



**GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND**

**Meeting of the Board**  
26–28 February 2019  
Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea  
Provisional agenda item 25

**GCF/B.22/19**

14 February 2019

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## Dates and venues of the following meetings of the Board

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### **Summary**

This document has been prepared to assist the Board in confirming the dates and duration for the twenty-third meeting of the Board and deciding on the venues for the twenty-third and twenty-fourth meetings of the Board.

## I. Introduction

1. This document has been prepared to assist the Board in confirming the dates and duration for the twenty-third meeting of the Board (B.23) and in deciding the venues for B.23 and the twenty-fourth meeting of the Board (B.24).

## II. Considerations

### 2.1 Dates of Board meetings in 2019

2. Between its twenty-first and twenty-second meetings (B.21 and B.22, respectively), the Board, through decision B.BM-2018/18, adopted the following meeting dates:

- (a) B.23 to take place from 1 to 3 July 2019; and
- (b) B.24 to take place from 15 to 17 October 2019.

3. Following the start of the third term of the Board on 1 January 2019, a number of new Board members have raised the matter that the dates of B.23 coincide closely with the end of the UNFCCC intersessional meeting (17-27 June 2019). These members have conveyed to the Co-Chairs a request that the Board reconsider the dates for B.23. Possible new dates that have been proposed are 7-9 July 2019. As at the time of publication of this paper, consultations by the Co-Chairs have been inconclusive and the Co-Chairs are not in a position to propose a decision to confirm the dates and duration of B.23.

### 2.2 Venues of Board meetings in 2019

4. By decision B.BM-2018/18, the Board also agreed to decide the venues for B.23 and B.24 no later than B.22, taking into consideration that only one Board meeting can be effectively hosted outside GCF Headquarters per year.

5. The Secretariat received an offer from the Government of Papua New Guinea to host a meeting of the Board in 2019 or 2020 through a letter signed by Ambassador Andrew Yamanea and dated 27 April 2018.

6. The Secretariat also received an offer from the Government of Rwanda to host B.22 through a letter signed by Mr. Vincent Biruta, Minister of Environment, and dated 27 June 2018.

7. The letter from the Government of Papua New Guinea was presented to the Board in annex II to document GCF/B.20/23. During the twentieth meeting of the Board, the Co-Chair informed the Board of the letter from the Government of Rwanda. However, no decision was taken regarding meetings of the Board in 2019. Both letters were again presented to the Board at B.21 in the document GCF/B.21/06 titled "Dates and venues of meetings of the Board in 2019". These letters, as received, are attached in annexes II and III.

8. It is recommended that B.23 take place at GCF Headquarters in Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea. This is line with the practice followed in past years to meet at least twice a year at the seat of the Secretariat, and to consider holding the third meeting of the year at an alternative location.

9. It is also recommended that the Board select a venue for B.24, taking into consideration the offers received to host meetings of the Board at venues other than the GCF Headquarters.

### **III. Meetings held at alternative locations**

10. Paragraph 15 of the Rules of Procedure provides that “the Board will meet in person at least twice every year at the seat of the Secretariat or at an alternative location agreed by the Board.” In past years, the Board has selected alternative meeting venues based on offers received from prospective host countries.

11. At B.21, there was an extensive discussion relating to the arrangement of Board meetings held outside GCF Headquarters and the desire to take a decision on the matter was expressed (see paragraphs 328–332, 570, 1137–1138 of document GCF/B.21/35 titled “Report of the twenty-first meeting of the Board, 17–20 October 2018”).

12. Several Board members requested and welcomed the suggestion that the Secretariat undertake a cost-benefit analysis of off-site meetings, and they requested that the Secretariat also explore other options for engaging with stakeholders and understanding the realities experienced in developing countries. It was stated that such information would enable the Board to take informed decisions regarding off-site meetings.

13. The draft guidelines and cost benefit analysis will be presented at B.23

### **IV. Recommended action by the Board**

14. In accordance with paragraph 17 of the Rules of Procedure the Board is required to confirm the date and duration of B.23. It is also recommended that the Board select a venue for B.23 and B.24. The Co-Chairs will continue to consult with a view to presenting a draft decision for adoption by the Board.

