



GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

Relationships with Relevant United Nations
Framework Convention on Climate Change
Thematic Bodies, as well as Other Climate
Finance Entities and External Bodies,
including Corporate and Foundational
Partnerships

GCF/B.08/34
October 2014

Meeting of the Board
14-17 October 2014
Bridgetown, Barbados
Agenda item 31

Recommended action by the Board

It is recommended that the Board:

- (a) Take note of the information presented in document GCF/B.08/34 *Relationships with Relevant United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Thematic Bodies, as well as Other Climate Finance Entities and External Bodies, including Corporate and Foundational Partnerships*; and
- (b) Adopt the draft decision presented in Annex I to this document.

Relationships with relevant United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Thematic Bodies, as well as Other Climate Finance Entities and External Bodies, including Corporate and Foundational Partnerships

I. Introduction

1. At its June 2013 meeting, the Board decided on the following:¹
 - (a) That, in the short term, the Fund should commence its engagement with United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) thematic bodies, with a view to reassessing this engagement as the Fund and UNFCCC thematic bodies evolve;
 - (b) To invite the Global Environment Facility Secretariat (GEF), the Adaptation Fund (AF) and the Climate Investment Funds (CIFs) to take up observer status with the Green Climate Fund; and
 - (c) That the Secretariat should engage informally with other external bodies by exchanging information, as required.
2. Since its fourth Board meeting in June 2013, the Fund has started to engage incrementally with UNFCCC thematic bodies. In parallel, several of these UNFCCC thematic bodies have invited the Fund to collaborate on many of their activities.
3. This document provides an overview of present and possible future collaboration opportunities between the Fund and relevant UNFCCC thematic bodies and external bodies.

II. UNFCCC thematic bodies

4. The Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC requested the Board 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, and to define linkages between the Fund and these bodies, as appropriate². The COP subsequently requested the Board to report on the implementation of this request.³
5. Following on this request by the COP, collaboration and interaction has been initiated with the following UNFCCC bodies:
 - (a) Standing Committee on Finance (SCF);
 - (b) Adaptation Committee (AC);
 - (c) Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG);
 - (d) Technology Mechanism;
 - (e) Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage;
 - (f) Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP).
6. The engagement between the Fund and these bodies has been thus far mostly for information purposes. Most bodies, in light of their mandates and existing programme of work,

¹ Decision B.04/15.

² COP Decision 3/CP.17, paragraph 17.

³ COP Decision 6/CP.18, paragraph 7(f).

have started to reflect on how to continue enhancing their collaboration with the Fund; however, a concrete proposal is still not available in most cases.

7. A list of potentially relevant planned activities and events, up to December 2015, of UNFCCC thematic bodies is included in Annex II.

8. In parallel, the Secretariat continues to monitor progress under the UNFCCC intergovernmental process, and should new UNFCCC bodies be established, it will assess the relevance of establishing relationships with them and propose appropriate follow-up to the Board.

2.1 Standing Committee on Finance

9. Collaboration with the SCF has been undertaken so far at the level of Co-Chairs as well as secretariats.

10. The SCF invited the Co-Chairs to their meetings in 2014. The UNFCCC secretariat also issued an invitation to the Secretariat for the second forum of the SCF. Pursuant to decision B.04/15, the Secretariat participated in the sixth and seventh meetings of the SCF, representing the Fund.

11. The SCF suggested that it would value an increased participation of representatives of the Fund at its meetings, including from both the Board and the Secretariat.

12. Based on information provided by the UNFCCC secretariat, the SCF would also expect the Fund to respond positively to future calls for inputs on the second and subsequent biennial assessments and overviews of climate finance flows of the SCF, as well as SCF inputs to the periodic reviews of the Financial Mechanism. Other areas in the SCF agenda where mutual exchange of information may be considered beneficial include: coherence and coordination in the delivery of climate change financing, and rationalization of the Financial Mechanism.

13. Given the mandate of the SCF to draft guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC, it is important that the Fund remains engaged with the SCF and participates fully and actively at the Committee's meetings through the Secretariat of the Fund.

