex, paragraphs 2–6</p>
<p>The AC recommends that the COP invite Parties, <u>operating entities of the Financial Mechanism</u> and relevant entities working on adaptation to take into account the following recommendations, which are based on the outcomes of the meeting of the task force on national adaptation plans (NAPs) referred to in paragraphs 38 and 39 of the report of the AC referred to in paragraph 1 above:</p> <p>(a) Recognizing the importance of raising awareness and buy-in for the NAP process by all stakeholders, in order to:</p> <p>(i) Generate interest in, demand for and leadership of the NAP process at the national level;</p> <p>(ii) Make available support for the NAP process better known;</p> <p>(b) Improving coordination, collaboration and coherence among:</p> <p>(i) Bilateral and multilateral agencies and institutions, including the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism;</p> <p>(ii) Various national ministries;</p> <p>(iii) Parties and regions, with a view to:</p> <p>a. Enhancing the accessibility of NAP support;</p> <p>b. Further understanding effective pathways to achieving the objectives of the NAP process, on the basis of experience;</p> <p>c. Fostering coherence in the provision of support, including by better matching needs with support, involving more financial institutions in the NAP process and helping countries to prepare for accessing funding, including from the Green Climate Fund (GCF);</p> <p>(c) Enhancing learning as stakeholders increasingly engage in the NAP process, particularly around aspects such as the role of institutional</p>	<p>At its ninth meeting, the Board further developed the Fund’s initial investment framework and adopted activity-specific sub-criteria and indicative assessment factors (decision B.09/05). One of the criteria, on which every funding proposal is assessed is ‘country ownership’; under this are the following sub-criteria that determine whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A country has a current and effective national climate strategy or plan, a nationally appropriate mitigation action (NAMA), NAP or equivalent, as appropriate; and • Objectives are in line with priorities in the country’s national climate strategy; <p>Through this sub-criterion, the Fund generates demand, makes support for NAPs available and aims to improve coordination and knowledge among relevant stakeholders</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p>arrangements and monitoring and evaluation</p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.20, annex, paragraph 2</i></p>	
<p>In supporting the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation, the AC recommends that the COP invite Parties, operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and relevant entities working on adaptation to take into account the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Monitoring and evaluation frameworks need to be appropriate, relevant to needs and tailored to country circumstances. A common set of global indicators is not useful, owing to the context-specific nature of adaptation; (b) National-level assessments can play a different role in measuring adaptive capacity from subnational or project-based assessments. National-level assessments could, for example, measure the degree of coordination and integration of adaptation in national priorities; (c) A positive learning environment, which encourages formal and informal learning, including peer-to-peer learning, and which encourages learning from negative as well as positive experiences, is important; (d) Planning and allocation of resources, both technical and financial, are key for effective monitoring and evaluation systems <p><i>Decision 4/CP.20, annex, paragraph 3</i></p>	<p>The initial results management framework and monitoring and evaluation guidelines of the Fund are under further development. This set of recommendations is being taken in due consideration and will be reported on subsequently.</p>
<p>In the context of the monitoring and evaluation of adaptation, the AC also recommends that the COP invite the Board of the GCF, with respect to its Results Management Framework, to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Keeping indicators simple; (b) Designing indicators that are qualitative as well as quantitative; (c) Designing indicators in such a way as to capture the progress that countries are able to make in integrating adaptation into 	<p>At its eighth meeting, the Board adopted the Fund's mitigation and adaptation performance measurement frameworks (PMFs), embedded in the initial results management framework, and some of its indicators. The Board requested the Secretariat to further develop some of the PMF indicators that need refinement (decision B.08/07). The revision of the indicators is under way, and it is taking into consideration the recommendations of the Adaptation Committee. The revised mitigation and adaptation PMFs are in the pipeline for consideration by the Board.</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p>their development and sectoral planning, policies and actions;</p> <p>(d) Giving countries sufficient flexibility to define their indicators in line with their national and local planning, strategies and priorities.</p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.20, annex, paragraph 4</i></p>	
<p><i>Encourage</i> the Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the GCF to enhance their consideration of local, indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices and their integration into adaptation planning and practices, as well as procedures for monitoring, evaluation and reporting.</p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.20, annex, paragraph 5 (b)</i></p>	<p>One of the six investment criteria against which funding proposals of the Fund will be assessed is “efficiency and effectiveness”. Under this is the sub-criterion “application of best practices and degree of innovation”, which aims to determine how best available technologies and/or best practices, including those of indigenous people and local communities, are considered and applied</p> <p>By making provisions to assess the degree to which indigenous knowledge is incorporated into proposals on/with a component on climate adaptation, the sub-criterion encourages the incorporation of indigenous knowledge as best practices where applicable</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p>(a) Inviting the Board of the GCF to consider the significant work undertaken under the Cancun Adaptation Framework and on the NAP process as it continues to provide the governance of the Fund;</p> <p>(b) Inviting the Board of the GCF to engage with institutions that have started initiatives on countries' readiness to access GCF funding and exploring how more countries can benefit from such initiatives.</p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.20, annex, paragraph 6 (a) and (b)</i></p>	<p>(a) In accordance with the Governing Instrument, support for the work on NAPs and related processes are being taken into account in the work of the Fund as applicable. The second pillar of the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme focuses on "Strategic frameworks, including the preparation of country programmes". Through this pillar, the Fund aims to ensure that country projects and programmes that the Fund will support build on and strengthen climate strategies, policies and needs assessments, including NAPs, national adaptation programmes of action, low-emission development strategies and NAMAs. The Readiness Programme also seeks to strengthen institutional capacities of national designated authorities in order for them to effectively fulfil their roles in adaptation and mitigation action supported by the Fund.</p> <p>Furthermore, the investment criteria of the Fund will consider funding proposals' alignment with NAPs and other existing climate policies, in particular the country ownership criterion which further assesses whether project and programme objectives are designed in cognizance of and in line with priorities in the country's climate strategies and policies.</p> <p>These checks and balances therefore aim to ensure that the Fund supports only those projects and programmes that are well coordinated with NAPs and other climate-related strategies of a country;</p> <p>(b) The Fund is engaging with institutions working on the Fund's readiness initiatives and has set up a coordination mechanism with these institutions.</p>

Table 1C: Overview of actions taken pursuant to decision 3/CP.20: National adaptation plans

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Requests</i> the Adaptation Committee and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund, as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to consider how to best support developing country Parties in accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, and to report thereon to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its forty-second session</p> <p><i>Decision 3/CP.20, paragraph 11</i></p>	<p>The Co-Chairs of the Board of the Fund participated in a teleconference with the Co-Chairs of the Adaptation Fund and representatives of the Chairperson of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to discuss the implementation of decision 3/CP.20. Information on possibilities to access the Fund's resources in support of national adaptation plans (NAPs) and overall adaptation actions was exchanged, including on the second pillar of the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, through which the Fund will support the development of strategic frameworks, including the preparation of country programmes with the aim of ensuring that the resulting activities are well-coordinated with NAPs and other climate-related strategies. The bodies agreed to further collaborate and continue to explore possible options</p>

2.2 Overview of guidance from the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth sessions that is still relevant for reporting and actions taken by the Fund

7. The guidance provided to the Fund at COP 17, COP 18 and COP 19 that is still relevant has been consolidated in Tables 2A and B below. Similar guidance from these three conferences has been grouped together in order to facilitate the understanding of the decisions and actions taken by the Fund in addressing such guidance.