## Annex I: Key events in 2019 and slots for GCF Board meetings

Dates	Event	Location
<b>JAN</b>		
1	<i>New Year's Day***</i>	
7	<i>Orthodox Christmas*</i>	
21 - 27	CIFs Trust Fund Committee meetings ( <i>tentative</i> )	
22 - 25	World Economic Forum	Davos
26 - 27	Asia-Pacific Environment Ministers' Meeting	Singapore
28 - 2Feb	CIF@10 Capstone Event & Committee Meetings	Morocco
TBD	African Union Summit	
<b>FEB</b>		
4 - 6	G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group 1st meeting	Tokyo, Japan
5	<i>Lunar New Year (observed in Korea &amp; far East Asia)</i>	
15-17	Munich Security Conference	Munich, Germany
18	<i>President's Day*</i>	
20 - 21	Latin America Symposium on Climate Change	Lima, Peru
21	African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) -WMO	Cairo, Egypt
<b>26 - 28</b>	<b>GCF - B.22</b>	
26 - 2	35th meeting of the LDC Expert Group (LEG 35)	Bonn, Germany
[TBD]	G.20 related meeting	Japan
<b>MAR</b>		
5 - 7	Climate Bonds Conference & Green Bond Pioneer Awards 2019	London, UK
12 - 15	Adaptation Fund Board - 33 <sup>rd</sup> meeting	Bonn, Germany
14 - 15	UNEA High Level Dialogue (UNEA-4 during 11-15 overall)	Nairobi, Kenya
18 - 22	Africa Climate Week 2019 (Nairobi Framework Partnership)	Accra, Ghana
19 - 21	UNFCCC 15 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Adaptation Committee (AC15)	Bonn, Germany
20 - 22	UNFCCC 20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF 20)	Bonn, Germany
20 - 22	UNGA - 2 <sup>nd</sup> High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation	Buenos Aires, Argentina
21 - 22	European Council	Brussels, Belgium
25 - 27	18 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC 18)	Bonn, Germany
29	OECD/DAC Forum	Paris, France
<b>APR</b>		
4-5	GCF 1 <sup>st</sup> replenishment consultation	
8 - 12	UNFCCC NAP Expo	TBA
12 - 14	World Bank, IMF - 2019 Spring meetings	Washington D.C, USA
15 - 17	G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group 2nd meeting	Nagano, Japan
19	<i>Good Friday***</i>	
26	<i>Orthodox Good Friday*</i>	
[TBD]	34 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit (April/May 2019)	Thailand
<b>MAY</b>		
5	<i>Beginning of Ramadan</i>	
11-12	G20 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting	Niigata, Niigata Pref.
13 - 17	UNISDR - Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction	Geneva, Switzerland
14 - 18	IPCC - 49 <sup>th</sup> session	Kyoto, Japan
18	<i>Day of Vesak*</i>	
27	<i>Memorial Day**</i>	
28 - 31	<i>Available</i>	
TBD	OECD Week (Likely end of May or early June)	
<b>JUN</b>		
3 - 7	CIFs Trust Fund Committee meetings	
4/5	<i>Eid al-Fitr***</i>	



4 - 5	Social Innovation Summit	Los Angeles
8 - 9	G.20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meetings	Fukuoka, Japan
10 - 12	G20 Climate Sustainability Working Group 3rd meeting	Yokohama, Japan
10 - 13	GEF - 56 <sup>th</sup> Council meeting	Washington D.C.
15 - 16	G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth	Karuizawa, Nagano Pref.
17 - 28	UNFCCC - 49 <sup>th</sup> sessions of the subsidiary bodies	Bonn, Germany
28 - 29	G20 Osaka Summit	Osaka, Japan
<b>JUL</b>		
1 - 3	<b>GCF - B.23</b>	
4	<i>Independence Day**</i>	
9 - 15	UN ECOSOC - High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	New York, USA
16 - 18	HLPF - Ministerial jointly with ECOSOC's annual high-level segment	New York, USA
22 - 31	<i>Available</i>	
TBD	First London Climate Week (E3G hosted)	London, UK
<b>AUG</b>		
12	<i>Eid al-Adha***</i>	
25 - 27	G7 Summit 2019	Biarritz, France
28 - 30	TICAD7	Yokohama, Japan
28 - 30	GCF 2 <sup>nd</sup> Replenishment consultation	
<b>SEP</b>		
2	<i>Labour Day**</i>	
3	High-level Review of Progress on SAMOA Pathway	New York, USA
12 - 14	<i>Chuseok (Autumn Eve festival observed in Korea)</i>	
17 - 30	UNGA - 74 <sup>th</sup> session	New York, USA
19	United Nations Secretary General Climate Change Summit	New York, USA
TBD	Climate Week	New York, USA
<b>OCT</b>		
1	<i>Chinese national day</i>	
2 - 4	<i>Available</i>	
8 - 11	Adaptation Fund Board - 34 <sup>th</sup> meeting	Bonn, Germany
9	<i>Yom Kippur*</i>	
15 [TBC]	UNCCD COP 14	TBC
15 - 17	<b>GCF B.24 - Proposed dates</b>	
19	C40 Mayors Summit	Copenhagen, Denmark
18 - 20	World Bank, IMF - 2019 Annual Meetings	Washington, DC
21-31	GCF - Pledging conference during this period	
[TBA]	35 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit (October/November 2019)	Thailand
<b>NOV</b>		
4 - 8	31 <sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol	TBA
12	<i>Gurpurab*</i>	
11 - 22	UNFCCC - COP 25	TBA
22 - 23	G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting	Nagoya, Aichi Pref
28	<i>Thanksgiving Day**</i>	
<b>DEC</b>		
9 - 12	GEF - 57 <sup>th</sup> Council meeting	Washington D.C., USA
25	<i>Christmas Day***</i>	

Abbreviations: CIFs = Climate Investment Funds, B.22 = the twenty-second meeting of the Board, TBD = to be determined, G.20 = Group of Twenty, UNGA = United Nations General Assembly, IMF = International Monetary Fund, UNISDR = United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, IPCC = Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, GEF = Global Environment Facility, UNFCCC = United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UN ECOSOC = United Nations Economic and Social Council, TBA = to be announced.

\* UN floating holidays

\*\* Official holidays observed at the UN Headquarters that are national holidays

\*\*\* Official holidays observed at the UN Headquarters that are not national holidays



## Annex II: Offer to host a meeting of the Board in 2019 or 2020



### EMBASSY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA Seoul

27 April 2018

**Mr Howard Bamsey**  
Executive Director  
175, Art center-daero  
Yeonsu-gu, Incheon 22004  
Republic of Korea

Dear Mr Bamsey,

**SUBJECT: PAPUA NEW GUINEA BID TO HOST GREEN CLIMATE FUND (GCF) BOARD MEETING IN 2019/2020**

Greetings from Embassy of Papua New Guinea.

I write to inform on the Government of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea's decision to bid to Host Green Climate (GCF) Fund Board Meeting in 2019/2020.


Papua New Guinea so far has responded to addressing the effects of climate change and ratified by Parliament in 2016 the historic Paris Climate Change Agreement and the instrument of ratification was deposited in New York by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon Rimbink Pato during a special side event organized by the former United Nations Secretary General, Dr Ban Ki Moon in the same year.

The Papua New Guinea Government is also appreciative of the support and approval by the GCF Board for its readiness finance to assist with institutional capacity building for the country's National Designated Authorities (NDA) and also the assistance to our delivery partner, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

On that note, I kindly request for an appointment to meet with you to commence dialogue on my Government's desire to bid to host 2019/2020 GCF Board Meeting on any of the following dates 7 or 9 May or anytime between 21 and 25 May 2018.

I look forward to your confirmation on any of the dates convenient to you for our meeting.

Yours Sincerely,

  
**Andrew Yamanea, MBE**  
Ambassador





## Annex III: Offer to host the twenty-second meeting of the Board in 2019

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
P.O. BOX 3502 KIGALI

Executive Director  
Green Climate Fund  
Songdo, Incheon City,  
Email: [info@gcfund.org](mailto:info@gcfund.org)  
Republic of Korea

Kigali, on 27 JUN 2018  
N° 0974 /16.01

Dear Sir,

**Re: Expression of interest to host the Twenty Second Green Climate Fund (GCF)  
Board meeting in Rwanda**

On behalf of the Government of Rwanda, I have the honour to express the country's interest to host the 22<sup>nd</sup> GCF Board meeting planned for 2019. Hosting of the GCF Board meeting would be a great opportunity for Rwanda to echo the commitment of developing countries to implement the Paris agreement but also underscore the significance of building national capacities to access the available climate finances.

Rwanda was among the first developing countries to have a government institution (The Ministry of Environment) accredited for direct access to the GCF. In addition to this, Rwanda has a track record of successful hosting of regional and international meetings, all attributed to the government commitment of delivering quality services, availability of state of the art conference facilities, assured security and above all, the Rwandan hospitality. Furthermore, effective from January 2018, nationals of all countries in the world, can receive their visa upon arrival at Kigali International Airport and all land borders which makes travelling to Rwanda much easy. Worthy of mention also is the fact that Kigali is connected to the world via major airlines such as KLM, SN, Qatar, Turkish, Ethiopian, Rwandair, Kenya Airways, etc making travelling from different cities easy.

Among the hosted meetings we can mention the Regional Workshop for Africa on Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions in August 2015, the 10<sup>th</sup> Africa Carbon Forum in June 2016, the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Parties to the Montreal Protocol which ended up with Kigali Amendment in October, 2016 and the 10<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Summit of Africa Union, in March 2018, etc. We are therefore, confident that our country has sufficient capacity to make the Board meeting very successful.

We look forward to your highest consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Vincent BIRUTA  
Minister of Environment

Cc:

Board Co-chair/African Group of Negotiators