2.2 Adaptation Committee

14. The AC reached out to the Board by sending invitations for participation in its meetings in 2014. The Secretariat was able to participate in the fifth meeting of the AC and provided an update on the progress of the Fund and the work of the Board.

15. The AC established a task force on national adaptation plans (NAPs). The Board was invited to register a participant in this task force. This invitation is still pending, although the Secretariat is already included as a participant.

16. The AC has also indicated that in the future, collaboration with the Fund could be enhanced through the participation of a Board representative and the Secretariat in relevant activities and meetings of the AC, in particular when related to the work of the AC on the provision of funding for adaptation and NAPs.

17. The UNFCCC secretariat also informed the Fund that the AC is in support of an engagement strategy between the Fund and the AC, which could include a process for the exchange of information on relevant work areas, and reciprocal invitations to provide inputs and recommendations on relevant technical and policy documents.

2.3 Least Developed Countries Expert Group

18. The LEG invited the Co-Chairs of the Fund to attend the second edition of the NAP Expo, an event meant to catalyze actions and support for the NAP process in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), which took place from 8 to 9 August 2014 in Bonn, Germany.

19. The Co-Chairs were not available to attend and the Fund was represented by a representative of the Secretariat, who made a short presentation at the start of the session concerned with building readiness for the Fund, and participated actively in the ensuing discussions.

20. Potential collaboration with this body may include the provision of inputs for the drafting of publications and technical documents, an exchange of information on LDCs (particularly on the assessment of the needs and gaps for the NAP process), participation in training initiatives and webinars, etc.

21. The LEG is also completing the development of NAP Central, an online information hub for the NAPs. Another potential area of collaboration with the LEG may include the provision of inputs for the development and maintenance of a database of adaptation projects and programmes. This can be facilitated through regular communication between the secretariats.

2.4 Technology Mechanism: The Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network

2.4.1 Technology Executive Committee

22. The Technology Executive Committee (TEC) was established by the Conference of the Parties (COP) to facilitate enhanced action on technology development and transfer to support mitigation and adaptation activities. The TEC invited the Board to exchange information and define further areas of collaboration in the context of the TEC meetings, other events organized by the TEC or during bilateral meetings.

23. A number of letters were also received from the Chair of the TEC, inviting the Co-Chairs of the Board to formally explore collaboration between the two bodies based on the modalities for linkages with the Board proposed by the TEC.

24. The TEC further indicated that enhanced collaboration with the Fund should rely on regular communication and mutual participation of the two bodies in their respective relevant meetings.

25. Potential areas for collaboration with the TEC may include the active participation of the Secretariat in meetings of the TEC, the exchange of technical inputs on a needs basis, and coordination of specific activities, particularly in the context of timely and concerted response to any COP mandates that may impact both the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism.

26. Regarding specific activities in 2014, the Secretariat attended, as an observer, a side event organized by the TEC and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), which took place on 7 June 2014 in the margins of the fortieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 40). The Secretariat was also able to remotely attend the TEC thematic dialogue on climate technology financing which took place on 19 August 2014 as part of the ninth meeting of the TEC. The thematic dialogue was organized in response to UNFCCC decision 1/CP.18, paragraph 62, and the TEC is taking into account its outcome to prepare its recommendations on linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism under the Convention.

2.4.2 Climate Technology Centre and Network

27. Since March 2013, the CTCN has invited the Fund to participate in all the meetings of its Advisory Board. To date, the Fund has not been able to attend any of these meetings with the exception of the TEC/CTCN side event mentioned above, through representation by the Secretariat.

28. Through informal consultations between the Secretariat and the UNFCCC secretariat, it has been noted that the CTCN believes that both the CTCN mandate received from the COP, and the approach adopted by the CTCN to fulfil its mandate, provide opportunities for collaboration with the Fund. A strong collaboration with the Fund may be regarded as important to streamline assistance for climate technologies, and to maximize positive impacts in recipient countries.