Table 2A: Overview of actions taken pursuant to guidance from the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth sessions that is still relevant for reporting and action

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Confirms</i> that all developing country Parties to the Convention are eligible to receive resources from the Fund.</p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.19, paragraph 10</i></p>	<p>The Green Climate Fund (the Fund) considers all developing country Parties to the Convention as eligible for funding.</p>
<p><i>Calls</i> for ambitious and timely contributions by developed countries to enable an effective operationalization, including for readiness and preparatory support of the Green Climate Fund that reflects the needs and challenges of developing countries in addressing climate change in the context of preparing, by the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties (December 2014), the initial resource mobilization process described in paragraph 12 above;</p> <p><i>Underlines</i> that initial resource mobilization should reach a very significant scale that reflects the needs and challenges of developing countries in addressing climate change.</p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.19, paragraphs 13 and 14</i></p>	<p>The Fund has secured pledges of US \$10 billion equivalent so far in its initial resource mobilization process from 33 countries, 25 of which are developed countries and eight of which are developing countries. Since the Fund’s 2014 Pledging Conference, 22 countries have signed contribution agreements/arrangements for a total of approximately US\$ 5.47 billion equivalent (as at 31 May 2015);</p> <p>The Fund strongly encourages contributors of the remaining US\$4.7 billion to promptly turn pledges into contributions;</p> <p>Scale is essential for the Fund to deliver on its mandate and efforts to mobilize additional resources to the Fund are ongoing. The pledges received so far are just the beginning of the Fund’s fundraising efforts, and it is essential that new and additional resources continue to be pledged to the Fund on an ongoing basis;</p> <p>The Paris Agreement is also an important opportunity for Parties to the Convention to agree on the pathway for growth in the Fund’s resources beyond 2020.</p>
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Fund:</p> <p>(a) To consider important lessons learned on country-driven processes from other existing funds.</p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.19, paragraph 16 (a)</i></p>	<p>Please see responses below to decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 15, and decision 7/CP.20, paragraphs 16 and 17.</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Fund to report on the implementation of the arrangements referred to in paragraph 4 of decision 5/CP.19 in its annual reports to the COP, starting at the twentieth session of the COP (December 2014).</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, paragraph 5</i></p>	<p>Please refer to Chapter IV of this report and Table 4 for progress made by the Fund in the implementation of the arrangements between the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the Fund.</p>
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund:</p> <p>(a) To develop a transparent no-objection procedure to be conducted through national designated authorities referred to in paragraph 46 of the Governing Instrument, in order to ensure consistency with national climate strategies and plans and a country-driven approach and to provide for effective direct and indirect public and private-sector financing by the Fund, and to determine this procedure prior to approval of funding proposals by the Fund.</p> <p><i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 7 (a)</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 3/CP.17, paragraph 7</i></p>	<p>(a) By its decision B.08/10, paragraph (b), the Board approved the initial no-objection procedure contained in Annex XII to decision B.08/10. In accordance with decision B.08/10, paragraph (a), the Board will only consider funding proposals that are submitted with a formal letter of no-objection by the national designated authority.</p>
<p>(c) To secure funding for the Fund, taking into account paragraphs 29 and 30 of the Governing Instrument, to facilitate its expeditious operationalization, and to establish the necessary policies and procedures to enable an early and adequate replenishment process.</p> <p><i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 7 (c)</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex paragraph 17 (b)</i> <i>Decision 4/CP.19, paragraph 9 (a)</i></p>	<p>(c) As at 31 May 2015, 22 out of 33 countries had signed their contribution arrangements/agreements so that the Fund reached effectiveness. Efforts to collaborate with the remaining contributors to convert pledges into contribution arrangements/agreements are ongoing. The Fund calls on contributors to do so before the twenty-first session of the COP. New contributions can be taken by the Fund on an ongoing basis; The Board aims to consider the arrangements for the formal replenishment of the Fund with all interested contributors in line with decision B.05/17.</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant decisions/actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p>(e) To select the trustee of the Fund through an open, transparent and competitive bidding process in a timely manner to ensure that there is no discontinuity in trustee services</p> <p><i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 7 (e)</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 3/CP.17, paragraph 16</i></p>	<p>(e) By its decision B.08/22, the Board invited the World Bank to continue serving as the Interim Trustee until a permanent Trustee is appointed. The process to appoint the permanent Trustee should be finalized no later than the end of 2017, to enable the permanent Trustee to commence its contractual agreement with the Fund no later than April 2018.</p>
<p>(f) To initiate a process to collaborate with the Adaptation Committee and the Technology Executive Committee, as well as other relevant thematic bodies under the Convention, to define linkages between the Fund and these bodies, as appropriate</p> <p><i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 7 (f)</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 3/CP.17, paragraph 17</i></p>	<p>(f) The Co-Chairs of the Board of the Fund have collaborated with the Co-Chairs of the Adaptation Committee and representatives of the Chairperson of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) to discuss the implementation of decision 3/CP.20. The Co-Chairs have also engaged with the Co-Chairs of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) to discuss possibilities for the continued engagement of the bodies as the financial and technical mechanisms of the Convention;</p> <p>The Co-Chairs and representatives of the Secretariat have also participated in meetings and events of the thematic bodies of the Convention and other climate funds. These include the Standing Committee on Finance; the Accreditation Committee; the LEG; the TEC; the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action; the Global Environment Facility; the Adaptation Fund; Climate Investment Funds and the Multilateral Fund. Further details on the engagement of the Fund with relevant thematic bodies of the Convention and other climate funds are outlined in the responses to decision 5/CP.19, paragraph 15, and decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 16</p>

Table 2B: Overview of actions taken pursuant to decision 1/CP.18: Agreed outcome pursuant to the Bali Action Plan

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Agrees</i> to further elaborate, at its twentieth session, the linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the financial mechanism of the Convention, taking into consideration the recommendations of the Board of the Green Climate Fund, developed in accordance with decision 3/CP.17, paragraph 17, and of the Technology Executive Committee, developed in accordance with decision 4/CP.17, paragraph 6</p> <p><i>Decision: 1/CP.18, paragraph 62</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 3/CP.17, paragraph 17</i></p>	<p>The item on engagement of the Fund with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change thematic bodies is in the pipeline for consideration by the Board. The Fund recognizes the importance of engagement with the Technology Mechanism and initial exchanges between the two bodies have taken place</p>

III. Action taken by the Fund pursuant to the Fifth Review of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention

8. The Fund welcomes the recommendations of the COP emanating from the Fifth Review of the Financial Mechanism (decision 9/CP.20). As a designated operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention, the Fund is taking into consideration the recommendations in the formulation of its guidelines and procedures and in its operations as appropriate.

