

# **Call for External Technical Experts on Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund**

## **I. Background**

1. The Green Climate Fund (the Fund) was established by Parties to the UNFCCC at its meeting in Cancún in December 2010, and formally launched in 2011 when the Governing Instrument of the Fund was adopted and approved.
2. The Fund is set to become a main international financial institution for the delivery of climate finance in support of mitigation and adaptation activities in developing countries.
3. The Fund is governed and supervised by a Board that has full responsibility for funding decisions and a Secretariat with responsibility for the executive management and operations of the Fund. The Fund also has a Trustee in charge of the management of the Fund's financial assets and financial reporting thereof.
4. The Governing Instrument of the Fund provides for direct access and international access modalities. In order to access resources from the Fund under the direct access modalities, recipient countries will nominate competent subnational, national and regional implementing entities for accreditation to receive funding. Additional modalities to further enhance direct access, including through funding entities, are to be considered with a view to enhancing country ownership of projects and programmes.
5. Recipient countries will also be able to access the Fund through accredited international entities, including United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks, international financial institutions and regional institutions.
6. The Governing Instrument also mandates the Board to develop, manage and oversee an accreditation process for all implementing entities based on specific accreditation criteria that reflect, among others, the Fund's fiduciary principles and standards and environmental and social safeguards.
7. Following this mandate, the Board decided at its October 2013 meeting to request a team of four Board members/alternate members to oversee the development of the Guiding framework for the Fund's accreditation process by the Secretariat, for consideration by the Board no later than at its second meeting in 2014 (seventh meeting).
8. At its seventh meeting, the Board adopted the initial guiding framework for the Fund's accreditation process as well as the initial fiduciary principles and standards. It further adopted the environmental and social Performance Standards of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) on an interim basis.
9. At the same meeting the Board established the Accreditation Committee (the Committee) comprised of the four Board members or alternates that previously were part of the Board's team on accreditation. The Committee is accountable to the Board and provides guidance on the development of policies and procedures for the Fund's guiding framework for the accreditation process as well as facilitating the Board's interaction with recipient countries and providing policy guidance to the Accreditation Panel.

10. At the same meeting, the Board established the Accreditation Panel to be composed of six international experts in relevant areas relating to the fiduciary standards and environmental and social safeguards of the Fund. The Accreditation Panel will operate as a senior and independent technical advisory body of the Fund, and will report and be accountable to the Board. The role of the Accreditation Panel in the accreditation process is to review the received applications from the applicant entity on a rolling basis. As part of Stage II of the accreditation process, the Accreditation Panel will ascertain whether applicant entities (i) meet the Fund's applicable [initial basic fiduciary standards and applicable initial specialized fiduciary standards](#); and (ii) have the capacity to manage relevant environmental and social risks in line with the [Fund's interim environmental and social safeguards](#) and a scaled risk-based approach adopted by the Board.

## **II. Purpose of the assignment**

11. External technical experts may be engaged by the Accreditation Panel in the in-depth review of individual applications for accreditation. Such experts - whether independent or members of specialized consultancy firms - will need to demonstrate experience and expertise in relevant areas.

12. The Secretariat, in coordination with and on behalf of the Accreditation Panel, is responsible for setting up and managing a roster of external technical experts through an open, competitive and transparent selection process, which strives to ensure the availability of relevant competencies and achieve gender and regional balance where possible. The Secretariat also assists the Accreditation Panel in developing and updating, as necessary, the terms of reference to guide the work of the external technical experts.

13. The purpose of this call is to select qualified individuals to serve as external technical experts. The full terms of reference are in the Annex.

14. The external technical experts will be expected to work remotely with the possibility to attend meetings of the Accreditation Panel, either physically or electronically. The Secretariat will communicate and assist with any travel requirements relating to the work of the Accreditation Panel.

## **III. Minimum required qualifications and key fields of competencies**

15. Those interested to serve as external technical experts as defined above will have to demonstrate recognized capacity, experience and expertise in at least one of the following fields of key competency, supported by a successful career record at senior and executive level in an international environment with at least 10 years of professional experience, including in the field of climate change financing and work in developing countries:

- (a) Governance systems, financial management, procurement, audit and control framework;
- (b) Project management cycle, including origination and implementation, and activity oversight;
- (c) Transparency, investigation and anti-fraud provisions;
- (d) Environmental and social safeguards and environmental and social management systems;
- (e) Gender-related issues;

- (f) Financial intermediation, financial instruments and/or financial sector supervision and oversight.
16. Hands-on experience will be preferred in assessing performance and operational track record of implementing entities, funding entities and intermediaries in consistently delivering quality results. These should have been obtained through financing projects and programmes as well as other activities, applying effective financial solutions such as grants, concessional loans, equity investments and guarantees as financial instruments to overcome structural barriers and support development policies, as appropriate.
17. Experience in working in/with developing countries in the following regions should be highlighted:
- (a) Africa
  - (b) Latin America and the Caribbean
  - (c) Asia
  - (d) Europe
  - (e) Oceania
18. In addition to this, applicants must demonstrate unquestionable reputation, integrity and ethical behaviour.
19. The working language will be English. Knowledge of other official United Nations languages would be an additional plus factor.