29. Areas for potential collaboration may include opportunities for the Fund to take advantage of the CTCN's online Knowledge Management System (KMS), which will provide climate technology data and tools by region and sector, as well as a remote assistance request system. The information gathered through the KMS could help the Fund collect additional relevant information for the assessment of funding proposals for climate technology projects.

2.5 Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

30. The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (the Mechanism) and its Executive Committee are institutional arrangements established at the nineteenth session of the COP (COP 19 – November 2013). Although the broad functions of the Mechanism have already been agreed, its operationalization through the work of the Executive Committee is yet to be defined.

31. The Executive Committee, as an interim measure agreed by the COP, is currently developing its draft initial work plan. The latter will be considered by Parties for possible adoption at COP 20 (December 2014). At the same COP, Parties will also finalize the organization and governance of the Committee, which once adopted by the COP will make it easier to identify specific areas of collaboration between the Mechanism and the Fund.

32. In the meantime, to initiate collaboration, a representative of the Secretariat attended the initial meeting of the Executive Committee as an observer. The Executive Committee has also made a call for inputs to all relevant bodies to provide feedback to its draft two-year work plan. The Committee intends to finalize its work plan before COP 20 to guide the implementation of the functions of the Mechanism. Among those functions, those related to the enhancement of support to address loss and damage, including financial support, and the provision of recommendations to the COP would be of particular interest to the Fund.

2.6 Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action

33. In addition to the thematic bodies under the Convention, the Fund has been invited to participate in events organized by subsidiary bodies of the UNFCCC, in particular the ADP. To date the ADP has invited the Fund to participate in six of its events, to which the Fund has always responded positively. The events included:

- (a) An invitation to take part in a briefing on 6 June 2013 on the ongoing and planned work of institutions and the arrangements relevant to the provision of support for mitigation and adaptation actions under the Convention. The Fund was represented by Mr. Zaheer Fakir, former Co-Chair of the Board, who gave a presentation;

- (b) An invitation to take part in the briefing on 12 March 2014 by relevant organizations and United Nations agencies on support for domestic preparations for intended nationally determined contributions. A representative of the Secretariat attended and gave a presentation;
 - (c) An invitation to give a presentation at the technical expert meetings on renewable energy, which took place from 10 to 12 March 2014. A representative of the Secretariat attended and gave a presentation;
 - (d) An invitation to intervene from the floor at both the technical expert meeting on urban environment, which took place on 10 June 2014, and the technical expert meeting on land use, the following day. A representative of the Secretariat attended and made an intervention; and/or
 - (e) An invitation to give a briefing during the ADP stocktaking meeting, which took place on 12 June 2014. The Fund was represented by one of its Co-Chairs, Mr. Manfred Konukiewicz, who provided a statement.
34. The ADP expects the Fund to continue to engage in its work, in particular in the up-coming ADP 2-6 technical expert meeting, which will take place between 20 and 25 October 2014, the ADP 3/COP 20, and the two ADP sessions planned in 2015.

III. Progress on invitation to the Global Environment Facility Secretariat, the Adaptation Fund, the Climate Investment Funds and others to take up observer status

35. Pursuant to Board decision B.04/15, in July 2013, the Secretariat invited the GEF Secretariat, the AF and the CIFs to take up observer status at the Fund. To date, the AF and the CIFs have registered as observers. The response from the GEF Secretariat, also serving as the secretariat of the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund, is still pending.
36. In addition to those institutions, the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol was invited in October 2013 to take up observer status, and did so in January 2014.

Annex I: Draft decision of the Board

The Board, having reviewed document GCF/B.08/34 *Relationships with Relevant United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Thematic Bodies, as well as Other Climate Finance Entities and External Bodies, including Corporate and Foundational Partnerships*:

Decides to streamline the Green Climate Fund's engagement with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) thematic bodies and relevant subsidiary bodies listed in document GCF/B.08/34, through and by mandating the Secretariat to represent the Fund and consistently participate in relevant activities and events, with a view to building partnerships and achieving institutional synergies, unless the Board decides otherwise.