9. Efforts to address the recommendations in the current and future work of the Fund are ongoing, and an overview of actions taken by the Fund to date pursuant to the review are presented in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Overview of guidance from decision 9/CP.20 on the Fifth Review of the Financial Mechanism and actions taken by the Fund

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant decisions/actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p>The GCF could build on the experience of and lessons learned from the GEF [Global Environment Facility] in terms of stakeholder involvement. In this regard, the GCF may consider establishing a robust consultative process with its observers in order to ensure that adequate and timely consultation is undertaken with respect to the development of its policies, procedures, guidelines, and, later on, during the implementation of programmes and projects of the Fund.</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 14</i></p>	<p>In accordance with the Governing Instrument, participants in meetings of the Board include four active observers consisting of two civil society organization (CSO) representatives, one each from developing and developed countries; and two private sector organization (PSO) representatives, one each from developing and developed countries. The CSO and PSO representatives actively participate in Board discussions. In accordance with the Green Climate Fund's (the Fund's) Rules of Procedure, Board documents are transmitted to active observers and posted on the Fund's website on the same day that they are sent to Board members;</p> <p>At its third meeting, the Board adopted the Fund's guidelines relating to observer participation, accreditation of observer organizations and participation of active observers in meetings of the Board (Annex XII to decision B.01-13/03). The review of the guidelines on the participation of observers and their consideration by the Board is planned to be carried out in 2015. The CSOs and PSOs have been invited to provide joint inputs on observer participation.</p>
<p>In developing its own approach to gender mainstreaming, the GCF could build on the experience of the GEF. It is recommended that gender equality be integrated in the structure and organization of the GCF itself, and that gender-sensitive criteria be taken into account in funding approvals of the Fund.</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 18</i></p>	<p>The Governing Instrument explicitly lists women among the Fund's stakeholders. The Board therefore adopted a Fund-wide gender policy and action plan in decision B.09/11 that aims to embed gender equality in the structure and organization of the Fund itself. The policy is aimed at enhancing a gender-sensitive approach in the Fund's processes and operations, including in the design and implementation of the activities to be financed by the Fund. The gender policy for the Fund is contained in Annex XIII to decision B.09/11 and the gender action plan 2015–2017 in Annex XIV to decision B.09/11;</p> <p>The gender-sensitive approach has continually been considered and is embedded in the Fund's guidelines and procedures as developed to date, including in the Fund's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme and in the initial results management framework. This is consistent with the Fund's mandate on gender sensitivity laid out in the Governing Instrument. The Fund has also promoted gender balance in its staff pool so that to date 47.5 per cent of staff members are female and 52.5 per cent are male.</p>
<p>As the GCF is developing its own environment and social safeguards, it should consider consistency with the safeguards of the GEF.</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 21</i></p>	<p>The Fund adopted the International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Performance Standards as its interim environmental and social safeguards (ESS). In accordance with decision B.07/02, the Board "aims to complete the process of developing the Fund's own ESS, which will build on evolving best practices, within a period of three years after the Fund becomes operational, and with inclusive multi-stakeholder participation".</p>
<p>Since the GCF will also be using financial intermediaries such as commercial banks, it is recommended that the GCF also develop an appropriate oversight mechanism to ensure that the institutions to which these intermediaries will channel funding also comply with the environmental policies and social safeguards of the GCF.</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 22</i></p>	<p>Following on from decision B.08/02, the monitoring and accountability framework of entities accredited to the Fund is scheduled for consideration by the Board in 2015. This framework is to act as an oversight mechanism to ensure that accredited entities and the institutions to which they channel funding also comply with the ESS of the Fund. The framework will be applicable to all accredited entities of the Fund, including commercial banks as the case may be.</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant decisions/actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p>As it monitors the use of its initial fiduciary standards and reviews those standards within the next three years, the GCF should consider maintaining consistency with the standards of the GEF</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 25</i></p>	<p>The initial fiduciary principles and standards of the Fund were drawn up based primarily on the standards of the GEF in addition to those of the Adaptation Fund and the Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation–EuropeAid of the European Commission (EU DEVCO), and on best practices from most multilateral development banks. When the Board adopted the initial fiduciary principles and standards through decision B.07/02, it decided to conduct a review of the standards within three years</p>
<p>The GEF and the GCF may consider collaborating in the use of funding pathways that may include the LDCF and the SCCF</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 51</i></p>	<p>The Fund considers the needs of the least developed countries (LDCs) and countries with special needs in its policies and practices as mandated in its Governing Instrument which states that “In allocating resources for adaptation, the Board will take into account the urgent and immediate needs of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, including LDCs, SIDS and African States”. Collaboration with other funds is still to be considered by the Board</p>
<p>The GCF would benefit from lessons learned on the accreditation process from other funds, particularly the GEF. In the case of the GEF, the goal of accreditation of 10 project agencies was only partially achieved. The GCF may consider building on existing systems of GEF intermediaries and implementing entities, and may in the process also consider providing financial assistance to support the accreditation of national entities in recipient countries that may need it</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 58</i></p>	<p>Following the launch of its Online Accreditation System in November 2014, 95 institutions have begun the accreditation application process and, of these, 55 institutions from all over the world have already applied. These institutions reflect a diversity of subnational, national, regional, private, non-governmental and international organizations that can operate at various levels of scale and can undertake a range of financial instruments, such as grants, loans, equity and guarantees, underscoring the appeal of the Fund’s ‘fit-for-purpose’ approach;</p> <p>The Fund has accredited its initial seven entities through which resources for approved projects and programmes will be deployed. The Board will continue to consider an additional 13 applications for accreditation in its second meeting in 2015, and further entities at its third meeting in 2015. In addition, the Board will consider ways to further support subnational, national, regional and private sector entities in gaining accreditation to the Fund;</p> <p>Currently, institutions accredited by and in full compliance with the standards of the Global Environment Facility (in addition to those accredited by the Adaptation Fund and EU DEVCO) are eligible to apply for accreditation to the Fund under the fast-track accreditation process, thus building on existing systems of such intermediaries and implementing entities;</p> <p>The Fund has since started its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme to support activities aimed at developing projects and programmes that meet the Fund’s objectives. Activity area 3 of the Programme is “Selection of intermediaries and implementing entities and support for accreditation”, aimed at supporting subnational, national and regional institutions through the accreditation process of the Fund, including for fast-track accreditation where applicable. In coordination with NDAs and focal points, the Fund has so far provided in-kind support to 24 entities to orient them on the accreditation requirements and assist them in submitting applications for accreditation under the direct access modality; three have been accredited and six are to be considered at the tenth meeting of the Board. The Fund has similarly provided assistance to many more subnational, national and regional entities that have expressed their interest in or are preparing to apply for accreditation to the Fund</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant decisions/actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p>There is ample room for the GCF to learn from the experiences of other funds in terms of improving the enabling environments in recipient countries. It can do this by linking investments with focused efforts to engage stakeholders within countries in programming, and by providing technical assistance and capacity-building so as to strengthen enabling environments – institutions, policies, and regulations – that support mitigation and adaptation actions in developing countries</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 69</i></p>	<p>The Board adopted the Fund’s investment criteria through decision B.07/06 and adopted the sub- criteria and indicative factors that further elaborate the investment criteria through decision B.09/05;</p> <p>One of the investment criteria is country ownership, which is defined as beneficiary country ownership of and capacity to implement a funded project or programme. This investment criteria and sub-criteria for a project or programme that is to be implemented include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The existence of a national climate strategy; (ii) Coherence with existing policies; (iii) Capacity of implementing entities, intermediaries or executing entities to deliver; and (iv) Engagement with civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders. This investment criteria and applicable sub-criteria typically aims at linking the investment to be made by the Fund with the enabling environment; <p>One sub-criterion (needs of a recipient country) to apply to all applicable projects and programmes further assesses the potential of the proposed project or programme to strengthen institutional and implementation capacity of relevant institutions in the context of the proposal;</p> <p>In addition, the Fund has in place the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, which provides for a comprehensive framework of technical assistance and capacity-building across the Programme’s five key pillars. Further details on the Readiness Programme are included in the response to decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 12 (see Table 1A)</p>
<p>The GEF and the GCF may consider collaborating to harmonize impact indicators and set new norms around reporting practice, especially in the context of adaptation finance. Furthermore, the operationalization of the GCF results-based management framework presents an opportunity to make progress in this regard</p> <p><i>Decision 9/CP.20, annex, paragraph 76</i></p>	<p>At its eighth meeting, the Board adopted the Fund’s mitigation and adaptation performance measurement frameworks (PMFs), embedded in the initial results management framework (RMF), and some of its indicators (decision B.08/07). The Board in the same decision requested the Secretariat to further develop some of the PMF indicators that need refinement, that include indicators on adaptation;</p> <p>The development of the proposed PMFs and their indicators as initially proposed to the Board at its eighth meeting was informed by their relevance to the Fund’s logic models, practices, lessons learned and evaluations of the other climate funds and peer agencies, and technical soundness. The GEF was consulted in this first phase of developing the RMF/PMF indicators on both mitigation and adaptation. Following the request by the Board at its eighth meeting, the revision of the indicators is ongoing, and consultations with the GEF, including the GEF Independent Evaluation Office have once again been carried out to this end.</p> <p>The revised mitigation and adaptation PMFs are in the pipeline for consideration by the Board at its upcoming meetings</p>