#### **IV. Application and selection procedure**

20. Interested individuals should submit their expression of interest by providing a full documented CV and a cover letter specifying the fields of key competencies that match requirements.
21. Responses to this call should be sent via email to <[roster@gcfund.org](mailto:roster@gcfund.org)>.
22. The subject line of the email message should follow the following format:  
*Subject:* Expression of interest Roster of External Technical Experts on Accreditation – [NAME] [LAST NAME]
23. The file containing the curriculum vitae should be named “CV [LAST NAME]” (e.g. CV SMITH), and similarly, the file containing the cover letter should be named “Cover letter [LAST NAME]”.
24. Only the following formats will be accepted: MS Word, PDF, RTF.
25. **This is an open recruitment and hiring will continue on an ongoing basis.**

## **Annex: Terms of reference of the Fund's External Technical Experts on Accreditation**

### **I. Role and mandate**

1. External technical experts will be engaged by the Accreditation Panel in the in-depth review of individual applications for accreditation.

### **II. Composition**

2. The external technical expert should have expertise and competency in the following core areas of competency, including experience working on climate related financing in developing countries:
  - (a) Governance systems, financial management, audit and control framework;
  - (b) Project management cycle and activity oversight;
  - (c) Transparency, investigation and anti-fraud provisions;
  - (d) Environmental and social safeguards and environmental and social management systems;
  - (e) Gender-related issues;
  - (f) Financial intermediation, financial instruments and/or financial sector supervision and oversight.
3. External technical experts will therefore demonstrate recognized capacity and expertise in their fields of competency, supported by a successful career track at senior and executive level. In addition to this, each external technical expert will be able to demonstrate unquestionable personal reputation, integrity and ethical behaviour throughout her or his professional trajectory.

### **III. Modalities of work**

4. The external technical experts will be engaged by the Accreditation Panel to in-depth review all or part of individual applications for accreditation, and will report and be accountable to the Accreditation Panel. The external technical experts will be bound by these terms of reference as well as by relevant policies and procedures of the Green Climate Fund and its Board decisions.
5. The external technical experts will be expected to work remotely with the possibility to attend meetings of the Accreditation Panel, either physically or electronically. The Secretariat will communicate and assist with any travel requirements relating to the work of the Accreditation Panel.

### **IV. Compensation**

6. External technical experts will be compensated in accordance with relevant administrative provisions for contracting external technical support. Consequently, external technical experts will be bound by standard contractual regulations relating to the provision of consultancy services to the Fund.
7. Travel and accommodation costs, per diem payment and a daily fee will be paid to external technical experts in accordance with the Fund's rules and regulations and the

external technical experts' terms of reference.

## **V. Disclosure of conflict of interest**

8. All external technical experts should disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest in relation to any of the activities, discussions and recommendations of the Accreditation Panel, which will be duly recorded.
9. Furthermore, at the time of appointment, all external technical experts will sign the oath contained in the Appendix to these terms of reference.

## **VI. Revision and termination of the terms of reference of the external technical experts**

10. The Secretariat, in assisting the Accreditation Panel, may revise these terms of reference as necessary to guide the work of the external technical experts in order to incorporate lessons learned and to reflect the evolving needs of the accreditation process of the Fund. The mandate and terms of reference of the external technical experts may be revised or terminated by the Secretariat, if deemed necessary.

## **Appendix: Oath to be taken by external technical experts**

"I solemnly declare that I shall perform my duties as an external technical expert to accreditation of the Green Climate Fund (the Fund), honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously.

I further solemnly declare and promise that I shall disclose any financial interest or any other real or perceived conflict of interest in: the accreditation of subnational, national, regional and/or international intermediaries and IEs of the Fund; the consideration and provision of advice on best-practice fiduciary principles and standards and environmental and social safeguards; and, in general, in any other matter in connection with the fulfilment of the mandate of an external technical expert.

I shall refrain from participating in the consideration of accreditation applications or policy discussions where any financial interest or any other real or perceived conflict of interest may arise, or where any personal circumstance might be incompatible with the requirements of integrity and impartiality expected of an external technical expert.

Subject to my responsibilities as an external technical expert, I shall not disclose, even after the termination of my functions, any confidential or proprietary information which is transferred to the Board, the Panel or the Secretariat, or any other confidential information coming to my knowledge by reason of my duties as an external technical expert."

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_