Annex II: List of relevant activities and events of UNFCCC thematic bodies

Period	Date	Activity	Representation of the Fund	Reasons for participation of the Fund
Standing Committee on Finance				
First, second, and third quarter of the year	tbc	9 th , 10 th , and 11 th meeting of the SCF	Secretariat	<p>The SCF is mandated to provide draft guidance to the operating entities of the COP. In this context, the SCF is working on improving the draft guidance provided to the operating entities in order to improve the consistency and practicality of such guidance. Close cooperation, especially with regards to information sharing, is important in this context.</p> <p>See also SCF communication strategy SCF/2014/6/10/Rev.1, available at: https://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/standing_committee/application/pdf/background_paper_on_communication_strategy_v_13june.pdf</p>
tbc	tbc	3 rd SCF Forum	Secretariat and/or Board	<p>See also SCF communication strategy SCF/2014/6/10/Rev.1, available at: http://unfccc.int/files/cooperation_and_support/financial_mechanism/standing_committee/application/pdf/background_paper_on_communication_strategy_v_13june.pdf</p>
Adaptation Committee				
Third quarter of 2014	26-29 September 2014	AC NAP task force meeting	A Board member	Invitation to contribute to the AC NAP task force
Third quarter of 2014	29 September – 1 October 2014	6 th meeting of the AC	A Board member	Contribution to work on strengthening working linkages with all adaptation-relevant bodies and work programmes under the Convention as outlined in the AC work plan

Period	Date	Activity	Representation of the Fund	Reasons for participation of the Fund
First quarter of 2015	tbc	Workshop to discuss how to further promote the implementation of enhanced action in a coherent manner under the Convention	A Board member	The Fund plays a key role in the provision of means of implementation as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention
First quarter of 2015	tbc	7 th meeting of the AC	A Board member	Contribution to work on strengthening working linkages with all adaptation-relevant bodies and work programmes under the Convention as outlined in the AC work plan
From second quarter of 2015	tbc	Ongoing collaboration with joint task force on means of implementation, if task force is established	GCF Board	The Fund plays a key role in the provision of means of implementation as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention
First or second quarter of 2015	tbc	Workshop in collaboration with LEG, bringing together experts and practitioners at different levels to share experience, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs on the process to formulate and implement NAPs	GCF Board/Secretariat	Opportunity to enhance collaboration between the AC, the LEG and the Fund, but also other bodies under and outside the Convention, for effective and holistic support for countries on adaptation, in particular on the NAPs. Opportunity to further identify good practices, lessons learned and practices with a potential for replication.

Period	Date	Activity	Representation of the Fund	Reasons for participation of the Fund
Third quarter of 2015	tbc	Expert meeting on promoting livelihoods and economic diversification to build resilience in the context of planning, prioritizing and implementing adaptation actions		
Third quarter of 2015	tbc	8 th meeting of the AC	A Board member	Contribution to work on strengthening working linkages with all adaptation-relevant bodies and work programmes under the Convention as outlined in the AC work plan
Fourth quarter of 2015	COP 21	In-session workshop/side event at COP 21 to present recent work of the AC on means of implementation	A Board member	The Fund plays a key role in the provision of means of implementation as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention
Least Developed Countries Expert Group				
Third quarter of 2014 onwards	Ongoing	Join the LEG advisory group for the organization of the regional training workshops on NAPs in 2014-2015	Secretariat and Board	Ensuring synergies and alignment of the modalities of the Fund, in particular its readiness programme, with the support provided by the LEG and other relevant organizations to the LDCs on NAPs
Third quarter of 2014 and first quarter of 2015	tbc	Provision of relevant materials for the LEG regional training workshops for LDCs on NAPs		Opportunity for the Fund to respond directly and effectively to an increasing demand by LDCs for explanations and clarifications on ways to access GCF funding
Fourth quarter of 2014	tbc	Participation in LEG regional workshop on NAPs for Pacific LDCs		Information gathered could help the Fund make informed decisions on funding proposals for adaptation strategies and pipelines of programmes and other priorities within a thematic area