IV. Report on the implementation of the arrangements between the Conference of the Parties and the Fund

10. By its decision 5/CP.19, the COP outlined the reporting arrangements between the COP and the Fund to be included in the Fund's annual report to the COP starting from COP 20. The reporting arrangements are aimed to set out the working relationship between the COP and the Fund to ensure that the Fund is accountable to and functions under the guidance of the COP to support projects, programmes, policies and other activities in developing country Parties.

11. Table 4 below summarizes the decisions and actions taken by the Fund in addressing the elements for reporting in the arrangements between the COP and the Fund.

Table 4: Overview of reporting elements in the arrangements between the Conference of the Parties and the Fund

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant decisions/actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p><i>Requests</i> the Board of the Green Climate Fund to report on the implementation of the arrangements in its annual reports to the COP, starting at the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties (December 2014).</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, paragraph 5</i></p>	<p>This report addresses this request, in particular Chapter IV and Table 4.</p>
<p>The GCF will include in its annual reports to the COP the recommendations of its independent redress mechanism, and any action taken by the Board of the Fund in response to those recommendations.</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 9</i></p>	<p>See response to paragraph 24 of decision 7/CP.20 (see Table 1A).</p>
<p>The GCF is to submit annual reports to the COP for its consideration. Such annual reports shall include information on the implementation of policies, programme priorities and eligibility criteria provided by the COP, including information on the extent to which the Board of the Fund has adhered to COP guidance.</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 11</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 5</i></p>	<p>This report addresses this request.</p>
<p>The GCF will include in its reports a synthesis of the different activities under implementation and a listing of the activities approved, as well as a financial report.</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 12</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 10 (ii)</i></p>	<p>Pursuant to decision 5/CP.19, paragraph 12, the Board requested the Fund to report on the activities undertaken, including joint activities with existing initiatives and the progress of committing and disbursing available funds (decisions B.06/11 and B.08/11);</p> <p>The Fund is currently supporting readiness activities and has decided to consider its initial funding proposals at the third meeting of the Board in 2015. A report on this guidance will be timely when a portfolio of activities implemented under the Fund is in place;</p> <p>Activities supported under the Readiness Programme are included in the Programme's progress reports:</p>
<p>The GCF will also include information on all activities financed by the Fund.</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 13</i></p>	<p><i>Revised Report on Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme</i> (GCF/BM-2015/Inf.05); and <i>Progress Report on the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme</i> (GCF/B.10/Inf.06);</p>

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant decisions/actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
	<p>Reports on activities financed by the Fund, including expenditure against the Board-approved allocation of US\$ 16 million for the Readiness Programme, are also available as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Status of Resources and Execution of the Administrative Budget of the Green Climate Fund for 1 January to 31 December 2014</i> (GCF/BM-2015/Inf.02); and • <i>Status of Resources and Execution of the Administrative Budget of the Green Climate Fund at 30 April 2015</i> (GCF/BM-2015/Inf.08); <p>Other details on the Readiness Programme are contained in this report in the responses to related COP guidance, as well as other parts of the report;</p> <p>All the documents referred to above are available on the Fund's website¹</p>
<p>The GCF will indicate actions undertaken to balance the allocation of resources between adaptation and mitigation activities under the Fund</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 14</i></p> <p>Linked with:</p> <p><i>Decision 4/CP.19, paragraph 9 (a)</i> <i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 7 (b)</i> <i>Decision 3/CP.17, paragraph 8</i></p>	<p>The Board adopted the initial parameters and guidelines for the allocation of resources in order to aim for a 50:50 balance between mitigation and adaptation over time (decision B.06/06). In the same decision, the Board therefore requested the Secretariat to report annually on the status of resources in respect of the allocation parameters;</p> <p>The Board is aiming to consider the initial set of funding proposals at its third meeting in 2015. The status of the portfolio versus the allocation parameters can only be assessed after the portfolio is set up</p>
<p>The GCF will include information on the development and implementation of mechanisms to draw on appropriate expert and technical advice, including from the relevant thematic bodies established under the Convention, as appropriate</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 15</i></p>	<p>The Fund continues to engage with the relevant thematic bodies under the Convention and other relevant international institutions to draw on appropriate technical advice;</p> <p>Among other things, the Board put in place technical panels to draw on appropriate expert and technical advice. To date, the Fund has an Accreditation Panel and a Private Sector Advisory Group. Most recently, the Board adopted the terms of reference of the independent Technical Advisory Panel (decision B.09/10) and will consider the nomination of its experts at the tenth meeting;</p> <p>Efforts to draw on appropriate expert and technical advice from relevant thematic bodies and other relevant bodies are ongoing. Examples are outlined in the response to decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 15 (see Table 1A)</p>

¹ See <<http://www.gcfund.org/documents/all-board-documents.html>>.

Guidance received from the Conference of the Parties	Relevant decisions/actions taken by the Green Climate Fund
<p>The GCF is to provide information on resource mobilization and the available financial resources, including any replenishment processes, in its annual reports to the COP</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 17 (b)</i></p> <p>Linked with: <i>Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 7 (c)</i></p>	<p>Details on the status of the Initial Resource Mobilization process are provided in the responses to decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 5 (see Table 1A), and decision 4/CP.19, paragraphs 13 and 14 (see Table 2)</p> <p>Information on the replenishment process will be provided once the process has been established</p>
<p>The reports of the GCF should include any reports of the independent evaluation unit, including for the purposes of the periodic reviews of the financial mechanism of the Convention</p> <p><i>Decision 5/CP.19, annex, paragraph 20</i></p>	<p>The Independent Evaluation Unit of the Fund is in the process of being set up in accordance with previous decisions of the Board and the operations of the mechanism have not yet commenced</p>

V. Other activities of the Fund

5.1 The Board

12. The Fund is governed and supervised by a Board that also has full responsibility for funding decisions. The Board has 24 members, composed of an equal number of members from developing and developed country Parties to the Convention. Each Board member has an alternate member. Participants in meetings of the Board also include advisers to Board members and their alternates and four active observers. The Board usually holds three meetings in a year.

13. Members of the Board serve for a term of three years. The current term of Board membership started in August 2012 and is to expire in 2015.

5.1.1 Initial term of Board membership Introduction

14. Regarding the upcoming end of the initial term of Board membership, the Board in decision B.09/12 affirmed the following set of principles to apply if successors to the current members and alternate members of the Board or to active observers are not selected by 23 August 2015:

15. Members and alternate members of the Board whose terms expire on 23 August 2015 shall continue in their functions until their successors have been selected;

16. Members and alternate members of the Board serving in the capacity of members of the Accreditation Committee, the Risk Management Committee, the Investment Committee and the Private Sector Advisory Group whose terms expire in 2015 shall continue in their functions until their successors have been selected;

17. Representatives of the active observers from accredited civil society organizations and private sector organizations whose terms expire in 2015 shall continue in their functions until their successors have been selected; and

18. Successors are expected to be selected no later than 31 December 2015.

19. At the request of the Board, the Secretariat conveyed the above principles to all Parties to the Convention, copying the UNFCCC secretariat and regional groups of the Convention. The Board is to consider further the principles contained in the decision mentioned above at its tenth meeting.

20. Appendix II contains the list of Board members and alternate members.

5.1.2 Meetings of the Board

21. An informal Board dialogue was held at the start of the year on 19 and 20 January 2015 at the Peace Palace in The Hague, the Netherlands. The meeting played an important role in identifying the main areas of work for the Fund in 2015.

22. The ninth meeting of the Board was held at the Fund's headquarters in Songdo from 24 to 26 March 2015. The decisions taken by the Board at its ninth meeting are contained in document GCF/B.09/23 Decisions of the Board – Ninth Meeting of the Board, 24–26 March 2015. The report of the meeting will become available on the Fund's website once adopted by the Board at its tenth meeting.

23. Further meetings of the Board in 2015 include the tenth meeting, scheduled to take place from 6 to 9 July in Songdo and the eleventh meeting, whose dates and venue are to be determined.

5.2 Management and staff of the Fund

24. The Fund is headquartered in Songdo. It carries out the day-to-day operations of the Fund, providing operational, financial, legal and administrative expertise.
25. The Secretariat supports the Board in its work programmes and in the implementation of agreed decisions. Secretariat support is also extended to Board committees and panels.
26. Progress has been made in the implementation of systems and in recruitments, enhancing the capacity of the Fund's management and staff. The Fund has aimed to achieve balance in gender and geographical representation between developed and developing countries among its staff. To date 47.5 per cent of staff members are female while 52.5 per cent are male; and 57.5 per cent are from developing countries while 42.5 per cent are from developed countries.

5.3 Observers

27. In accordance with the Governing Instrument for the Fund, participants in meetings of the Board include four active observers consisting of two civil society organization (CSO) representatives, one each from developing and developed countries; and two private sector organization (PSO) representatives, one each from developing and developed countries. The CSO and PSO representatives actively participate in Board discussions. In addition, other observers are physically present at the venue of Board meetings and witness the meetings through live video transmission. A total of 155 observers attended the ninth meeting of the Board, representing 96 observer organizations and 14 Parties to the Convention and observer states. Calls for accrediting observer organizations to the Fund are opened on a regular basis.

5.4 The Fund's resources

5.4.1 Activities on resource mobilization

28. By its initial resource mobilization conference in November 2014, the Fund had mobilized approximately US\$ 10 billion equivalent of pledges from 33 contributing countries. The COP in decision 7/CP.20, paragraph 5, urged the Fund, Interim Trustee and contributors to confirm the pledges in the form of fully executed contribution agreements/arrangement, and took note of decision B.08/13 where the Board agreed that the commitment authority of the Fund would become effective when 50 per cent of the contributions pledged by the November 2014 pledging session were reflected in fully executed contribution agreements/arrangements received by the Secretariat.
29. As at 31 May 2015, 22 countries had signed contribution agreements/arrangements since the Fund's 2014 Pledging Conference, bringing the total to approximately US\$ 5.47 billion equivalent, which represents 58.5 per cent of the contributions pledged during the 2014 Pledging Conference. This total amount takes the Fund above the effectiveness threshold of 50 per cent. The pledge tracker that demonstrates the execution of individual contributions as at 28 May 2015 is included in Appendix III. Further information on resource mobilization is contained in document GCF/B.10/Inf.09 Status of the Initial Resource Mobilization Process.
30. The Fund strongly urges the contributors of the remaining US\$ 4.7 billion to convert all pledges into actual contributions.
31. Efforts to mobilize additional resources are ongoing as scale is essential for the Fund to deliver on its mandate. The US\$ 10 billion equivalent of pledges received is just the beginning of the Fund's fundraising efforts, and it is essential that new and additional resources continue to be pledged to the Fund on an ongoing basis. The Paris Agreement is an important opportunity for Parties to the Convention to agree on the pathway for growth in the Fund resources beyond 2020.

5.4.2 **Status of resources and execution of the administrative budget**

32. Funds from contributors' payments and investment income earned by the Interim Trustee, less the amount of cash transfers (Funds Held in Trust) as at 31 March 2015 amounted to US\$ 108.63 million.

33. The Fund's 2015 administrative budget stands at US\$ 19,266,866 of which US\$ 4,489,911 was executed by 30 April 2015.

34. Full details on the administrative budget are outlined in document GCF/BM-2015/Inf.08 Status of Resources and Execution of the Administrative Budget of the Green Climate Fund at 30 April 2015.

Appendix I: List of documents containing decisions of the Board in 2015

I. Ninth meeting (March 2015)

1. *Decisions of the Board – Ninth Meeting of the Board, 24-26 March 2015* (document GCF/B.09/23)
2. *Report of the Ninth Meeting of the Board, 24 - 26 March 2015* (document GCF/B.09/24)

Appendix II: Members and alternate members of the Board of the Green Climate Fund as of 15 June 2015

Members	Alternate members	Constituency/Regional group
Mr. Christian N. Adovelande (Benin) President West African Development Bank	Mr. Tosi Mpanu Mpanu (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Former Chair the African Group of climate negotiators	Developing countries, Africa
Mr. Omar El-Arini (Egypt) Member of Board, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, International consultant on ozone layer and climate issues	Mr. Newai Gebre-ab (Ethiopia) Member of the former Transitional Committee for the design of the Green Climate Fund	
Mr. Zaheer Fakir (South Africa) Head International Relations and Governance, Department of Environmental Affairs	Mr. Paulo Gomes (Guinea Bissau) Member of the Board of Directors Ecobank Transnational Inc. Vice-Chairman of the finance committee	
Mr. Yingming Yang (China) Deputy Director General International Department, Ministry of Finance	Mr. Hoe Jeong Kim (Republic of Korea) Director General International Financial Cooperation, Ministry of Strategy and Finance	Developing countries, Asia-Pacific
Mr. Ayman M. Shasly (Saudi Arabia) International Policies Consultant Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources	Mr. Jose Ma. Clemente Sarte Salceda (Philippines) Governor Province of Albay	
Mr. Nauman Bashir Bhatti (Pakistan)	Mr. Shri Dipak Dasgupta (India) Principal Economic Adviser Ministry of Finance	
Mr. Jorge Ferrer Rodriguez (Cuba) Minister Counsellor Multilateral Affairs and International Law General Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	H.E. Ms. Audrey Joy Grant (Belize) Minister Energy, Science and Technology and Public Utilities	
Ms. Mariana Ines Micozzi (Argentina) Advisor to Secretariat of Finance Ministry of Economy and Finance	Mr. Cristian Salas (Chile) Advisor for International Affairs to the Minister Ministry of Finance	Developing countries, Latin America and the Caribbean



Mr. Gabriel Quijandria (Peru) Vice Minister Ministry of Environment	Mr. Angel Valverde (Ecuador) National Director Mitigation on Climate Change, Ministry of Environment	
Mr. David Kaluba (Zambia) Principal Economist Ministry of Finance and National Planning	Mr. Nojibur Rahman (Bangladesh) Secretary Ministry of Environment and Forests	Developing countries, Least developed countries
Mr. Patrick McCaskie (Barbados) Director Research and Planning Unit, Economic Affairs Division, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs	H.E. Mr. Ali'ioaigi Feturi Elisaia (Samoa) Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative Permanent Mission of Samoa to the United Nations	Developing countries, Small island developing States
Mr. George Zedginidze (Georgia) Former Minister Ministry of Environment Protection	Mr. Irfan Ampri (Indonesia) Head Center for Climate Change Financing and Multilateral Policy, Fiscal Policy Agency, Ministry of Finance	Developing countries
Ms. Clare Walsh (Australia) First Assistant Secretary Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Mr. Peter J. Kalas (Czech Republic) Former Minister Ministry of Environment	Developed countries, Australia on behalf of Australia and New Zealand
Mr. Jacob Waslander (Netherlands) Head Climate and Energy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Mr. Peder Lundquist (Denmark) Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Finance	Developed countries, Denmark and the Netherlands
Mr. Arnaud Buisse (France) Deputy Assistant Secretary Multilateral Financial Affairs and Development Division, Directorate-General of the Treasury	Mr. Frederic Glanois (France) Head Official Development Assistance and Multilateral Development, Directorate-General of the Treasury	Developed countries, France
Ms. Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven (Germany) Director-General Sector Policies and Programmes, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	Mr. Norbert Gorissen (Germany) Head Division of International Climate Finance, International Climate Initiative, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)	Developed countries, Germany



Mr. Atsuyuki Oike (Japan) Director-General for Global Issues Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Mr. Shuichi Hosoda (Japan) Director Development Issues, International Bureau Ministry of Finance	Developed countries, Japan
Mr. Henrik Harboe (Norway) Director of Development Policy Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Mr. Georg Børsting (Norway) Policy Director Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Developed countries, Norway
Mr. Zoltan Ajtony Hevesi (Hungary) Deputy State Secretary Ministry of National Development	Mr. Marcin Korolec (Poland) Secretary of State, Government Plenipotentiary for Climate Policy	Developed countries, Hungary and Poland
Ms. Ludovica Soderini (Italy) International Financial Relations, Treasury Department, Ministry of Economy and Finance	Ms. Aize Azqueta Quemada (Spain) Coordinator of Climate Funds, Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness	Developed countries, Spain and Italy
Mr. Stefan Marco Schwager (Switzerland) Senior Adviser International Biodiversity and Climate Change Finance, Federal Office for the Environment	Mr. Alexey Kvasov (Russian Federation) Deputy Chief of the Presidential Experts' Directorate Russian G8 Sherpa, Executive Office of the President	Developed countries, Russian Federation and Switzerland
H.E. Mr. Jan Cedergren (Sweden) Ambassador Ministry of Environment	Mr. Jozef Buys (Belgium) Attaché Directorate General Development Cooperation Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Developed countries, Sweden and Belgium
Ms. Andrea Ledward (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Head DFID's Climate and Environment Department	Ms. Kate Hughes (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Deputy Director DFID's Climate and Environment Department	Developed countries, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. Leonardo Martinez-Diaz (United States of America) Deputy Assistant Secretary Environment and Energy Office, Department of the Treasury	Mr. C. Alexander Severens (United States of America) Director Environment and Energy Office, Department of the Treasury	Developed countries, United States of America

Appendix III: Green Climate Fund Initial Resource Mobilization Pledge Tracker as at 28 May 2015

PLEDGE TRACKER



Status of Pledges and Contributions made to the Green Climate Fund

Status Date: **28 May 2015**

A total of 33 governments have made a pledge to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to date, including 8 representing developing countries. The objective is for all pledges to be converted into contribution agreements within one year from the time at which they are made. The combined pledges and contributions made to the Fund are indicated in the table below.

GCF's initial resource mobilization (IRM) period continues to be in progress, and the Fund accepts new pledges on an ongoing basis.

Total amount pledged to date	USD 10.2 billion *
Total amount in contributions signed	USD 5.5 billion *
In percent	58.5% **

* Amounts indicated are in United States dollars equivalent (USD eq.).

** Percentage is based on the amount in signed contributions divided by the total amount of USD 9.35 billion pledged up until GCF's High-Level Pledging Conference in Berlin in November 2014.

A detailed overview of pledges and contributions by country is shown on the reverse side.



Status of Pledges for GCF's Initial Resource Mobilization (IRM) as of 28 May 2015

Calculated on basis of reference exchange rates established for GCF's High-Level Pledging Conference (GCF/BM-2015/Inf.01)

(In millions)

Contributor	Pledges				Grant Equivalent ¹		
	Announced		Signed	Announced Pledge Per Capita	of Pledged Amount	of Signed Amount	
	In Currency	USD eq. ²	USD eq. ²		USD eq. ²	USD eq. ²	
Australia	AUD	200.0	186.9	-	7.9	186.9	-
Austria ³	USD	25.0	25.0	26.8	2.9	25.0	26.8
Belgium	EUR	51.6	69.0	54.3	6.2	69.0	54.3
Canada (Grant) ⁴	CAD	300.0	277.0	-	-	TBD	-
Canada (Loan)	CAD	TBD	TBD	-	7.8	TBD	-
Canada (Cushion)	CAD	TBD	TBD	-	-	TBD	-
Chile	USD	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3
Colombia	USD	6.0	6.0	-	0.1	6.0	-
Czech Republic	CZK	110.0	5.3	0.5	0.5	5.3	0.5
Denmark	DKK	400.0	71.8	71.8	12.8	71.8	71.8
Finland	EUR	80.0	107.0	-	19.8	107.0	-
France (Grant)	EUR	432.0	577.9	577.9	-	577.9	577.9
France (Loan)	EUR	285.0	381.3	-	16.0	105.1	-
France (Cushion)	EUR	57.0	76.3	-	-	-	-
Germany	EUR	750.0	1,003.3	1,003.3	12.1	1,003.3	1,003.3
Iceland	USD	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2
Indonesia ⁵	USD	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3
Italy	EUR	250.0	334.4	-	5.5	334.4	-
Japan	JPY	154,028.7	1,500.0	1,500.0	11.8	1,500.0	1,500.0
Latvia	EUR	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.5
Liechtenstein	CHF	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.5	0.1	0.1
Luxembourg	EUR	5.0	6.7	6.7	13.4	6.7	6.7
Mexico	USD	10.0	10.0	-	0.1	10.0	-
Monaco	EUR	0.3	0.3	0.3	8.8	0.3	0.3
Mongolia	MNT	90.0	0.0	-	0.0	0.0	-
Netherlands	EUR	100.0	133.8	133.8	8.0	133.8	133.8
New Zealand	NZD	3.0	2.6	2.6	0.6	2.6	2.6
Norway	NOK	1,600.0	257.9	257.9	50.6	257.9	257.9
Panama	USD	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.5
Peru	USD	6.0	6.0	-	0.2	6.0	-
Poland	PLN	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Republic of Korea ⁵	USD	100.0	100.0	14.2	2.0	100.0	14.2
Spain	EUR	120.0	160.5	-	3.4	160.5	-
Sweden	SEK	4,000.0	581.2	581.2	60.5	581.2	581.2
Switzerland ⁶	USD	100.0	100.0	30.0	12.2	100.0	30.0
United Kingdom (Capital)	GBP	576.0	968.8	968.8	-	968.8	968.8
United Kingdom (Grant)	GBP	144.0	242.2	242.2	19.1	242.2	242.2
United States of America	USD	3,000.0	3,000.0	-	9.3	3,000.0	-
Total			10,193.5	5,473.9		9,564.1	5,473.9
EU Member States (Total)	USD		4,745.0	3,667.7		4,392.6	3,667.7

Notes:

¹ Grant equivalent is calculated based on the terms in Policies for Contributions.

² United States dollars equivalent (USD eq.), based on the reference exchange rates established for GCF's High-Level Pledging Conference (GCF/BM-2015/Inf.01).

³ The pledge from Austria was announced in USD but signed in EUR (20 million). The amount shown as signed is calculated in accordance with ².

⁴ Type of pledge is indicative. A portion of a grant may be provided as a loan and/or capital.

⁵ Signed amount includes contributions made prior to GCF's High-Level Pledging Conference.

⁶ Switzerland intends to sign the remainder of its USD 100 million pledge upon confirmation that GCF's effectiveness has been reached (i.e., when 50% of the USD 9.35 billion pledged by GCF's High-Level Pledging Conference has been signed).

Annex XXIX: Decisions taken between meetings

DECISION B.BM-2015/04

The Board, through a decision taken between meetings on a no-objection basis:

Appoints the following members and alternate members of the Board to the Appointment Committee, in accordance with the Terms of Reference as set out in Annex XV to decision B.09/14.

- (i) Ms. Aize Azqueta;
- (ii) Ms. Andrea Ledward;
- (iii) Mr. Jan Cedergren;
- (iv) Ms. Mariana Micozzi;
- (v) Mr. Nojibur Rahman; and
- (vi) Mr. Zaheer Fakir.

DECISION B.BM-2015/05

The Board having reviewed document B.BM-2015/04 *Administrative Guidelines on the Budget and Accounting System*:

- (a) Approves the Administrative Guidelines on the budget and accounting system contained in Annex I hereto;
- (b) Notes that the Board retains the right to request revision of these guidelines if warranted; and
- (c) Confirm the Executive Director to promulgate and implement the guidelines.

DECISION B.BM-2015/06

The Board, having considered the information contained in document GCF/BM-2015/Inf.06 *Administrative Guidelines on the Internal Control Framework and Internal Audit Standards*:

- (a) Adopts the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) framework as the internal control framework for the Green Climate Fund (the Fund);
- (b) Also adopts the Institute of Internal Auditor's (IIA) International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF) that comprises the Definition of Internal Auditing, the Standards, and the Code of Ethics applied to the Fund's internal auditor; and
- (c) Requests that the Executive Director implement the internal control framework and oversee the implementation of the internal audit framework by the Fund's Internal Auditor in line with Annex I to this document.

DECISION B.BM-2015/07

The Board, in accordance with decision B.08/20 and through a decision taken between meetings on a no-objection basis:

Approved the accreditation of the following organizations as observer organizations with the Fund:

Civil Society Organizations:

Center for American Progress

Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE)

Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)

Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN)

Foundation for a Sustainable Society Inc (FSSI)

Green Asia Network (GAN)

Huvadhoo Aid (HAD)

Oil Change International (OCI)

Private sector organizations:

Carbonbay GmbH & Co. KG

International entities:

Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS)

Annex XXX: Members and alternate members of the Board of the Green Climate Fund as of 9 July 2015

Members	Alternate members	Constituency/Regional group
Mr. Christian N. Adovelande (Benin) President West African Development Bank	Mr. Tosi Mpanu Mpanu (Democratic Republic of the Congo) Former Chair the African Group of climate negotiators	Developing countries, Africa
Mr. Omar El-Arini (Egypt) Member of Board, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, International consultant on ozone layer and climate issues	Mr. Newai Gebre-ab (Ethiopia) Member of the former Transitional Committee for the design of the Green Climate Fund	
Mr. Zaheer Fakir (South Africa) Head International Relations and Governance, Department of Environmental Affairs	Mr. Paulo Gomes (Guinea Bissau) Member of the Board of Directors Ecobank Transnational Inc. Vice-Chairman of the finance committee	
Mr. Yingming Yang (China) Deputy Director General International Department, Ministry of Finance	Mr. Hoe Jeong Kim (Republic of Korea) Director General International Financial Cooperation, Ministry of Strategy and Finance	Developing countries, Asia-Pacific
Mr. Ayman M. Shasly (Saudi Arabia) International Policies Consultant Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources	Mr. Jose Ma. Clemente Sarte Salceda (Philippines) Governor Province of Albay	
Mr. Nauman Bashir Bhatti (Pakistan)	Mr. Shri Dipak Dasgupta (India) Principal Economic Adviser Ministry of Finance	
Mr. Jorge Ferrer Rodriguez (Cuba) Minister Counsellor Multilateral Affairs and International Law General Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	H.E. Ms. Audrey Joy Grant (Belize) Minister Energy, Science and Technology and Public Utilities	
Ms. Mariana Ines Micozzi (Argentina) Advisor to Secretariat of Finance Ministry of Economy and Finance	Mr. Cristian Salas (Chile) Advisor for International Affairs to the Minister Ministry of Finance	Developing countries, Latin America and the Caribbean



Mr. Gabriel Quijandria (Peru) Vice Minister Ministry of Environment	Mr. Angel Valverde (Ecuador) National Director Mitigation on Climate Change, Ministry of Environment	
Mr. David Kaluba (Zambia) Principal Economist Ministry of Finance and National Planning	Mr. Nojibur Rahman (Bangladesh) Secretary Ministry of Environment and Forests	Developing countries, Least developed countries
Mr. Patrick McCaskie (Barbados) Director Research and Planning Unit, Economic Affairs Division, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs	H.E. Mr. Ali'ioaigi Feturi Elisaia (Samoa) Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative Permanent Mission of Samoa to the United Nations	Developing countries, Small island developing States
Mr. George Zedginidze (Georgia) Former Minister Ministry of Environment Protection	Mr. Irfa Ampri (Indonesia) Head Center for Climate Change Financing and Multilateral Policy, Fiscal Policy Agency, Ministry of Finance	Developing countries
Mr. Ewen McDonald (Australia) Deputy Secretary Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Mr. Peter J. Kalas (Czech Republic) Former Minister Ministry of Environment	Developed countries, Australia on behalf of Australia and New Zealand
Mr. Jacob Waslander (Netherlands) Head Climate and Energy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Mr. Peder Lundquist (Denmark) Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Finance	Developed countries, Denmark and the Netherlands
Mr. Arnaud Buisse (France) Deputy Assistant Secretary Multilateral Financial Affairs and Development Division, Directorate-General of the Treasury	Mr. Frederic Glanois (France) Head Official Development Assistance and Multilateral Development, Directorate-General of the Treasury	Developed countries, France
Ms. Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven (Germany) Director-General Sector Policies and Programmes, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	Mr. Norbert Gorissen (Germany) Head Division of International Climate Finance, International Climate Initiative, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)	Developed countries, Germany

Mr. Atsuyuki Oike (Japan) Director-General for Global Issues Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Mr. Shuichi Hosoda (Japan) Director Development Issues, International Bureau Ministry of Finance	Developed countries, Japan
Mr. Henrik Harboe (Norway) Director of Development Policy Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Mr. Georg Børsting (Norway) Policy Director Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Developed countries, Norway
Mr. Marcin Korolec (Poland) Secretary of State Government Plenipotentiary for Climate Policy	Ms. Caroline Leclerc (Canada) Director-General Canadian International Development Agency	Developed countries, Poland and Canada
Ms. Ludovica Soderini (Italy) International Financial Relations, Treasury Department, Ministry of Economy and Finance	Ms. Aize Azqueta Quemada (Spain) Coordinator of Climate Funds Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness	Developed countries, Spain and Italy
Mr. Stefan Marco Schwager (Switzerland) Senior Adviser International Biodiversity and Climate Change Finance, Federal Office for the Environment	Mr. Alexey Kvasov (Russian Federation) Deputy Chief of the Presidential Experts' Directorate Russian G8 Sherpa, Executive Office of the President	Developed countries, Russian Federation and Switzerland
H.E. Mr. Jan Cedergren (Sweden) Ambassador Ministry of Environment	Mr. Jozef Buys (Belgium) Attaché Directorate General Development Cooperation Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Developed countries, Sweden and Belgium
Ms. Andrea Ledward (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Head DFID's Climate and Environment Department	Ms. Kate Hughes (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) Deputy Director DFID's Climate and Environment Department	Developed countries, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. Leonardo Martinez-Diaz (United States of America) Deputy Assistant Secretary Environment and Energy Office, Department of the Treasury	Mr. C. Alexander Severens (United States of America) Director Environment and Energy Office, Department of the Treasury	Developed countries, United States of America