Period	Date	Activity	Representation of the Fund	Reasons for participation of the Fund
2015	tbc	Participation in LEG regional workshop on NAPs for Anglophone African LDCs		
2015	tbc	Participation in LEG regional workshop on NAPs for Francophone African LDCs		
2015	tbc	Participation in LEG regional workshop on NAPs for Asian LDCs		
First or second quarter of 2015	tbc	Workshop in collaboration with LEG bringing together experts and practitioners at different levels to share experience, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs on the process to formulate and implement NAPs	Board and/or Secretariat	See reasons provided under AC
Third or fourth quarter of 2015	tbc	Participation in the NAP Expo 2015	Board members (Co-Chairs or others)	Similar opportunities as for NAP Expo 2014
2014/2015	Ongoing	Provision of relevant information to NAP Central (types of information to be further elaborated)	Secretariat and/or Board members	Information gathered could help the Fund make informed decisions on funding proposals for adaptation strategies and pipelines of programmes and other priorities within a thematic area

Period	Date	Activity	Representation of the Fund	Reasons for participation of the Fund
Technology Executive Committee				
Third quarter of 2014	19 August 2014, as part of TEC 9 (18-21 August)	Thematic dialogue on climate technology financing	One of the Co-Chairs or Secretariat staff	In response to decision 1/CP.18, para 62, the TEC will prepare its recommendations on linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism taking into account the outcomes of the thematic dialogue. In this context, interaction between the TEC and representatives of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism is critical
Fourth quarter of 2014	GCF 8 th Board meeting	Consultations on TEC recommendations on linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism, for consideration at COP 20	Participation of the TEC Chair in the GCF Board meeting to present the recommendations of the TEC on linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism	Importance of aligning the TEC recommendations on linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism with the recommendations of the GCF Board on this matter
Third or fourth quarters of 2015	Outcomes of the assessment will be presented at a TEC meeting in the 2 nd half of 2015	Assessment of technology and research, development and demonstration (RD&D) financing needs, including options for stimulating investment in RD&D and deploying low carbon technologies	One of the Co-chairs	The outcomes of the assessment will provide insights into the technology financing needs of developing countries to mitigate or adapt to climate change

Period	Date	Activity	Representation of the Fund	Reasons for participation of the Fund
Climate Technology Centre and Network				
Fourth quarter of 2014	8-10 October 2014	CTCN Advisory Board Meeting	Board	COP mandate
Fourth quarter of 2014	December 2014	COP 20 side event of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism	Board and/or Secretariat	
First quarter of 2015	Most likely in March 2015	CTCN Advisory Board Meeting	Board	COP mandate
Second quarter of 2015	June 2015	Side event at SBI 41	Board and/or Secretariat	
Fourth quarter of 2015		CTCN Advisory Board Meeting	Board	COP mandate
Fourth quarter of 2015	December 2015	Side event at COP21	Board and/or Secretariat	
tbc	Dates in 2015 (tbc)	Regional networking events to train/introduce national CTCN focal points to climate finance	Secretariat	
tbc	Dates in 2015 (tbc)	Global technology forum to train/introduce stakeholders (governments, private companies, etc.) to climate finance	Secretariat	
tbc	Dates in 2015 (tbc)	Structured network, with active members	Board and/or Secretariat	

Period	Date	Activity	Representation of the Fund	Reasons for participation of the Fund
Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage				
Third quarter of 2014	17-18 September 2014	Resumed initial meeting of the Executive Committee	Board and/or Secretariat	<p>The aim of the meeting is to finalize the draft of an initial two-year work plan to guide the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. One of the functions relates to enhancing support to address loss and damage, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilitating the mobilization/securing of expertise, and enhancement of support (incl. finance), to strengthen existing approaches, and where necessary, facilitate the development /implementation of additional approaches to address loss and damage; • providing recommendations to the COP on its provision of guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention